

## **FAITH FORMATION**

### **This Week's Gospel: Luke 23:35-43**

For the Solemnity of Christ the King, the Lectionary chooses a short passage from Luke's account of Jesus' Passion. The Passion depicts Jesus without physical or military power, yet he is dangerous enough to be put to death. As his opponents tease and taunt him, Jesus shows his divine power in forgiving a criminal on a cross near him. This man recognizes his own wrongdoing and truly believes that Jesus can help him get to Heaven. By this action of faith, Jesus transforms the Cross from a place of death to a place of life and forgiveness.

**Promise (Grades Pre-School, K and 1):** The Gospel lesson this week is about forgiveness. Your child learned that Jesus is a leader—a king—who loves and forgives. The class also learned that there are times when everyone needs to forgive and to be forgiven.

**Good News (Grades 2-3):** The short Gospel for this Sunday shows that forgiveness is a cornerstone of Jesus' Kingdom. Children of this age can be deeply hurt by teasing. Invite your child to tell you the Gospel story in his or her own words. Talk about ways your family can show forgiveness to one another.

**Venture (Grades 4-6):** This week's lesson focuses on forgiveness. Ask your child to tell you how we can recognize the need for forgiveness, and how we know that forgiveness has been given. Remind one another of the ways you ask for forgiveness every time you go to Mass. Discuss times when you needed both words and actions to show sorrow or forgiveness within your family.