Crown of Thorns
To make your own crown of thorns you can buy a grapevine wreath from a craft store and fill it with brown painted or RIT dyed toothpicks to resemble a crown of thorns. During night prayer as you reflect on the day family members can remove a thorn for any good deed, charitable act or prayer said throughout the day. The wreaths come in different sizes and it is best to buy one that will hold enough toothpicks for the size of your family. Hopefully each person can take at least one toothpick out each night during Lent. Your family could replace the crown of thorns with a beautiful gold crown at Easter or you could paint the wreath in gold at Eastertime when all the toothpicks have been removed.

"Only by praying together with their children can a father and mother-exercising their royal priesthood-penetrate the innermost depths of their children's hearts and leave an impression that the future events in their lives will not be able to efface." - Familiaris Consortio, #60

For more Lent Resources visit:
www.familylent2015.com
A DAILY PRAYER FOR LENT

Lent is a time to walk with Christ in his passion, preparing to renew our baptismal vows and be united with him in his death and resurrection at Easter. It is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a time to simplify and sacrifice. As we observe the Church’s guidelines regarding fasting and abstinence, we also make our own commitments to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as an individual and as a family. An old tradition in the Church involves veiling all artwork and statues with purple, or removing them all together, for the season of Lent. You might also make a crown of thorns and place this in the place where you pray.

At the end of the day, come before the Lord in prayer. Families and households, gather together. If you have a holy space in your home, you could come there for prayer, or around a lighted blessed candle.

Begin by making the sign of the cross.

Leader: Take a moment of silence to recognize the Presence of the Lord and the great love he has for us.

[Pause in silence]

Leader: Take a moment to think through the day, from the time you woke up, until now, and remember the many gifts that God has given to us. Let us give him thanks.

[The group voices out loud the things they are thankful for that day.]

Leader: Review the whole day with God, and remember the choices you made, in thought, word, and deed, and

Fri, Mar. 13: (Mk 12:28-34)
Sat, Mar. 14: (Lk 18:9-14)

LENT WEEK 4

Sun, Mar. 15, Fourth Sunday of Lent: (Jn 3:14-21)
Mon. Mar. 16: (Jn 4:43-54)
Tues, Mar. 17, St. Patrick: (Jn 5:1-16)
Wed, Mar. 18, St. Cyril of Jerusalem: (Jn 5:17-30)
Thurs, Mar. 19, St. Joseph-Spouse of the Virgin Mary: (Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24)
Fri, Mar. 20: (Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30)
Sat, Mar. 21: (Jn 7:40-53)

LENT WEEK 5

Sun, Mar. 22, Fifth Sunday of Lent: (Jn 12: 20-33)
Mon, Mar. 23, St. Turibius of Mogrovejo: (Jn 8:1-11)
Tues, Mar. 24: (Jn 8:21-30)
Wed, Mar. 25, The Annunciation of the Lord: (Lk 1:26-38)
Thurs, Mar. 26: (Jn 8:51-59)
Fri, Mar. 27: (Jn 10:31-42)
Sat, Mar. 28: (Jn 11:45-56)

HOLY WEEK

Sun, Mar. 29, Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion: (Mk 14:1—15:47)
Mon, Mar. 30: (Jn 12:1-11)
Tues, Mar. 31: (Jn 13:21-33, 36-38)
Wed, Apr. 1: (Mt 26:14-25)
Thurs, Apr. 2, Holy Thursday: (Jn 13:1-15)
Fri, Apr. 3, Good Friday: (Jn 18:1—19:42)
Sat, Apr. 4, Holy Saturday: (Mk 19:1-7)
Sun, Apr. 5, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord: (Jn 20:1-9)
recognize the times you responded with virtue, and the times you did not. Let us in silence ask God forgiveness for the times we sinned today, recognizing his tremendous love and mercy.

[Pause in silence]

Optional (Crown of Thorns*):
Leader: For each time we acted with virtue, made a sacrifice, or did a kind deed, we share in Christ’s passion, so remove one thorn from the Crown of Thorns.

[The group voices out loud the virtues and good deeds they did that day as they remove a thorn (toothpick) for each.]
Leader: Lord, have mercy.
All: Lord, have mercy.
Leader: Christ, have mercy.
All: Christ, have mercy.
Leader: Lord, have mercy.
All: Lord, have mercy.

Or, pray:

I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault [we strike our breast]; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God. Amen.

Leader: Let us resolve to amend with the grace of God, making a plan for how to live tomorrow in his grace.

[Pause in silence]
Optional: The reader reads the Scripture of the day* on the following pages.
Leader: Let us offer our prayers and intentions to God.

[The group voices out loud any intercessory prayers they may have. All respond to each intention, "Lord, hear our prayer."]

Leader: Let us pray together:
All: Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake, watch over us as we sleep, that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep rest in his peace.

[The group may add the saint of the day* and names of any other saints whose intercession they seek. After each saint's name, all respond: "Pray for us."]

Leader: Lord, we beg you to visit this house and banish from it all the deadly power of the enemy. May your holy angels dwell here to keep us in peace, and may your blessing be upon us always. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

Close with the Hail, Holy Queen or by singing the Salve Regina

All: Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of mercy, Our life, our sweetness, and our hope, To thee do we cry, Poor banished children of Eve, To thee do we send up our sighs, Mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, O most gracious advocate, Thine eyes of mercy toward us, And after this our exile, Show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Leader: Pray for us, O most holy Mother of God,
All: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.