





Fifth graders build collaboration skills as they create their own sports ball, game board and brand.



Second graders explore STEM concepts through glowing circuitry and hands-on projects.



Fourth graders gain confidence while reverse engineering their robotic lab-on-wheels.

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DISCOVER FUN ADVENTURES IN A TYPICAL DAY AT OUR ALL-NEW 2024 PROGRAM

SECURE YOUR SPOT TODAY

Register at INVENT.ORG/CAMP or 800-968-4332

501 Lincoln Street, Amherst, OH 44001

Location: Nord Middle School

Grades: 1st - 6th

A.M. BASE CAMP

Drop off your camper with qualified local educators who start each day with games that ignite creativity.



I THE GAME"

ampers team up as hey investigate the personalize a lightthen add a unique science of sports up game board, ball design and ogo and name!



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When they build a finding inspiration animals that glow! discover different customized Glow inventions and Box, campers n illuminating forms of light,

campinventionamherst@gmail.com

(440) 988-4441

Camp Director: Erin Kinser

Cost: \$270 (before discount)

Time: 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Date: June 3 - 7, 2024

If these dates/times don't work for you, please visit

invent org/camp for other locations near you.

GAMES & LUNCH



IYDRODROP" **DERATION:**

water-based technology and sustainable design o cultivate awareness engineer a tiny house with crops to explore challenges, campers of real-world water hinking.



sketches to working prototypes using ideas from initial creative as they everyday items. transform their

SAVE \$25 WITH CODE

AT INVENT.ORG/CAMP Offer expires March 27, 2024

P.M. BASE CAMP

The day wraps up as campers wind down with problem-solving games.

Camp Invention is a nonprofit program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame.



National Inventors



Camp Invention is not a school-sponsored program or school-affiliated activity.

your spot today! Scan to secure

Partners in FAIFI

Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

February 2024

St. Joseph School, Amherst Mrs. Amy Makruski, Principal

Thoughtful Moments

St. Josephine Bakhita

St. Josephine Bakhita was a young girl in Darfur, Sudan when she was captured and sold into slavery. Despite serving under cruel masters for many years, she remained sweet and kind. Eventually, the Michielis, who treated her very kindly, bought her. While in Italy, they introduced her to the Canossian Sisters of Charity. She joined in 1893. She spent the rest of her time there as a cook and sacristan. She also helped to prepare young sisters.

Unconditional love

Children learn about God's love by experiencing love from their parents. Children who feel unconditionally loved by their parents are less likely to fear failure or judgment and more likely to look at their parents as advocates rather than adversaries. They are also more likely to be open to a relationship with a loving God as Father.

"A wise son hears his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke" (Proverbs 13:1).

Forgiveness leads to holiness

In family life, conflict may be commonplace as children learn to navigate relationships but learning how to forgive is

essential to healthy development.
Forgiveness is also essential for holiness. "If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you" (Matthew 6:14). Teach

children how:

Say the words. Encourage children to say, "I'm sorry," "I was wrong," when they have hurt someone. Asking for forgiveness starts the process of recognizing when they have transgressed and understanding that amends must be made. When someone says the words, immediately offer forgiveness by saying, "I forgive you."

Release grudges. Old resentments keep us from fully experiencing God's love and forgiveness. Encourage each member of the family to write at least one grudge or resentment they are ready

to let go of on a piece of paper and put it into a "grudge jar." Then, take out all the grudges, rip them up, and move on.

Practice humility.
Humility reminds us

that we're saints-in-progress who need God's mercy. We are flawed beings who make

mistakes that require God's forgiveness. Offering mercy to others in recognition of this need is an act of both humility and hope.

Pray for each other. Praying together as a family opens us up to much-needed graces. Plus, it's hard to stay mad at someone for whom you pray!



Why do Catholics serve pancakes on Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras)?

In the early Church, it was customary to give up rich foods and meat during the penitential season of Lent. This included milk, eggs, butter, cheese, and fat. On the Tuesday before Lent began, families would rush to empty the pantry of the

forbidden foods by enjoying a dinner of pancakes (or in some places, fried doughnuts). In several countries, it is even called "Pancake Tuesday." It was meant to be one final celebration of feasting before the Lenten fast.

The positive power of penance

Children of all ages know that if we make a mess, we must clean it up and try not to do it again. Penance is a lot like that – it helps us clean up our sin and avoid repeats. Help children appreciate penance.

Self-denial. Suggest small sacrifices that are age appropriate - skipping a favorite TV show, foregoing an hour of video games, or passing on dessert. Then suggest that the discomfort can be offered to God as an apology for past wrongs.

Acts of kindness. Our sin affects others,

so helping others also helps us make up for our sins.

Assisting a neighbor, volunteering at church, or

showing kindness to a friend, can be offered to

God as penance.

"Do I have to?" When you ask your child to do something he doesn't have to do and may not enjoy, remind him that it can be offered as penance. Visiting elderly relatives, playing patiently with younger siblings, doing homework without reminders are sacrifices that can be offered as penance.

Scripture Mark 9:2-10, Transformation

Mark 9:2-10, Transformation, not restoration

Ancient Jews imagined that the Messiah would free Israel to be the kind of people it already was with the religion and structure it already had. After all, God had set Moses aside as the lawgiver and liberator, and Elijah was the first great prophet to foretell the coming of Christ. The Messiah was predicted to be a kind of repairman to restore it all.

So, when Jesus was transfigured with Moses and Elijah, the apostles figured God was revealing Him as the expected Messiah. Peter thought he was complimenting Jesus by offering to build tents for each of them, putting Jesus on

the same level as Moses and Elijah. Instead, God called Jesus, "my

beloved Son," exalting
Jesus above every
other human hero.
What can a
parent do?
Jesus' apostles
thought He had
come simply to
restore Israel, but

Jesus came to transform us and give us new life. The Transfiguration was to prepare Jesus' followers for a surprising truth: He would accomplish this victory by dying on the Cross and rising from the dead, thus conquering death itself.

Feasts & Celebrations

February 2 – The Presentation of the Lord. In accordance with the Law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple forty days after His birth, and Simeon praised God for revealing the long-awaited Savior.

February 2 – St. Catherine of Ricci (1590). Against her father's wishes, St. Catherine gave up her wealthy life and joined the Dominicans when she was twelve. She received visions of the Lord's Passion, which she experienced every Friday.

February 14 - Ash Wednesday. The

first day of Lent. Ashes of old palms are placed on the forehead, as a sign of penance. It's also a day of abstinence from meat and fasting – one regular meal and two small meals that together don't equal a full meal.

February 21 – St. Peter Damian (1072). St. Peter Damian became a disciplined monk but was called to serve as a bishop for many years. He was advisor to seven popes. He retired to monastic life and died in the care of his brother monks.



I had stopped praying. My father had a heart attack last summer and I was helping Mom care for him while



working and caring for my own family. Then my father-in-law was diagnosed with lung cancer and needed care. Finally, Ken lost his job for the second time in

three years and we had used up our savings the first time. Obviously God wasn't listening.

A few nights later I overheard our ten-year old saying her prayers asking God for help. She ended with, "Thanks for listening. Amen." Then she went to sleep. Standing outside her room, I realized Kara didn't tell God what to do. She asked for help, trusted that it would come, and left it to God.

I prayed for the first time in weeks and ended with, "Thanks for listening. Amen." I realized God is always listening. I was the one who had stopped talking.

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