

April

Month of the Blessed Sacrament

April 2

St. Francis of Paola, Hermit

Prayer: [Excerpt from writings with prayer](#)

Stories: [Franciscan Media Saint of the Day](#)

Food: Try the recipe for Bartlett Pear Tarte Tatin at the bottom of [this link](#) or just slice up some Bartlett pears with cheese or PB! The Bartlett pear is called “The Good Christian” in France, because St. Francis of Paola introduced it there!

Activity: His monastic Rule emphasized penance, charity, and humility. Choose one of these to practice closely today.

April 4

St. Isidore of Seville, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Prayer: [Novena](#)

Stories: [Franciscan Media Saint of the Day](#)

[Read](#) about the tiny drops of water that inspired his life.

Food: Another Spanish saint! Why not do tapas for dinner? Some ideas [here](#) and [here](#).

Activity: Try an experiment to bring the tiny drop of water story to life! You need: sugar cubes and a dropper/syringe. Then drop tiny warm water droplets onto the sugar cube until you start to see it change to demonstrate weathering. Then talk about how we can live the virtue of persistence in our lives like St. Isidore!

April 5

St. Vincent Ferrer

Prayer: [Novena](#)

Stories: [PWWPN Saint of the day 2 min video](#)

[Saint stories for kids. Episode 65](#)

Food: He was from Valencia, Spain...so maybe Valencia oranges 🍊. Or you can serve one of the transitional Spanish dishes served for his feast day, [empedrado](#).

Activity: He is the Patron of Reconciliation, so take some time to head to Confession with the family and/or do a family examination of conscience. He was known as the “Angel of Judgment” and spent his energy proclaiming that the kingdom is at hand, so let’s remember this and repent.

April 7

St. John Baptiste de la Salle

Patron Saint of Teachers of Youth

Does [this](#) look just like a classroom at St. Joseph’s?

Prayer: [Collect](#)

Stories: [Franciscan Media Saint of the Day](#)

Food: He’s French! Try [Nicoise Salad](#), a French classic. Or serve any soup with French Bread, make “French” toast or have some [quiche](#)!

Activity: Take turns sharing about a time you didn’t really want to do something, but when you did it you were so glad you did. Talk about sharing God’s will.

April 10

Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion

**Marks the beginning of Holy Week*

Prayer: [Family prayer taken from Pope Pius XII](#)

Stories: Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; and John 12:12-19

[Video from Catholic.org](#)

Food: Make [Palm Sundaes](#)! You can even add a little red sour patch kid to represent Jesus and an [Animal cookie donkey](#) if you’re feeling fancy!

Activity: Create [something](#) for your home with the sacramental palms received at Mass.

Choose a time to go to Confession this week as a family.

April 11

St. Stanislaus

Prayer: [Novena](#)

Stories: [Franciscan Media Saint of the Day](#)

Food: He was the first of many great Polish born saints, so have some [Polish food](#) in his honor.

Activity: Pray for the gift of fortitude to always speak truth on the face of evil like Saint Stanislaus.

*****The Paschal Triduum will begin in the evening of Wednesday, April 13 and ends in the evening of Saturday, April 16.*****

April 14

Holy Thursday

Prayer: [My Catholic Life! Prayer Meditation](#)

Stories: This is a wonderful [overview](#) of Holy Thursday/ Mass of the Last Supper from OSV.

Last Supper: Matthew 26:17–29; Mark 14:12–25; Luke 22:7–38

First Passover: Exodus 12

Food: Create a [Holy Thursday/Last Supper meal](#).

Activity: Highly recommend going to Mass. It is a beautiful liturgy filled with so much richness. [Wash each other's feet](#).

Watch [The Prince of Egypt](#), which includes the first Passover.

April 15

Good Friday

Prayer: [My Catholic Life! Prayer Meditation](#)

Start the Divine Mercy Novena. Get a great kid version [here](#).

Stories: John 18: 1-19: 42

Food: Today is an [obligatory day of fasting and abstinence](#), so plan accordingly if you fit into the categories outlined. This is a great day to help young children eat simply in preparation for fasting.

Have a [symbolic lunch](#) to enter into our Lord's Passion as a family.

Activity: Pray the Stations of the Cross in a special way (go to a church, participate in your parish stations, light a candle/be in mostly darkness, take turns holding a homemade cross).

Try your best to observe 12-3pm in a solemn way (silence, stations, family prayer, spiritual reading aloud etc.)

Go to a Good Friday service or have a [home Veneration of the Cross](#).

