

FOCUS ON FAITH by SHARON LAWRENCE

LENT TO EASTER

February 2010 begins our journey from Lent to the season of Easter. Use CTN online resources to bring students to an awareness of God's love and power in their lives.

February 2nd – Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple



The Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus. It is also known as Candlemas day, since the blessing and procession of candles is included in the liturgy. Get more ideas and background information for the classroom at:

<http://www.churchyear.net/candlemas.html>

Level: Teacher

February 3rd – St. Blaise

http://www.catholic-forum.com/themes/st_blaise.html

St. Blaise was a fourth century bishop who lived in Armenia and devotion to him has been popular throughout the ages. Much of what is known about the life of St. Blaise comes from the legends about his life. Historical proof exists that Blaise was martyred for the Faith in his Diocese of Sebastea in Armenia in the year 316.

Use this Prayer with your class:

Saint Blaise, your martyrdom has left the Church a precious witness to the faith.

You miraculously cured a little child when it was at the point of death. Now grant us your powerful protection. Obtain for us the grace of Jesus Our Lord, together with a faithful observance of the precepts of the Church, which may keep us from offending Almighty God. Amen.

Level: Teacher

February 16th – Shrove Tuesday

<http://www.annieshomepage.com/mardigras.html.htm>

Use these lesson plans to encourage an understanding of Shrove Tuesday and the beginning of the Lenten season. Lessons include the history of Shrove Tuesday, and pancake recipes! Level: Grades K-4



Mardi Gras WebQuest

<http://www.catholicteacherresources.com/page-1/6-8-web-quests/catholic-webquest-mardi-gras>

This lesson will encourage students to not only learn more about Mardi Gras, but also use their knowledge to partake in their own Mardi Gras celebration. Students will investigate the history behind Mardi Gras. Students will create masks and a float in order to create their own class parade.

Level: Grades 6-8

Wednesday, February 17th – Ash Wednesday

The act of putting on ashes symbolizes fragility and mortality, and the need to be redeemed by the mercy of God. Far from being a merely external act, the Church has retained the use of ashes to symbolize that attitude of internal penance to which all the baptized are called during Lent. – Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy

Lent the Road to Easter WebQuest

<http://www.catholicteacherresources.com/page-1/page-1a/catholic-webquest-lent>

Students will learn that Lent is a time for preparation, and understand the significance of Ash Wednesday.

With their own Road Map of Lent, students will discover how forgiveness, charity and faith can help them participate in the sacrifice of Jesus. Also included in the WebQuest is a downloadable Lenten Worksheet for students to explore how they can prepare their hearts for Easter.

Level: Grades K-3

Ash Wednesday Mass Plan

http://www.catholicteacherresources.com/media/mass_plans/Ash_wednesday_Mass_08.pdf

Mass Plans for a School Liturgy celebrating the beginning of Lent. School-wide Lenten "Peace Chain" Activity/Distribution of Ashes/ "Burying the Alleluia". Readings from Colossians and Matthew. In class activities for all grade levels.

Level: Grades 3-8



Lenten Resources for Teachers

There are three special traditions that Catholics practice during Lent. They are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Use the links below to bring your students to a greater understanding of this special time of the Catholic Church calendar.

Stations of the Cross for Children

<http://www.cptryon.org/prayer/child/stations/>

These online Stations of the Cross are easily navigated by students, and will introduce them to the events of Holy Week.

Level: Grades K-4

Catholic Calendar

<http://www.catholicteacherresources.com/writing-prompts/k-3-writing-prompts/february-catholic-calendar>

We have collected websites and activities for teachers to use on special days in the Catholic calendar. Nearly every day of the month has information on a Saint, Holy Day or other important event. Use the links to teach students about the significance of each day of the year.

Level: Teacher



Video Highlights from CTN's Library

Grades K-2

Story Circle: Sam and The Lucky Money

For Broadcast or Loan
SF-045 (11:12)



It's Chinese New Year and Sam is finally old enough to choose how his lucky money will be spent. A mysterious stranger helps

him make the perfect decision.

Tues., 2/2 1:25-1:37 Ch. 10

Wed., 2/3 8:50-9:02 Ch. 12

Thurs., 2/4 9:05-9:17 Ch. 10

Fri., 2/5 11:05-11:17 Ch. 10

Fri., 2/5 11:30-11:42 Ch. 10

Fri., 2/5 2:15-2:27 Ch. 10

Mon., 2/8 1:40-1:52 Ch. 10



Science is Elementary: Let's Explore Water

For Broadcast or Loan
SIE-003 (15:00)

Takes a look at the properties of water, water sources and water's importance to all living things. Exploration: How does water freeze and melt?



