

Sunday Readings

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15
Psalm 103:1-4, 6-8, 11
1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12
Luke 13:1-9

Disciples on the Journey FAMILY

3rd Sunday of Lent 2010
Cycle C

Materials Needed

Balloons, helium,
markers

Listening Luke 13:1-9 One family member reads the Gospel while everyone else listens quietly.

Making Connections **Reader:** In the parable of today's Gospel, the vinedresser asks the owner to give the fig tree another chance to grow and make fruit.

Jesus wants us to be like the fig tree. He wants us to grow, blossom, and "bear good fruit." We can do this by helping others, listening to our parents, and praying together as a family.

When we fill our lives with such goodness, we bring joy to ourselves and to others. It takes practice, but with God's help we will enjoy the *Fruits of the Holy Spirit*: peace, joy, love, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Family Sharing Time *Use the questions below to guide your family discussion.*

Preschool children: Jesus wants you to do good things. What are some good things you do at home? What are some ways that you can show *kindness* to one another? Let's ask Jesus to help us be kind and to help one another.

Primary-grade children: The parable of the fig tree is about producing good fruit, which means doing good things. What are some good things that we do as a family? When do we have *peace* in our family? When do we have *joy* in our family? (Continue sharing by using all the *Fruits of the Holy Spirit*.)

Preteens: Jesus calls us to bear good fruit. What can we do in our family to bear good fruit? How can we experience *peace* in our family? How can we experience *joy* in our family? (Continue sharing by using all the *Fruits of the Holy Spirit*.)

Family Activity

Preparation: Have a balloon for each person (helium-filled, if possible). Have everyone write one or more of the *Fruits of the Holy Spirit* on his/her balloon. Before releasing each balloon, the family will pray, "**Lord, give our family *peace***, (continue with each of the *Fruits of the Holy Spirit*...love, joy, patience, etc.).

Praying Together

All: Dear Jesus, help us grow and blossom into the beautiful people you have created us to be. We will try to live the *Fruits of the Holy Spirit* in our everyday lives. We love you, Jesus. Amen.

Memory Verse *“Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.”* (Psalm 103:8)

Saint of the Week

Saint Dominic Savio (Feast Day: March 9)

Saint Dominic Savio’s short life was a constant journey toward God. By the time he was four, he already knew all his prayers by heart! He became an altar boy at five and received his First Holy Communion at seven, which was unusual in his time. In school he loved all his classmates and prayed for them and tried to keep them faithful to God. One day a boy brought a magazine with bad pictures to school; Dominic tore up the magazine and asked the other boys, “Did God give us eyes to look at things like this?” They were ashamed and promised to go to confession. When Dominic was 15, he got sick at school and was sent home. He got worse and was given the Sacrament of the Sick. Then just before he died, his face lit up, and he told his father, "Goodbye, I am seeing such wonderful things!" Let us ask Saint Dominic Savio to pray for us so that we can stay on our journey toward God and be prepared to “see such wonderful things” at the time of our death.