

CHILDREN'S LITURGY LESSON PLAN

LITURGICAL DATE: Year C 27th week of Ordinary Time

THEME: FAITH

- 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 Luke 17: 5-10". 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 mins 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: creating a tree of 'mustard seed' faith

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 that 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 Luke 17: 5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Make our Faith stronger!" Jesus replied: "If you had faith no bigger than a mustard seed, you could tell this tree to pull itself up, roots and all and to plant itself in the ocean. And it would! Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Questions for discussion:

Q: Who here likes mustard, do you know how its made? { mustard seeds are grown and then mashed together with other ingredients like water or salt to make a paste.

Q: Has anyone here seen a mustard seed, would you like to? [There is a bowl on the table with seeds inside, the kids can open and touch and pass around to look]

Q: Can we think of anything smaller than one mustard seed?

Q: What do plants need to grow? {water, sun, dirt}

The gospel tells us if our Faith (complete trust in God) was the size of this tiny mustard seed, we could ask a tree to move itself roots and all and it would. Does anyone here have Faith bigger than a mustard seed? Awesome!!! Think of how happy God must be. No matter how big your faith or mustard seed is, we are always growing. You are getting bigger on the outside (taller) but you can also grow on the inside (learning the Catholic Faith and loving and sharing God)too.

Catechists:

Hand each child a sheet with a tree on it. There is a bowl of mustard seeds on the table. There are six leaves each with a different way we can grow in our faith. If you'd read each example and hand one to each child, they can glue onto the tree. Feel free to discuss examples and the kids can also draw/color additional leaves if they'd like or even an ocean on the bottom to reflect the gospel.



Praise
God

ObeY
my parents

Be kind
to others

Follow
God's rules

Pray
everyday

Love
God always

