

CHILDREN'S LITURGY LESSON PLAN

LITURGICAL DATE: Year A 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

THEME: Baptism

Grab the children's bible and/or lectionary and battery operated candle from the room and take it with you when Father calls us the children to gather in front of the altar.

- Ask children to help carry the bible and light on the walk to Liturgy room.

- 1. Greet the children, asking them their names. Introduce yourself and your helper if you have one. Place candle and materials on the table. Do a head count and write the numbers on the sheet on the wall.

- 2. **Sing the Opening Prayer Song:** Following the tune of 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' (there is chart paper on the wall)

"Hello, Hello how are you?
We have many things to do.
Read some stories, dance and play,
Learn about our God today.
God our Father, we ask you,
Bless us in the things we do."

3. Read the gospel:

"A reading from the Gospel of John 1.29-34". Have the children model you making the sign of the cross on their foreheads ("to keep Jesus on our minds"), their lips ("to keep Jesus in our words") and their chest ("to keep Jesus in our hearts"). The gospel is in the lectionary and also in this packet. There are a few questions you and the kids can discuss (3-5 min is a great goal).

- 4. **Intercessions:** Give each child a prayer rock (on window ledge). Ask the children to close their eyes and bring quiet to their hearts as they rub the rock. When the children are ready, see if a few of the children have an intention they would like to pray for.

After a few individual intercessions, read our group general intercessions and allow the children to respond (R) Lord hear our prayer:

We pray for our church. R

We pray for Pope Francis R

We pray for our families R

We pray for all Holy People R

The children can take a moment to whisper a private prayer while holding the rock.

As a group say “Lord hear our prayers” and respond with singing “Ever Loving God (spread out left arm), Faithful God (spread right arm out), Hear the prayers of your people.

5. Activity: Baptism Baby

- 6. Closing Prayer:** Say this prayer with the children (on chart paper) – “Jesus lay your hand on me; Bless me and take care of me. Amen”. End with the sign of the cross, “In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit”.

Ask the children to collect their craft and line up at the door. There is a rubber stamp and inkpad in the supply area if you wish to distribute. **Remind children mass is still happening and many are praying, it’s important they quietly return to their parents. We have a new bulletin board hanging on a brick column opposite the entrance to the church. Feel free to direct kids to hang up their work for display.**

Thank You for volunteering today and making a positive impact on our parish!

Gospel Reading John 1.29-34

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! He is the one I told you about when I said, ‘Someone else will come. He is greater than I am, because he was born before me.’

I didn’t know who he was. But I came to baptize you with water so that everyone in Israel would see him.

I was there and saw the spirit come down like a dove from heaven. And the spirit stayed on him. Before this I didn’t know who he was. But the one who sent me to baptize with water had told me, ‘You will see the Spirit come down and stay on someone. Then you will know that he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’”

I saw this happen and I tell you that he is God’s Chosen One.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Questions for discussion:

Q: What have your parents shared with you about your baptism? {The priest asked your parents and godparents to make vows to raise you up Catholic, water was poured on your head and you were anointed with oil and received the Holy Spirit}

Q: Have you seen anyone else being baptized? Here in our church or in another parish?

Q: Who was there during the Baptism? {Your parents and godparents. Maybe other family members or friends and other people who attend our church}

Q: Why do we baptize? {Through Baptism we are given the special gift of The Holy Spirit and start our journey as a member of the Catholic Church}

Q: What does a candle have to do with our Baptism? {We receive the light of Christ and the candle is a reminder}

Q: Do you on what day you were baptized and do you celebrate your anniversary of your baptism, if so how? {In some families, they light a candle on the anniversary of their Baptism (Baptisaversary) and maybe call or visit their Godparents and help choose a meal or desert for that day.

Catechists:

Today we are going to make a reminder of our baptism. The children will need a craft spoon, half a doily and candle. They can slip the spoon through the slit in the doily and glue, then glue a candle onto the front of the 'dress' and then use a scrap of doily to glue to the back of the head for a bonnet. Each child can also go home with a copy of the prayer.



Prayer

Dear God in Heaven, when the Holy Spirit came down upon Jesus at his Baptism, you revealed him as your own son. Keep me, your child, born of water and spirit, faithful to my calling. I am your child through Baptism, and I share in your life. May I live as your child, following the example of Jesus. Also, please watch over my God father and Godmother. Thank You! Amen

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