Mon., 2/8 11:05-11:20 Ch. 12

Wed., 2/10 9:30-9:45 Ch. 12

Getting Along:

Don't Make Me Stop This Car

For Broadcast or Loan
GET-004 (15:00)

Two vignettes demonstrate what it feels like to be "bugged" by someone. A story helps children learn to be more assertive in identifying annoying behavior and asking that it stop.

Tues., 2/16 11:40-11:55 Ch. 10

Thurs., 2/18 9:25-9:40 Ch. 10

Fri., 2/19 11:25-11:40 Ch. 12

Mon., 2/22 9:20-9:35 Ch. 10

Story Circle:

Sylvester and The Magic Pebble

For Broadcast or Loan
SF-049 (11:18)

The Duncan family is beside itself when Sylvester turns himself into a rock to escape a hungry lion. Narrated by John Lithgow.

Wed., 2/17 8:50-9:01 Ch. 12

Tues., 2/23 1:25-1:36 Ch. 10

Wed., 2/24 8:50-9:01 Ch. 12

Thurs., 2/25 9:05-9:16 Ch. 10

Fri., 2/26 11:05-11:16 Ch. 10

Fri., 2/26 11:30-11:41 Ch. 10

Fri., 2/26 2:15-2:26 Ch. 10



Grades 3-5



Saints Alive: St. Joan Of Arc

For Broadcast or Loan
SAL-008 (15:00)

Joan responded to God's call to lead the French army into

victorious battles against the English. She was later accused of heresy and burned at the stake as a martyr.

Tues., 2/2 9:00-9:15 Ch. 12

American History For Kids: Lewis and Clark Expedition

For Broadcast or Loan

AHK-002 (17:00)

George Shannon - the youngest member of the famous Lewis & Clark Expedition



- tells the fascinating story of their journey. They were the first US citizens to struggle over the daunting peaks of the Rockies, and Great Plains, and the first to reach the Pacific Ocean by land. This expedition inspired many others to follow.

Wed., 2/3 1:50-2:07 Ch. 10

Fri., 2/5 10:00-10:17 Ch. 12

Colonial Williamsburg: The Slave Trade

Electronic Field Trip (60:00)



Beginning with the American Revolution, this program explores the U.S. law of 1807 that abolished the

trans-Atlantic slave trade. Meet the people who were involved in or influenced by this pivotal legislation: the slaves, plantation owners, slave-ship captains, common seamen, government officials, Navy officers, and anti-slavery activists.

Thurs., 2/11 10:00-11:00 Ch. 8

Thurs., 2/11 1:10-2:10 Ch. 8

Looking From The Inside Out: I'll Decide

For Broadcast or Loan
IO-003 (15:00)

Vignettes show students facing problems because they haven't taken responsibility for their actions.

Tues., 2/9 11:20-11:35 Ch. 10

Thurs., 2/11 10:45-11:00 Ch. 12

Fri., 2/12 1:25-1:40 Ch. 10



Interview with Rosa Parks

For Broadcast or Loan
ST-128 (22:00)

A video interview with Rosa Parks, the courageous black woman who refused to give up her seat

on a bus during segregation, giving impetus to the Civil Rights Movement.

Tues., 2/16 9:20-9:42 Ch. 12

Wed., 2/17 11:00-11:22 Ch. 12



Science For You:

Rocks: When is a Rock a Liquid?

SY-004 (15:00)

Shows how volcanoes produce rocks, what geologists learn from rocks, and the pros and cons of mining. Experiments include Mining for Chocolate Gold and Homemade Lava.

Tues., 2/16 11:00-11:15 Ch. 10

Thurs., 2/18 1:40-1:55 Ch. 10



Presidents

Multimedia Kit

Level: Grades 2-5

Includes:

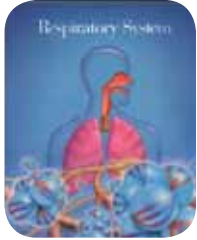
- Book: Daily Detectives: Presidents
- Video: President's Day (30:00)
- Video: Colonial America (11:00)



Grades 6-8

The Human Body Systems: The Respiratory System

For Broadcast or Loan
HBS-002 (24:00)



The lungs and air passages that make up the breathing system are responsible for getting oxygen to the body and removing carbon dioxide. Explains the respiratory system and all of its organs and

parts.

