

MagnifiKid!

Dear parents,

To prepare ourselves to meditate upon Christ's Passion and celebrate his Resurrection, we keep conversion at the heart of our Lenten journey. In the Gospels, Jesus never stops encouraging us to love him and each other. He holds out his arms and says, "Do not be afraid." He encourages us to turn humbly to his heavenly Father, to come back like the prodigal son and tell him, "I have sinned against heaven and against you." Whatever our faults are, whatever our lack of love, the Lord wants to answer in the same way he did to the adulterous woman: "I do not condemn you. Go, and from now on, do not sin any more." We will have barely had time to come back to him, feeling shameful, weary of the world and discouraged, when this prodigal Father of forgiveness and love will open his arms and come to meet us and invite us to a homecoming feast. Let us take advantage of the days we have to prepare ourselves and go to the Temple of Jerusalem to welcome Jesus—Jesus, the Son of God who has brought faith, hope, and love to the human family through his Resurrection from the dead!

● FORGIVENESS

Sunday, March 6th

The parent says:

"Lord, like the father in the parable, you await our return; you wait for us with your arms wide open. All together, we say to you: We ask you for your forgiveness for all that has turned us away from your love; we want to come back to you with all of our heart."

The parent asks the family to repeat the sentence in red as he says it, then invites everyone to give each other a hug as a sign of peace and reconciliation.

● CHARITY

Sunday, March 13th

"Lord, your love lights up our lives. You do not count our faults, but always see what good we can do. Teach me to look at others with the same love as yours."

The parent invites each person to think of someone whom they have a hard time loving. Each member of the family lights a candle while thinking of that person and saying once again:

"Lord, teach me to look at others with the same love as yours."

● HUMILITY

Sunday, March 20th

"Lord, you enter into Jerusalem on your donkey and the crowd acclaim you as a king. You know that the people's admiration will not last

and that the hour of your Passion is approaching. Teach us to follow you times—in moments of joy as well as in moments of difficulty."

The family sings or says the Sanctus (holy, holy) chant from Mass all together. The children can wave the palm frond received at church today.

● JOY

Sunday, March 27th

"Lord Jesus, you have risen victorious from the grave! You invite your disciples to the Good News of joy. Help us to show the whole world the joy and love that conquer death!"

The family sings or says an Alleluia to the children. Then family members embrace one another with the traditional Easter greeting:

"Christ is risen, alleluia!"

"Indeed, He is risen, alleluia!"