

Celebrate! April

April 1—April Fools' Day

For some good, clean pranks that can surprise members of the family today, check out the web link bit.ly/TOpranks.

April 4—St. Isidore of Seville

The patron saint of the internet, even though he lived more than 1,000 years before computers were invented, Isidore is considered such because his text "Etymologies" is one of the earliest encyclopedias.

April 12—National Grilled Cheese Day

On this day of abstinence from meat, cook up the tasty sandwich (cheese toastie) and share time talking about family Easter plans.

April 18-21—The Triduum

Leading to Easter on Sunday, this shortest season of the Church calendar begins on Holy Thursday evening with the Mass of the Last Supper. On Good Friday, a service (not Mass), focuses on the day of Christ's crucifixion. And on Saturday, we await the coming of the Lord. In the Easter Vigil, we welcome the Light of the World after sundown. Christ is risen!

April 28—Divine Mercy Sunday

Jesus appeared to St. Faustina Kowalska and directed her to spread the Divine Mercy devotion. Show mercy to a sibling the next time you feel wronged by him or her.

April 29—St. Catherine of Siena

A mover and shaker of the 14th century, Catherine founded a monastery for women, served the sick and poor, and convinced the papacy to return from Avignon, France, back to Rome.



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A Catholic Easter Prayer

Lord, the resurrection of your Son
has given us new life and renewed hope.
Help us to live as new people
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.
Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,
the will to want to do it,
the courage to undertake it,
the perseverance to continue to do it,
and the strength to complete it. Amen.

Easy Butterfly Cupcakes

Prepare and bake a dozen cupcakes following boxed cake-mix directions (chocolate, white or yellow cake). Once the cupcakes have cooled, frost each of them with green frosting to resemble grass (white frosting plus food coloring).

Next, add four M&Ms down the center of each cupcake to represent the butterfly's body. Antennae can be added using small pieces of Easter grass. Finish with white chocolate pretzels on each side of the M&Ms to make the wings. Enjoy this sweet treat together anytime!

