

My Very Personal Seder Supper:
RCIA Session for Monday, April 6th, 2020

This was the day we were to have the Seder Supper, the Passover meal with readings of remembrance and sharing of Barbara and Sue's delicious meal with wonderful conversation. This, of course, has been cancelled, but you could reenact at your individual homes, around your table, with those present, by reading Matthew 26: 17 - 30 before beginning the meal - try to put yourselves in the moment - around Jesus's table, you as His disciples having a meal together. Perhaps on this special occasion you would like to have lit candles on the table, share a little glass of red wine. Perhaps you could discuss how Jesus must have felt knowing He was going to His crucifixion. What crosses are you carrying during this difficult "virus" time. Talking about our faith, our stories make this whole journey a more meaningful and real time for each of us. Take this time to verbalize your feelings and share your love of Jesus and of each one around your table. This can be a meaningful and beautiful experience! Let us hear how you celebrated this event by forwarding to all.

~~~~~

I shared my meal with my cat. Late day sunshine in my screened porch was inviting. Used an electric candle for safety since my cat is usually very inquisitive! 😊. Cranberry juice had to substitute for red wine. The food was not my focus. It dawned on me that this might be the very best way lent ever!! I have my cross to carry, it helps to think about how Jesus must have felt. I am sure His cross was heavier than mine! My prayers are for the Covid-19 victims, families, and health care providers!! For the love of God I must trust and live beyond my circumstances. God is good! 😊

~ Jackie Dube

Jesus came into this world for our salvation. During the Passover meal, the night before his crucifixion, he knew he would be betrayed by Judas and denied by Peter. He must have felt alone knowing what he was to endure. The physical, mental and emotional anguish must have caused fear and anxiety. It must have been a difficult and lonely time for him even though he was surrounded by his followers. We are in our own crisis today in our world where coronavirus covid-19 is causing so much illness, death and fear. There is so much suffering and so much is unknown about the future and what it holds for all of us. Like Jesus, we are trusting in his Father to guide us and we pray to have faith and hope and to have mercy on us all in the days to come. I also know that Jesus left a very special part of himself by the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist when he used the bread and wine changed into his body and blood as an outward sign of his love and devotion to us all for us to share in remembrance of Him at Mass.

I know God is in charge and I know he has a plan through all of this, and I am grateful Jesus bore the cross for my salvation for the forgiveness of my sins so I could have everlasting life.

We did say prayers at dinner last night and talked about the various crosses we individually are bearing these days, the people we miss, and the "normalcy" of our lives and how that has all changed. It was good to share.

~ Art & Elaine Dysinger

Good morning all, well as many of you might know the Seder supper is something that Sue Sabrowski and I have been preparing for years. I love everything about it from the menu planning (it has progressed from a potluck to a sit down dinner served by 8th grade students from St. John's). Ours is tradition with a twist, food different from the first Passover but the message is the same.

Now focus forward April 6, 2020 at the Pianka household. Carl, Barbara and son Eric. My guys are not "churchy", so I read the gospel reading and we had a very family "picnicky" dinner, of all things hotdogs, but they were Kayem, all beef and potato salad. It was quiet but we talked about family and the latest news. If you know my guys they are not big talkers but we function quite well in companionable silences. After cleanup we watched Jeopardy together and then I watched Fr. Baron's Pivotal players story about St. Francis. The scenery was beautiful and very meaningful to me cause I had been to Assisi. Talk about sacrifice, if I could have a smidge of his discipline my journey would be allot lighter.

So the day was different, but I felt that we were all together in spirit doing and feeling the same thoughts of fear and anxiety but hopefulness because we have God on our side and He is in charge.

~ Barbara Pianka

Diane and I spent last night before and during dinner as you suggested (no wine thought as we are not wine drinkers). Reading Matthew 26: 17-30 and trying to put us in Jesus mindset at the time of Passover. Neither of us understood Seder dinners and the Passover as it relates to Holy week and specifically the last supper, Good Friday, and Easter. We talked and learned a lot, so thank you for this assignment and did a lot of research. This entire Holy week (and fact all of Lent season) along with the Covid 19 makes understand and reflect on Jesus's sacrifice and humbles us for sure. We certainly understand how blessed we are.

~ Thomas Sturgeon

This sure was a most different Monday of Holy Week – I so missed you all at the Seder Supper at St. Charles that we talked about with the delicious meal prepared for us by our Kitchen Volunteers and led by our Pastor and served by the St. John School students. We will most definitely keep it on the schedule for 2021! You are invited and mark it on your calendar!

My celebration of the Seder last night was very different from those in the past in that there was no community involvement, no telling of our stories, no sharing of our heritage. I remembered my trips to Boston to share in my husband's Jewish family tradition, I remembered our Christian Seder here at St. Charles. I must admit I felt a little alone but remembered Psalm 46 "God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in distress. Therefore, we fear not, though the earth be shaken..." I returned to our readings and my thoughts centered around Jesus's aloneness, His very dear and closest friends who were to abandon Him, His crucifixion, the pain and humiliation to come with His cross. Our present world virus has left us alone feeling despair over world finances and loneliness, has left us with our personal crosses to bear. I didn't have my Manischewitz, my gefilte fish, my egg matzos this year, but I do have my consolation in scripture – God's grace, undeserved faith, I won't allow fear to replace faith. I will surrender to God and believe great things will happen.

~ Marcy Brenner