Dear Parents,

Since we did such a wonderful job on our Christmas Pageant video, and it was so enjoyed by the GSL community, we’d like to create a similar video to honor this season of Lent. I’ve chosen a book adaptation for this project and envision the final video to be released for the Great Vigil of Easter.

The Easter Cave, by Carol Wedeven, depicts the burial and resurrection narrative for children in the style of a cumulative nursery rhyme (similar to The House That Jack Built). It’s centered around the cave in which Jesus was buried. There are ten elements of the story that children can help portray in a variety of ways, along with a closing proclamation that I’d love for every child to do.

Here are the ten elements and suggestions for their portrayal. Ideally, anything you submit would have your child shown with the object. I am happy to provide any item(s) you might need for your child to do a part.

Please take all videos and photos in the horizontal/landscape mode.
All submissions must be sent to me by Monday, March 22nd.

The Cave
If you’re familiar with Memorial Park cemetery, you may know of the Crystal Shrine Grotto. This is the closest thing to a cave I know of in the city limits, and it would make a perfect place to photograph this piece of the story. The child could dress as Joseph of Arimathea (shepherd costume-ish) and be photographed at the entrance to the grotto, or even videoed going in and coming out. Happy to give directions to the spot if needed!

The Rooster
This is the rooster that crows when Jesus is betrayed. The rooster can be a drawing, a coloring page colored by the child, a stuffed animal, a statue, or even a photo or video of an actual rooster if you happen to know one nearby!

The King
This is Jesus, of course. This could be a child dressed as Jesus, a drawing or coloring page, or a painting, icon or other sacred image you might have at home.

The Crown
This is the crown of thorns. This could be a photo of your child with thorny bushes at your home, the thorns from last year’s Resurrection Eggs, the crown from the Holy Week Box, a photo of Jesus with the crown, or a drawing or coloring page.

The Men
These are the soldiers who made the crown of thorns, guarded Jesus during his trial, led him to the cross, and stood by as he died. This could be an individual child, brothers, or small group of friends, or toy soldiers of some kind, or simply a photo of a toy sword and/or shield.

The Cross
This is the cross upon which Jesus died. Any kind of cross you have in your home would be fine - wall art, statue, etc. A drawing or coloring page is also great.
The Women
These are the women who stayed at the cross with Jesus, and later came to the tomb. This could be an individual child, sisters, or small group of friends (safely). At this point in the story, the women are sad, worried, and even afraid.

The Stone
This is the stone that closed the tomb and was later rolled away. Hoping for a photo of the child standing with or sitting on a BIG rock, perhaps in your landscaping or at a park. A photo of the child holding a good sized rock would also work great, or even the stone from your Resurrection Eggs.

The Angel
This is the angel who greeted the women at the tomb. This could be a child dressed in costume. Would love to have the child photographed at the entrance to the Grotto (mentioned above).

The Friends
These are the women from the tomb and the disciples, who hear and share the news of Jesus’ resurrection. They can be the same “women” from above, or different. Would love a small group of siblings or friends (safely, of course) who could act out telling the joyful news and looking amazed and excited.

The Closing Verse – ALL families please do!

Whether or not you’re doing one of the parts above, all families are welcome take part in this piece.

This can be your whole family saying the words, or just the child/ren if you prefer.

*Parents of babies and toddlers who aren’t yet talking, please video them with an older sibling, or video yourselves holding them and speaking the verse for them because that would be precious!* 

Our closing verse is from Luke 24:6. This should be a video, with the family or child/ren joyfully proclaiming:

**HE IS NOT HERE!**
**HE IS RISEN!**
**HE IS RISEN INDEED!**

Please let me know if you have any questions, and then here’s what I need for you to do:

1. Tell me which part(s) your child/ren would like to do.
2. Take your photos/videos for those part(s)
3. Video your closing verse (just kids or as a family, however you prefer!)
4. Send your stuff to me by Monday, March 22nd.
5. Celebrate the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday, April 3rd by watching the amazing video you helped make!

Thank you all SO MUCH for your willingness to help with this project. I miss you all and hope to see you soon!