

Dear Trinity Families:

I missed seeing your children this past Sunday, and it saddens me to think that it will likely be several weeks until we see one another in person again! A lot has changed in such a short amount of time with the onset of coronavirus in the U.S., and we are having to quickly shift how we worship, participate in faith formation, and stay connected to one another.

I'm sure you're feeling the burden of now having to more or less homeschool your children while also facing the unique challenges the pandemic is giving your family. It's a stressful and uncertain time, and it would likely do us all some good to remember to draw on our faith for comfort and turn to God for daily centering and renewal.

I believe our children will benefit greatly from a routine with a regular spiritual component built in. Whether that's praying together, reading the Bible, watching a Godly Play story, etc., it is important. Here is a list of resources for helping your children build and maintain a spiritual life at home during this Lenten season and beyond:

- The primary source: Read the Bible!
- Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families found in the Book of Common Prayer
- Godly Play stories: <https://www.youtube.com/user/GodlyPlayFndn> - Answer the wondering questions together!
- This new children's book modeled on Bishop Curry's Way of Love mantra: [The Very Best Day: The Way of Love for Children](#)
- The Episcopal Church also has a [Way of Love for Families](#) resource, which is excellent
- Here is a wordless Easter [video](#) (great for reflective, wondering discussion)
- Flame Creative Kids has lots of printable booklets and crafts for Lent and Easter (<http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com/search/label/Lent>)
- [Traci Smith](#), author of Faithful Families and Prayers for Faithful Families, has created a google doc as somewhat of a master list of all things children's and youth, and family ministry. [Check it out here!](#)
- Finally, ECMN has put together a fantastic list of age appropriate resources specifically related to our present reality: [PDF with internal links](#)

If your children participate in Trinity Play, I have also mailed them a packet of Lenten and Easter materials from the curriculum we have been using this year. They will find the format familiar and, I hope, enjoy doing some of the suggested activities. Also, hooray for no screens, clicking, or printing!

I am still working on ways to stay connected as a community during our physical separation. If you have suggestions or ideas, please send them my way! In the meantime, keep reading the Thursday Update. It's a great way to keep abreast of what Trinity is offering its community in lieu of the traditional experiences we're all accustomed to.

In peace,

Laura