

National Catholic Partnership on Disability Alianza Nacional Católica sobre la Discapacidad

Adapted Faith Formation Lessons for June

Council on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Family Faith Formation



"Since parents have given children their life, they are bound by the most serious obligation to educate their offspring and therefore must be recognized as the primary and the principal educators."

The Declaration on Christian Education from Vatican II



Four Keys for Practicing Faith

- Caring Conversations
- Family Devotions and Prayer
- Family Rituals and Traditions
- Family Service

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Complete the recommended activities about the Trinity and have a family discussion.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

In terms that each can understand, talk about how God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We do not really know how God could be three Persons—it's a mystery that shows up throughout the Bible so we trust in it.



CARING CONVERSATIONS (CONTINUED)

Each Person of the Trinity tells us something new about God.

- Father: Creator—source; provides, protects, guides and cares for his creation, which includes each of us
- Son: Redeemer—the beloved Son, sent by the Father. He becomes (a human) man, Jesus, who shows us how to be children of God. The Son redeems us (forgives our sins) so that we can be God's children, and he sends the Holy Spirit to help us
- Spirit: Comforter—advocate, breath of life; helps us to pray and to live as God's children, teaches, guides, speaks to our conscience; helps us feel God's love



CARING CONVERSATIONS (CONTINUED)

- Parents can use examples from their lives (e.g., "Think about how I love you as your father/mother, then multiply that by a thousand.")
- Use the sun as an example: the sun is energy, light, and fire. All three are distinct, yet all three describe the sun.
- One of the best images, or icons of the Trinity we have is the family. First of all that it is a communion of love, a love that is self-giving and life giving. The family is one. Yet each member of the family is a distinct person with distinct gifts and roles.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER

- Pray the Sign of the Cross. This is a prayer that focuses our hearts and minds on our loving God.
- Pray 2 Corinthians 13:13. Grace (God's help), love (Jesus caring for us), fellowship (closeness with God). This is another simple prayer. <u>http://usccb.org/bible/2corinthians/13</u>
- For Bible Discussion: John 14:26 The Father gives us the Holy Spirit so that we can stay close to Jesus and his teachings. http://usccb.org/bible/john/14
- For Bible Discussion: Galatians 4:6 The Father sends the Spirit to tell us we are children of God along with Jesus. <u>http://usccb.org/bible/galatians/4</u>



FAMILY DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER (CONTINUED)

• Find some different images of the Trinity, such as Rublev's *Holy Trinity* icon, talk about some of the different elements you see in the art . What is shown for the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and what does that tell us about the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit? Don't be afraid to look it up (or have one your kids look it up!) if you're not sure of the symbolism.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER (CONTINUED)

Hymns/songs to teach:

- "Holy God We Praise Thy Name" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m60LAIdXjb0
- "Holy, Holy, Holy" <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIHD40CZY34</u>
- "Come, Holy Ghost" <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrl0poCLCBo</u>
- "The Trinity" (song 4) https://www.pflaum.com/firm-in-the-faith/



FAMILY RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

- Using the two prayers in the Family Devotions and Prayer section say one or another of them before dinner or bedtime or at some other regular time of the day.
- If appropriate, light a candle before saying grace when gathered at the table as a reminder of the light, warmth, and energy of God.



FAMILY SERVICE

Write a family letter and **MAIL or deliver in person** to a relative that you have not been in contact with or have had a disagreement with – or perhaps even a neighbor. Remember the Trinity in this month's lesson - the Father sent the Son to teach us about unconditional love – the Spirit. This could be an opening toward a renewed relationship.



Family Reflection time.

This month we studied? *The Holy Trinity* This month we prayed (_____)? Talked about (_____)? I saw the Trinity in action when (_____)?



Activities

- 1. Have children glue two Popsicle sticks together and then have them write the numbers 1 through 4 in the order that we make the Sign of the Cross. This will remind them of the Sign of the Cross and why we make it.
- 2. Fruits of the Holy Spirit activity (Attached here)
- 3. Holy Trinity craft activity (Attached here)
- 4. Have children draw pictures symbolizing each Person of the Trinity (e.g., a throne or a cupped hand, for the Father; a cross for the Son; a dove for the Spirit).



