

The Seder is a traditional meal eaten on the first and second nights of Passover.



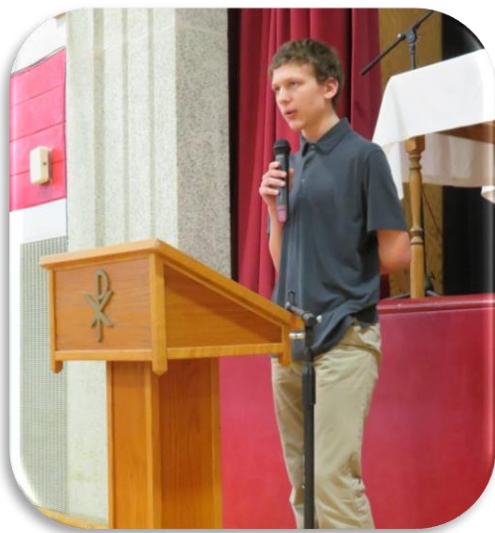
PASSOVER



“On the tables you will find bowls of salt water. This reminds us of the tears of the slaves: their tears when they worked for Pharaoh day after day; their tears when their babies were drowned in the Nile River; their tears when they were beaten by cruel taskmasters.

You will also find a piece of lettuce. These greens make us think of springtime, the season of Passover, and of renewed life and hope. “





“Maror are bitter herbs. The radish slices will represent these herbs for us.”

“We are asked to use our senses to experience slavery. Tasting the bitterness of maror is like tasting a little of the bitterness of slavery. Taste and see!”



“We thank God for our food and the company we share. We thank Him for our holy laws, our freedom. We praise Him as we raise our glasses in His honor.” Elijah will bring days of peace and harmony. In his honor we placed a special cup on the table. We invite him in by opening the door. The excitement and anticipation of Elijah’s coming makes us hopeful of better, more peaceful times. Are you ready to do your part? To share in the work of repairing the world? To meet Elijah halfway? If you are, help us fill Elijah’s cup. As it is passed from person to person, pour a little juice from your glass into Elijah’s cup. We must all work together to bring about the days of peace.”



Now it's time for a little game. It's like a treasure hunt. "Think for a moment of the slaves in Egypt and think of poor people now. People who have so little to eat, that they put some of their food away to save for later for a time when they may have nothing to eat. Look under your plate. One plate at each table should have a star on it. You have found the Afikoman."



Looking at the Seder table, we see the bitterness of our ancestors' lives and the hope they still carried within them. We see that a symbol of slavery, matzah, can also be a symbol of freedom.



We carry these symbols and thoughts into our own lives as reminders of our history, our ups and downs, our sorrows and joys, and above all, our faith and longing for a peaceful future.