Family Page

Background Reflection

Today's Scripture passage takes place after the death and Resurrection of Jesus. In these verses, the disciples have returned to what they know: fishing. When early light begins to show, a man on the shore tells them to cast their nets a different way. They follow the advice and the nets are filled to overflowing. This is the moment they recognize Jesus and rush to greet him.

In a similar story in Luke 5:1–11, Jesus tells his disciples that they—a group of ordinary fishermen—will become fishers of people, "catching" others for God through their teaching and healing. We are reminded that we too are called to bring people to God. And we know that we have Jesus by our side, guiding us in how best to cast our nets.

On Easter, we baptize people into our Catholic faith. Jesus the fisherman pulls them wet and dripping from the baptismal waters into a new life of community, service, and joy. May we celebrate the Good News of the Resurrection and continue to respond to our own call to make a difference in the lives of others through our gift of faith.

Family Activities

- Go for a walk or ride with your child and look for signs of new life. Discuss how these signs of new life remind us of the hope and joy of Easter.
- Discuss how to reach out to those who might be struggling to have hope: the poor, the abandoned, and the homeless. Find a way to donate or participate in an outreach during the Easter season.
- View the video "Jesus loves the disciple and everyone (John 21)" (YouTube, 3:08) together. Then read the Featured Story on page 1706 in *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 21:4–7). Discuss how your family can help one another and celebrate the Resurrection in a special way during the Easter season.



People of Faith

Saint Andrew the Apostle (first century)

Saint Andrew was Saint Peter's brother and one of Jesus' closest companions. He was martyred by being tied to a cross made in the shape of an X, now known as "Saint Andrew's cross." He is patron saint of those who make their living by fishing. Saint Andrew's feast day is November 30.

Prayer

Pray this prayer together as a family, beginning and ending with the Sign of the Cross.

Dear God, in this Easter season of hope and new life, help us to be aware of how and where we are needed to spread the Good News to others. Alleluia! Amen.