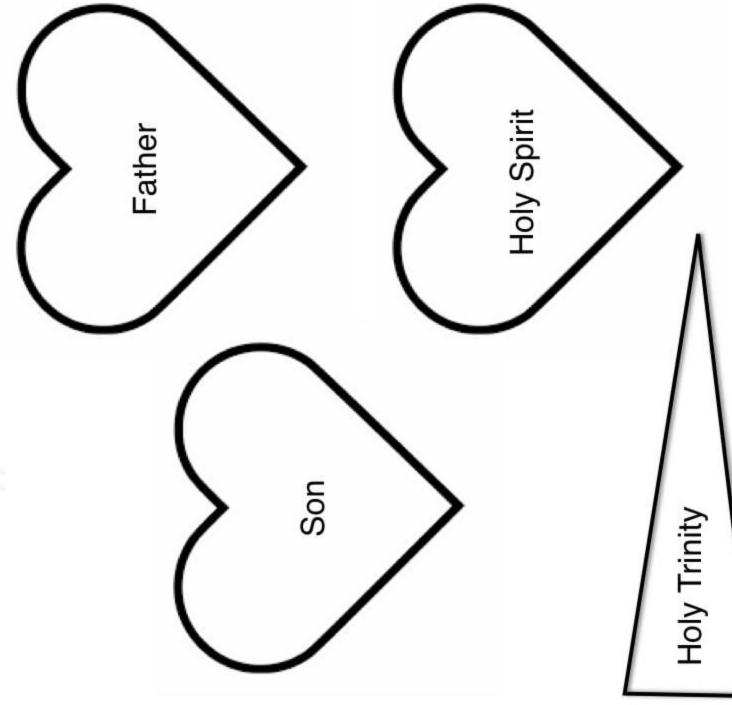


Holy Trinity Craft Activity

Directions:

- Color/decorate each of the hearts and the "stem".
 Arrange pieces in the shape of a shamrock by placing bottom points of hearts at top of stem.
 Paste onto construction paper.





USCCB Scripture Resources

Daily Readings: <u>English</u> | <u>Spanish</u>

Pray 2 Corinthians 13:13. Grace (God's help), love (Jesus caring for us), fellowship (closeness with God). Another simple prayer. <u>http://usccb.org/bible/2corinthians/13</u>

For Bible Discussion: John 14:26—The Father gives us the Holy Spirit so that we can stay close to Jesus and his teachings. <u>http://usccb.org/bible/john/14</u>

For Bible Discussion: Galatians 4:6—The Father sends the Spirit to tell us we are children of God along with Jesus. <u>http://usccb.org/bible/galatians/4</u>

Video Reflection

Click on the above links to reflect on Scripture by reading, listening or viewing the reading.



Tips and Tools

Sign of the Cross Diagram

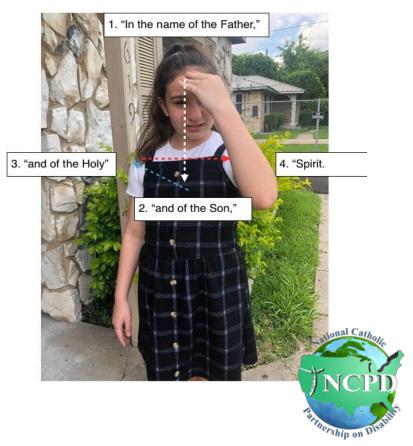
(Mirror Image)

CHUNKING

What is chunking?

It's when we break skills or information into smaller, more manageable segments (CHUNKS). It helps individuals learn new information. It is easier to remember a small amount of information and then add to what you know.

To assist the learner in making the Sign of the Cross, allow him/her to look at this illustration and follow the numerical steps.



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For more information please visit The National Catholic Partnership on Disability

NCPD Council on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

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