Mon., 2/1 2:05-2:24 Ch. 10
Wed., 2/3 11:10-11:34 Ch. 10

American Authors: F. Scott Fitzgerald

For Broadcast or Loan

AL-030 (30:00)

The success of Fitzgerald's novel *This Side of Paradise* enabled him to marry Zelda Sayre and enjoy celebrity status and a

writing career in Hollywood. But Fitzgerald had a dark side, which appears in two of his best known works - *The Great Gatsby* and *Tender Is the Night*.
Thurs., 2/4 11:05-11:35 Ch. 12



Tracks: Early European Settlers

For Broadcast or Loan
TRA-003 (15:00)

A stop at Jamestown offers an opportunity to learn about the goals of early English settlers. Exploring an Indian village and a fort, Izzy and Duncan hear the story of Pocohantas, find out how exporting tobacco saved the economy of Jamestown, and why tobacco growers imported slaves from Africa.

Mon., 2/8 1:10-1:25 Ch. 12
Fri., 2/12 1:45-2:00 Ch. 10



Visit with George Washington

For Broadcast or Loan
AHO-017 (22:00)

A dramatic narrative illustrated with live-action film and illustrations from the

period tells the story of our first president.
Thurs., 2/11 11:25-11:47 Ch. 10
Fri., 2/12 8:20-8:42 Ch. 12
Tues., 2/16 10:05-10:27 Ch. 10
Wed., 2/17 9:05-9:27 Ch. 12

Adventures With Animals: The Beaver Family



For Broadcast or Loan

PLS-034 (14:00)

Beavers are the only animals that can create their own environment. This engaging program

shows the daily activities of a beaver family in the Rocky Mountains as they raise their kits, repair their dams, and adapt to the changes in season.

Wed., 2/17 10:50-11:04 Ch. 10
Fri., 2/19 11:05-11:19 Ch. 12
Thurs., 2/25 2:20-2:34 Ch. 10

Shakespeare on Stage: Idea Of Tragedy

For Broadcast or Loan
H-044 (15:00)

Tragedy is a form of drama characterized by a definite perspective on life. Scenes from *Macbeth* are used to explain the concept of tragic action.

Wed., 2/24 2:15-2:30 Ch. 10
Thurs., 2/25 11:05-11:20 Ch. 10

BROADCAST AND VIDEO LOAN REQUESTS

- Broadcast videos may be scheduled at alternate times by calling CTN at 650-326-7850, ext. 12 or by email to request@ctnba.org.
- Loan videos and kits may be borrowed for 2 weeks and should be returned to CTN.
- Videos may be duplicated unless noted otherwise.
- CTN staff are available to assist you from 7:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
- UPS return label included with each video at no cost to you.

Lincoln and the Underground Railroad

Multimedia Kit
Level: Grades 6-12

Includes:

- Video: Abraham Lincoln, Preserving the Union - A&E Biography series video
- Book: Lincoln Memorial - Official National Park Handbook
- Book: Underground Railroad - Official National Park Handbook, details history of slavery in the south and the struggle to freedom for slaves

Professional Development

THE AMERICAN FAMILY SERIES

I'm Me and I'm Special: Your Pre-schooler's Start to a Happy Life

TTC-449 (90:00)

Child psychologists explain the developmental stages of the two-to-five year old, and suggest ways to nurture an interest in learning, respect for others, and a sense of self-esteem.

Parenting the Elementary School Child: How to Nurture a Positive Self

TTC-411 (90:00)

Program guests suggest actions to develop effective communications between the school and the family.

A Positive Approach to Parenting Our Teens

TTC-423 (90:00)

An award-winning program offers concrete ideas for parents struggling to build communication and trust with teenagers.



Connecting with the Disconnected Teenager

TTC-665 (60:00)

Problems can arise when teenagers feel disconnected from their parents' values. Panelists offer tips for improving communication.





Groundhog Day

The first official Groundhog Day was celebrated on February 2, 1886 in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, with a proclamation in The Punxsutawney Spirit by the newspaper's editor,

Clymer Freas: "Today is groundhog day and up to the time of going to press the beast has not seen its shadow." Bring Groundhog Day to life in your classroom with these great websites:

Groundhog Day - February 2nd

http://www.lil-fingers.com/holidays/groundhog_day/
For the younger students, this site is packed with online games, a Groundhog Day predictor engine, and coloring pages. Students will be able to research information about the history of Groundhog Day.

Level: Grades K-2



Groundhog Cookies

<http://www.groundhog.org/teachers/groundhog-cookies>
Make these cookies and integrate Math into your teaching curriculum on February 2nd. The

recipe is simple enough for students to read and many new vocabulary words can be incorporated into a Spelling List for Groundhog Day.

