Some Feast Days within Lent

While "feasting" is not particularly Lenten, there are a few special days in the Lenten calendar that merit *celebration*. Here are a few ideas to get you started.



Feb. 22: Feast of the Chair of St. Peter

- This feast celebrates the gift of the Pope. Learn about the meaning of this feast <u>here</u>. Read the story of Jesus giving St. Peter a special role in <u>Mt. 16:13-19</u>.
- Learn about our current Pope. <u>Read something</u> by him (his homilies or Lenten messages are brief and inspiring). Pray specifically for him.
- Write to Pope Francis: tell him about your family, thank him for his leadership, & assure him of your prayers. Send letters to: His Holiness, Pope Francis/ Apostolic Palace/ 00120 Vatican City
- Play musical chairs.



March 17: Feast of St. Patrick

- Learn about St. Patrick <u>here</u>. (For kids, free <u>Veggie Tale video</u>, or purchase this <u>DVD</u>.)
- Pray the "<u>Breastplate</u>," a prayer attributed to St. Patrick. Or listen to it <u>sung</u>.
- St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach about the Trinity, pray the Sign of the Cross (our most common Trinitarian prayer) with extra attention. Cut out your own shamrocks to decorate.
- Make some traditional St. Patrick's Day foods, like Irish Soda Bread or Corned Beef & Cabbage.
- Listen to <u>Irish music</u> during dinner.

March 19: Solemnity of St. Joseph

- Pope Francis has declared 2021 the "Year of St. Joseph."
- Learn <u>here</u> about St. Joseph and how his feast is celebrated around the world. Audio story for kids: <u>MP3 for purchase</u>. Adults may consider the 30-day <u>consecration to St. Joseph</u>.
- Place an image of St. Joseph in a prominent place in your home for the day.
- In honor of St. Joseph, a carpenter, tackle one of those "fix it" or "refurbishing" jobs around the house. Kids love crafts with <u>wooden popsicle sticks</u>.

March 25: Solemnity of the Annunciation

- Yes, this feast is nine months before Christmas! Read the <u>story</u> of the Angel Gabriel announcing to Mary that she would be the mother of God. Kids videos: <u>2 min</u>. and <u>30 min</u>.
- Pray the joyful mysteries of the rosary or learn about and pray the Angelus.
- Bring a meal to a family with a new baby or bring some baby supplies to a crisis pregnancy center or women's shelter.
- Play one of these <u>baby shower games</u> for kids.



