



A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE KIDS OF ST. AMBROSE

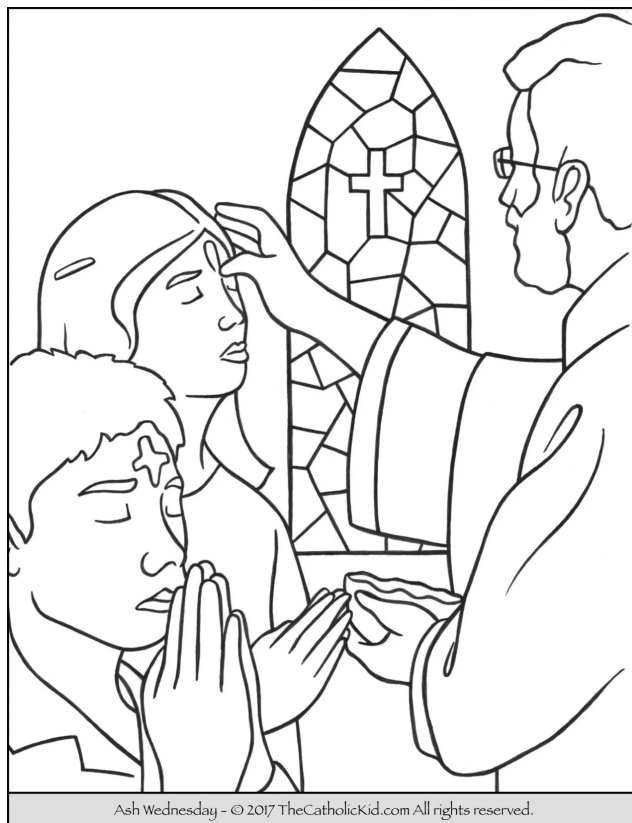
Sunday, February 19, 2023

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

The Feast of the Chair of St. Peter falls on February 22, which is also Ash Wednesday this year. This feast day celebrates both the papacy and St. Peter as the first bishop of Rome. In today's Gospel, Jesus instructs us to "be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect" but we all know human beings are not perfect. And so St. Peter was not perfect. He fell asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane instead of praying as Jesus asked and he denied Jesus three times. However, he also performed many miracles, won a large number of converts, and preached throughout Jerusalem and Judea. St. Peter is buried in the aptly named St. Peter's Basilica where the ancient oak chair of St. Peter, which is kept in the Papal Altar. (Ref: catholicnewsagency.com)

And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

Matthew 16:18



FAMILY TIME

*At the dinner table,
in the car,
we talk about our faith,
wherever we are!*



In today's Gospel, Jesus urges us to resist retaliation & to love our enemy. These seem like very difficult (impossible?) things to do, but the message of Jesus is that by doing so, we will love more completely and perfectly like our Heavenly Father.

LITTLE ONES: Have you ever tried to get even with someone who has done you wrong? This can be difficult to deal with, but Jesus wants us to not try to get even. Next time that happens, try praying: "Holy Spirit, give me the grace to be generous to those that hurt me."

BIGGER ONES: Today's Gospel goes against what our society teaches us. Jesus reminds us to not settle for what society expects us to do, but what God expects from us. This week ask the Holy Spirit to help you discern God's voice from the noise of society.

FAMILY CHALLENGE: Try reciting the Act of Love together: "O my God, I love You above all things with my whole heart and soul, because You are all good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of You. I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those whom I have injured. Amen."

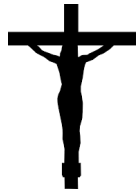
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Psalm 103: "The Lord is kind and merciful."



TRANSGRESSIONS
 COMPASSION
 KINDNESS
 BENEFITS
 MERCIFUL
 GRACIOUS

CHILDREN
 PARDONS
 REDEEMS
 BEING
 BLESS
 HEALS



SOUL
 LORD

***"Remember you are dust,
 and to dust you shall
 return"***

Lent starts this on February 22 this year, Ash Wednesday.

On Ash Wednesday, we:

- Go to church
- Receive ashes
- Fast*
- Make a decision about what we will give up for Lent.

**Fasting is required for everyone 18 years and up, barring health issues. It means that you have 1 regular sized meal, and 2 small meals which combined are not as large as your regular meal.*

Learn about Lent with this video from Brother Francis on Formed!



Pray and Draw: The first reading today from Leviticus states, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Think about how you can love those around you by your acts and prayers. Then draw a picture of you helping someone in your community.