Level: Grades K-8

Valentine's Day - February 14th

St. Valentine's Day originated from several events and customs. It is named after St. Valentine, who was a Christian priest. A Roman custom also contributed to what we know as Valentine's Day today. They held a festival each year called the Festival of Lupercalia at the same time of the year as Valentine's Day. Later the holiday changed into a holiday to honor the Roman goddess, Juno, whom the Romans believed ruled over marriages. It then became a holiday of love.

Art and Craft Activities for Kids

<http://www.dltk-holidays.com/valentines/>

Kids will love to use these craft activities to create gifts for family and friends. Activities include Valentine's Day Cards, Games, Puzzles, Poems, Recipes, Worksheets, and Printables.

Level: Grades K-5



Cards, Cards, Cards!

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/valentine/>
Use these easy templates to make Valentine's Day Cards. You will find Coupon Cards, Fingerprint Cards, Flap/Pop-up Cards, Heart-shaped Cards, and more.

Level: Grades K-3

BLACK HISTORY MONTH – FEBRUARY, 2010



Every February, Americans celebrate Black History Month. This tribute dates back to 1926 and is credited to a Harvard scholar named Carter G. Woodson. The son of former slaves, Woodson dedicated his life to ensuring that black

history was accurately documented and disseminated.

Black History Month

<http://www.biography.com/blackhistory/>
From Jackie Robinson to Barack Obama, Black History Month pays tribute to inspirational African Americans from the past, as well as those who will continue to make history well into the future.

Level: Grades 6-8

Black History Resources

<http://search.eb.com/blackhistory>
With over 600 articles, hundreds of photographs and several dozen film and sound clips, this Encyclopedia Britannica guide is extensive. Timeline traces the yearly contributions of African-Americans in politics, industry, arts, religion, sports and education. If you're looking for a specific person or topic, try the alphabetic indices in Biographies, Places and Things, or Subject Browse. Teacher guides and five classroom projects are listed in Activities.

Level: Grades 6-8

Biographies of Notable African Americans

<http://www.factmonster.com/spot/bhm1.html>
This is a great site about the history and timelines of famous firsts and biographies of notable African Americans. Students will find African American quotes, black scientists, sports celebrities, and information about African-American literature.

Level: Grades 3-4

Rosa Parks: A Biography

<http://www.achievement.org/autodoc/page/par0pro-1>
Read the Biography and an Interview with Rosa Parks. Students can view a detailed Photo Gallery of the early days of her life.

Level: Grades 6-8

Time for Kids: Black History Month

<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/specials/bhm/0,8805,97217,00.html>



Start your tour with the Black History Timeline (Then to Now) to prepare for the interactive quiz game Civil Rights History Challenge. "Retrace the marchers' steps by answering our questions about the fight for equal rights." Next is a popular culture quiz. Can you recognize six famous modern-day African Americans by their baby pictures?

Level: Grades K-8

President's Day, February 15th ~ Web & Video Resources

President's Day is February 15th, 2010. This holiday was created to celebrate the deeds of two legendary American Presidents: George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Learn about these great leaders and other presidents in this collection of sites and activities.

Pretzel Log Cabin

President's Day is a great time to teach kids about how our forefathers grew up in log cabins and worked the land with their own two hands. This pretzel log cabin is a fun and edible history lesson in the making!

What you'll need:



- Small empty milk carton
- Pretzel sticks
- Chocolate frosting or peanut butter
- 1 Rolo or other tubular shaped candy
- 1 square cracker
- Scissors

How to make it:

1. Cut the top flap of the milk carton off and tape it closed to form the roof.
2. Spread chocolate frosting or peanut butter on one side of milk carton then cover with pretzels. Repeat this step all over the milk carton until log cabin is complete.
3. Break a square cracker in half, then break one of the halves in half. Spread some frosting or peanut butter on the back of the first half. "Glue" it to the front of the cabin as the door.
4. Spread some frosting or peanut butter to the bottom of Rolo and stick to the roof.

Streaming Video Resources

Holiday Facts & Fun: Presidents Day

<http://player.discoveryeducation.com/index.cfm?guidAssetId=CBEEC136-4252-435B-A6E1-1398F7679E03&blnFromSearch=1&productcode=US>

This video explains why Washington is known as the "father of his country." It also tells the story of Lincoln's emancipation proclamation and explains how our 16th president prevented the United States from being destroyed. Taped in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, Salem, Illinois, and Mount Vernon, Virginia, as well as many other locations, this program brings history to life for young viewers. Teacher's Guide and Blackline Masters are included.