April 16

Holy Saturday

Prayer: [My Catholic Life! Prayer Meditation](#)

Stories: Matthew 27:57-66

[Catholic Culture](#)

[12 Things to know about Holy Saturday](#)

Food: Eat simply and/or fast in anticipation for Easter feasting. Try your hand at [Easter Story cookies](#).

Activity: Prepare your home and heart for Easter! Spend some time in silence/prayer as a family and reflect on how Jesus's disciples felt after His death.

[Make a Paschal candle](#).

Dye Easter eggs.

Have food for Easter blessed by a priest or [bless the food at home](#).

April 17

Easter Sunday, The Resurrection of our Lord

Prayer: [My Catholic Life! Easter Prayer Meditation](#)

Stories: Matthew 28; John 20

Food: Make [Resurrection Rolls](#) first thing in the morning to experience the empty tomb.

Activity: Attend Easter Mass! And say Alleluia all day long!

The Easter Season lasts for 50 days! Try these [50 Ways to Celebrate the Joy of Easter - USCCB](#)

Have a feast with all the things we abstained from during Lent!

Have an Easter egg hunt.

April 18-23

Octave of Easter

Prayer: [My Catholic Life! Prayer Meditation](#)

Pray the [Via Lucis](#)!

Stories: [History of the Octave](#)

Food: Have each member of your family pick their favorite meals and have them this week!

Have dessert and/or special drinks every day 🍰🥤

Invite friends! Everyday is a partyyyy!

Activity:

[12 ways to celebrate the Easter Octave](#)

[3 Ways to celebrate the Easter Octave](#)

Color the Via Lucis or have a [symbolic Easter tea party](#) while praying the Via Lucis.

April 23

St. George

Prayer: [Prayer Against Temptations](#)

Stories: [Saint stories for kids. Episode 16](#)

Food: Fun [food ideas](#) for this English saint

Activity: Try one of these [crafts](#).

April 24

Divine Mercy Sunday

Prayer:

[Divine Mercy Chaplet](#)

[My Time With Jesus: Divine Mercy Chaplet for Kids](#) (13 minute video)

Stories: [Divine Mercy Sunday: What's This Feast All About, Anyway?](#)

Food: Make [Divine Mercy Sundaes!](#)

Activity: Color the last page of the [Divine Mercy Novena for kids](#).

Check out this great [list](#) of crafts and activities from Catholic Icing.

April 25

St. Mark

Prayer: [Collect](#)

Stories: [Saint stories for kids. Episode 68](#)

Food: Try [Risi e Bisi](#) (Venetian rice and peas) for dinner. And [Lion cupcakes](#) for dessert! (Because the winged lion is Saint Mark's symbol.)

Activity: Check Out some fun [crafts and activities](#) from Catholic Icing.

April 28

St. Louis - Marie de Montfort

Prayer: Pray the rosary as a family today! (Or even start with just a decade)

Stories: [My Catholic Family - 2015-10-18 - Saint Louis - Marie de Monfort](#); [St. Louis de Montfort](#)

Food: St. Louis de Montfort was French and was known for fostering devotion to Mary and the Rosary - with that in mind, you could make this Marian themed parfait recipe in honor of his feast day! [Catholic Cuisine: Marian Blueberry Parfait](#)

Activity: Check out this free Marian Consecration Family Adventure program from Holy Heroes and consider signing up to participate the next time it is offered: [Marian Consecration – Holy Heroes](#)

April 29

St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Prayer: Prayer for the Gifts of St. Catherine of Siena and Litany of St. Catherine of Siena: <https://www.avemariapress.com/engagingfaith/feast-of-st-catherine-of-siena-prayers>

Stories: [Saint stories for kids. Episode 69](#)

Food: A great night for Italian in honor of this Italian Saint. You could even try this recipe for [Pasta Santa Caterina](#) from Catholic Cuisine, or this bread recipe since she was known to bake bread for the poor daily [Catholic Cuisine: St. Catherine of Siena - Peace Bread](#).

Activity: See activity #3 from Equipping Catholic Families here: [Feast Day Fun: St Catherine of Siena](#)

Send a card to someone who may be having a hard time with the words St. Catherine heard from Jesus, *“I am always with you in your heart, strengthening you.”* ~Jesus, or post this somewhere you will see it in your home as encouragement for you and your family.

April 30

St. Pius V, Pope

Prayer: [Collect](#)

Stories: [St. Pius V - Reformer Saint](#);

[St. Pius V - Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network](#)

Food: Have a simple Italian meal, like [antipasto](#) or [pasta fagioli soup](#).

Activity: Pius V prayed, fasted, and denied himself comforts to show his love for Christ. Choose a sacrifice for the day.

He also spent many hours in front of the Blessed Sacrament, so plan a trip to Adoration in his honor.