

CHILDREN'S LITURGY LESSON PLAN

LITURGICAL DATE: Year A 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Lent

THEME:

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 Matthew 17.1-9". 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:

- 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 Matthew 17.1-9

Jesus took Peter and his brothers James and John with him. They went up on a very high mountain where they could be alone. In front of the disciples Jesus was completely changed. His face was shining like the sun. Moses and Elijah joined and they were all talking at once.

Then the shadow of a bright cloud passed over them and a voice said “This is my dear son and I am well pleased with him. Listen to what he says!”.

When the disciples heard the voice they were afraid and fell flat on the ground. Jesus came, touched them and said “Get up and don’t be afraid!” When they opened their eyes they saw only Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Questions for discussion:

Q: Have you ever tried to see on a bright, sunny day? What is it like? {It might be difficult, you might squint so you can focus}

Q: Can you imagine hearing the voice of God, what might it sound like?

Q: How did Peter, James and John react when they heard the voice of God? { They were scared and fell on the ground. But do we need to be afraid if God speaks to us, no. He loves us and wants the best for us}

Q: How can we show God that we are listening to what Jesus teaches us? {everytime we choose to do the right thing or pray we share the Light of Christ with people and God knows we have listened.

Q: Has anyone noticed in our church along the back wall there are plaques with different pictures and odd looking letters/numbers on them?

Well those are called the Stations of the Cross. Every Friday during Lent, people in our church get together and we remember all the events that happened on Good Friday. There are 14 stations that we stop and pray and sing a song in front of as during Lent we prepare our hearts by remembering Jesus' suffering.

Catechists: Please hand out one booklet to each child and while they start to color, you can walk them through each station very quick if there is time.