Running Time: (15:00) Level: Grades K-5



American Heroes and Heroines: George Washington

<http://player.discoveryeducation.com/index.cfm?guidAssetId=AF08A3DC-FED8-4460-A152-93DBD6969132&blnFromSearch=1&productcode=US>

This video shows the mounting tension between the British and the colonists,

Washington's leading role in the first and second Continental Congresses, and his eventual leadership of American forces.

Running Time: (18:11) Level: Grades 6-8

Web Resources



Activities and Crafts for Presidents Day

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/presidentsday/>

Presidential Crafts include log cabins, Lincoln's hat, Patriotic pinwheel, Printable Mini-Books, Worksheets, Coloring pages,

and much more.

Level: Grades K-5 and Teacher

Presidents Day Home Page

http://rims.k12.ca.us/score_lessons/special_events/presidents_day/

This educational virtual museum includes facts and history as well as classroom activities. Find out what these famous men did and decide for yourself if we should remember their birthdays each year. This website guides young students through activities and information about Abraham Lincoln and George Washington.

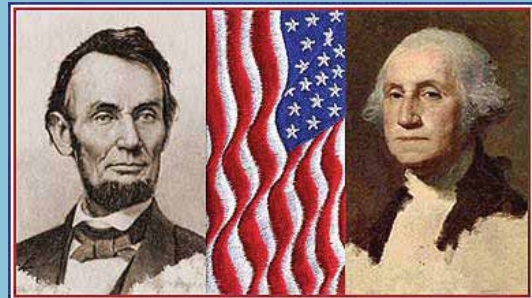
Level: Grades K-3

Presidents Hall: Biographies

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/>

Learn about all the US presidents from past to present. Information presented is easy to read and includes images and historical photos of interest. This is a great website for research and biographical information.

Level: Grades 6-8



Videos

President's Day

Loan Video (23:00)

Students learn how this holiday is celebrated today and learn about the history of two of our most famous presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Through stories, songs and crafts, students learn more about the daily life of a president, his or her responsibilities, and the White House.

Level: Grades 1-3



Washington: Man and Myth

Materials included

Loan Video / DVD (60:00)

This includes the electronic field trip Washington: Man and Myth, Live from Colonial Williamsburg, a Teacher's Guide, posters and ideas for Internet activities.

Level: Grades 5-8



ONSCREEN

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Keep up to Date on our New Catholic Teacher Resources Site & Follow Us on

Welcome teachers! We want to make sure that all of you are checking out our CTR website! All you have to do is visit our website at www.ctnba.org & click on Catholic Resources and you will be directed to www.catholicteacherresources.com. The front page changes every month and we frequently add new resources. Be up to date, follow us on Twitter by signing up at www.twitter.com/CatholicTR.

CATHOLIC TEACHER RESOURCES

Resources

- Terms of Use
- FREE CTR Tour
- Bible Stories
- Catechist Resources
- Catholic Calendar
- Catholic Games
- Catholic Picture Dictionary
- Catholic WebQuests
 - K-3 WebQuests
 - 4-5 WebQuests
 - 6-8 WebQuests
- Church Seasons
- Mass Plans
- Religion Outcomes
- Social Justice
- Virtual Tours
- Web Links on Catholic Topics
- Writing Prompts
 - K-3 Writing Prompts
 - 4-5 Writing Prompts
 - 6-8 Writing Prompts

CTR is Using Twitter

Follow our feed by visiting www.twitter.com/CatholicTR. We'll update you on new additions to the site! Stay in the loop!

Virtual Tour of the Sacraments

The Virtual Tour of the Sacraments is a unique series of video clips that walk children through each Sacrament in a very lively and enjoyable way. Each video clip includes titles of keywords and images to engage and educate students about these important milestones in our Catholic faith. Level: Grades K-8 Start the Virtual Tour of the [...]

Writing Prompt: Racism

Writing Prompts are web pages with images and text which 'spark' the imagination of the student, to write. We have developed the Catholic Writing Prompts, so teachers can easily integrate Religion and Language Arts into their curriculum. Students will focus on the image presented and then be challenged by a series of questions which cause [...]

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Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Use our Mass Plan for a School Liturgy celebrating the beginning of Lent. Activities include School-wide Lenten "Peace Chain" Activity/Distribution of Ashes/ and "Burying the Alleluia". Readings from Colossians and Matthew can also be used. Level: Grades 3-8 Download the Mass Plan

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- CTR is Using Twitter
- Virtual Tour of the Sacraments
- Writing Prompt: Racism
- Lent: The Road to Easter WebQuest
- February Catholic Calendar

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