

APRIL 10, 2016
THIRD SUNDAY
OF EASTER

taking+ faith home

Feed my sheep.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 21:1-19	Jesus appears to the disciples
Monday	Luke 5:1-11	Simon's catch of fish
Tuesday	1 John 4:7-21	Love for God
Wednesday	Psalms 30	Joy comes in the morning
Thursday	Revelation 5:1-14	The throne and the elders
Friday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Jesus appeared to his followers
Saturday	Revelation 7:9-17	The Lamb who shepherds
Sunday	John 10:22-30	Jesus promises life to his sheep

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Jesus asked a second time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter answered, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you!" "Then take care of my sheep," Jesus told him. **John 21:16 (CEV)**

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

We love you, Lord Jesus. Help us to care for others as you care for us. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Bless this meal, O God, we pray, and bless us, too, throughout this day. Keep us safe and close to you, and kind in all we say and do. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord show you kindness. May God take away your sadness and fill you with joy. Amen.
(Psalm 30:4-5)



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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Have you ever let someone down or been let down? Tell your story.
- How did Peter let Jesus down?
- In John 21:15-19, we read that Jesus asked Peter the same question three times. Why do you think he did this?
- Jesus gave Peter a new start. How has Jesus given you a new start?
- Do you find it hard or easy to give others a new start? Why?

DEVOTIONS

When Jesus appeared to the disciples after the resurrection, he directed them to fish on the other side of the boat after catching nothing all night. They immediately brought in 153 fish, a huge catch that reflected God's abundant love. Imagine how the abundant love of God has blessed your life. Make a list of these blessings. You might put each blessing on different fish-shaped pieces of paper. See how many fish you collect over the week.

SERVICE

While Jesus showed himself to be the Son of God and Lord of all by rising from the dead, he was still willing to serve his followers in humble, practical ways. In John 21, we read that he cooked his disciples breakfast! Follow Jesus' example this week by inviting someone into your home and preparing a meal.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The fish has been used as a Christian symbol from the earliest times of the church. The Greek word for fish is "ixthus" or "ichthys." In the Greek language, the five letters making up the word form an acronym for "Jesus Christ is God's Son, the Savior." The first letter (i) represents the name "Jesus" in Greek; the second letter (x) the title "Christ"; the next two ("thu" in English) "God's Son"; and the final letter (s) the word "Savior."

Many early Christians were put to death for practicing their faith, and so worshiped secretly in homes. A fish painted on the outside door of a house let other Christians know that they would be safe and welcome inside. Make up an IXTHUS symbol to display in various places in your home as a sign of your faith in Jesus your Savior.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org