



Diocese of Bristol

Families growing faith at home

Church@Home is a fantastic all-age resource that has been created to encourage and help families enjoy a time of worship, explore the Bible, pray together and grow in their faith in the comfort of their own homes.

Church@Home provides a fun, engaging and easy-to-follow session every Sunday using a Bible reading selected from the Church of England Lectionary. Each session lasts approximately twenty minutes and provides age-related material for toddlers to teenagers to accommodate everyone in the family. Thought-provoking questions, fun activities and crafts bring the Bible story to life as well as creative prayer ideas to help families focus, learn and grow in their faith together. Additional teaching and craft suggestions are also provided for families with very young children.

Church@Home can also be used as a fun way to help families connect with other families on Sunday mornings too during this time of distancing. Invite everyone to begin **Church@Home** at the same time and perhaps set up a WhatsApp group where families can share what they have done, or discuss the topic further together.

If your family or families in your church are using **Church@Home** please let us know. We would like to keep in contact, find out how you are doing as well as hear how **Church@Home** is helping families grow in their faith, so that we can share and inspire others during this time of distancing.

daniel.jones@bristoldiocese.org

Thank you 



Sunday 14th March 2021
4th Sunday of Lent

Riches of his grace

Ephesians 2:4-10

Time to focus...

Find a place where the family can all sit comfortably - around the table, on the lounge floor etc. As you gather, if possible, light a candle to mark the beginning of your worship time. Quietly stare at the candle, watching the flames flicker and glow.

Set the scene...

Imagine today is your birthday, would you be excited? Discuss all the reasons as to why you would be so excited - presents, a party with your friends, cake? Now, imagine every day is your birthday and God gives you this really great present, every day, just because He loves you and He wants you to be happy...

Watch the story...

A simple and effective description of grace explained by [Kids4Christ](#).

Explore the story...

Start by handing out a type of snack to everyone, and ask what did they do to deserve this treat – the answer should be 'nothing'. Yes! You didn't have to do anything, you have been given this yummy treat just because I love you and I want you to be happy. Has anyone ever heard of the word 'Grace' and know what it means? (Encourage everyone in your family to discuss the question - be as interactive as possible and remember that there are no wrong answers).

Did you know, just like I gave you these treats for free, God has given us a big gift too because He loves us so much? This gift is called grace. Grace simply means not getting what we deserve. We offer grace to people in our lives when we choose to respond kindly instead of being cruel. When someone is mean to us it is very easy to be mean back. Even when someone deserves to be treated unkindly, that is where grace comes in and they experience kindness and grace. The Bible calls grace 'God's free gift'. There isn't many things you get in life for free, but this sure is the best gift, right? Grace is such an amazing gift, that there is never anything we can do to not deserve God's grace. The best part is grace is a gift you can never lose. Even when we mess up, God's Grace is there to protect us.

God sent us another gift and His name is Jesus. Can you imagine how much Jesus loved us to be willing to die on that cross so that we could have eternal life in heaven? Eternal life - what an amazing gift! And all we have to do to receive it is believe and accept Jesus as our Saviour.

End in prayer...

Thank you, Father, for the greatest gift of all. Thank you for Jesus, who loved us so much that he paid the price for our sin to give us the gift of eternal life. Amen.



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4th Sunday of Lent

Riches of his grace

Creative ideas / toddlers to teenagers

Craft activity: You will need empty match boxes, sweets and art materials. Decorate the boxes, put sweets inside and then give to friends as a 'free gift', because you love them.

0-5s...

Worship: Enjoy listening to "[Amazing grace](#)"

Creative prayer: Print and decorate this jigsaw piece on the next page. Thank God for the good things in your life and that you are part of a big picture and the plan He has for your life.

Worship: Enjoy listening to "[This is amazing grace](#)"

5-11s...

Craft activity: You will need empty match boxes, sweets and art materials. Decorate the boxes, put sweets inside and then give to friends as a 'free gift', because you love them.

Creative prayer: God's grace is an incredible gift and whilst it is freely given to all who believe, it came at a great cost to Jesus. The acronym G-R-A-C-E is a great way to remember grace as 'God's Riches At Christ's Expense'. As a family use each letter of G-R-A-C-E to think of things that you are thankful to God for.



- 1) Can you think of someone who has shown grace and mercy?
- 2) What does Paul mean when he says 'by grace you have been saved'? (verse 5)
- 3) How does 'God's great love for us' make a difference to your life?

11-18s...



Praise God for his unconditional love for you.



Think about how you respond to God's love and share it with others.

"God raised us up and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus." - Ephesians 2:6-7



0-5s...

