

All called and gifted by God

Children's Liturgy of the Word for Christ the King

Sunday 21 November 2021



Suggested Songs:

- My Lighthouse – Rend Collective
- Here I am Lord – Dan Shutte
- Faith as small as a mustard seed – Doug Horley

Suggested Resources:

- Baptismal Candles
- Font/Holy Water
- Holy Oils
- Activity sheets
- Hand print template
- Coloured pens
- Crown

Catechist Background

The Feast of Christ the King celebrates the identity of Jesus as the universal King, rather than something that happened in his life (like the Transfiguration or the Annunciation). Every time we use the word 'Christ,' we refer to Jesus' kingship, as the word in Greek means 'Anointed One.' Ancient Israelite kings were anointed to confer sacredness upon them in recognition of the divine role that they played in Israel's story. By New Testament times, the Jews had been waiting for hundreds of years for this Christ ('Messiah' in Hebrew). The king they expected was very different to the King they got, however. Although encouraged by the jeering crowds to save himself and live, he dies an ignoble death on the cross to save his kingdom, the whole world, from the alienating effects of sin. The concept of 'Paradise' is an interesting one. The word itself is from ancient Persia meaning an enclosed park, and is used in other places to talk about the Garden of Eden before the fall of Adam. In telling the repentant thief that they would be together that day in paradise, Jesus gives a strong indication that in his death he is restoring humanity to a right relationship with God, an intimacy which had been severed since sin entered the world in the Garden.

The liturgical colour for today is white; you may wish to incorporate this colour into your gathering space, perhaps as part of a focal point.

Introduction

Talk to children about their baptism. For example: What do they know, why were they baptised, where were they baptised?

When we are baptised we are welcomed into God's family, the Church. At our baptisms we are called by God to do God's work in the world, to love God and to follow the example of Jesus. Through the Holy Spirit we have special gifts that help us in our lives. So we are all called and gifted by God.

This year in the Church, Pope Francis has asked all the adults and young people to walk together, listening to each other, thinking about their baptism and how they are called and gifted by God. This special time is called a Synod.

The reading today is about Jesus who says "Yes I am a king. I was born for this: to bear witness to the truth".

Penitential Rite – saying sorry

Lord, you made us to be a gift to others. For the times we have made people feel sad.

Leader: Lord Have Mercy

Children all say: Lord Have Mercy

Lord, you speak to us. For the times we have not listened to God in our lives.

Leader: Christ have mercy

Children all say: Christ Have Mercy

Lord, You are our King and you call to us every day.

Leader: Lord Have Mercy

Children all say: Lord Have Mercy

Prayer

Dear God, may everyone know that Jesus is the King of the whole world and praise you always. Help us to remember that we are all special, we are all God's creation and we should treat each other and our environment with respect. May we use our gifts and talents to help others and give us strength to never give up on our faith, to never give up praying and doing good deeds.

Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of John

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

We Reflect

The crown is a symbol of power and authority. Who do you know that wears a crown? (*Pause for responses.*) A king or queen wears a crown, right? Being a king is different from being the prime minister of a country. A prime minister is elected by the people, but a king isn't elected, he is born to be king.

• I wonder what you think is the main job of a king of a queen, or any ruler of a country?

Have you seen the movie "The Lion King?" As a lion, Simba was born to be the "King of the Beasts." Simba sings, "*I Just Can't Wait to Be King.*" Simba was anxious to become king

because he didn't want anyone telling him what to do. He also wanted to tell everyone else what to do.

Simba had a poor idea of what it means to be a king. The *real* role of a king is to look after the needs of his people. A good king is more concerned with caring for his people than he is in being served.

During His last days on earth, Jesus was arrested and put on trial. When asked if He was a king, Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world." (*Pass around the crown*).

Yes, Jesus was a king, but unlike Simba, He was only interested in doing the will of His Father, God. He was born to be king, but His kingdom is not on this earth -- it's in heaven. He only came to earth to make a way for us to live with Him in heaven.

Jesus "*just can't wait to be your king.*" He has invited you to enjoy eternal life in His heavenly kingdom. Will you crown Him as your King today?

• **How does Jesus look after us?**

• At our baptisms we are called by God to do God's work in the world, to love God and to follow the example of Jesus. **How will you try to do that this week?**

Suggested Responses:

- Complete activity sheet
- Complete template of person or handprint with ways that we are special
- Write a prayer

We Believe

Relating to the creed what you have shared with the children, ask this series of questions and invite the children to reply, 'I do.'

- Do you believe in God the Father who made the whole world, including us?
- Do you believe in Jesus, the Anointed King, the Son of God who came to save us?
- Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, who helps us to live out God's Kingdom?

We Pray

We remember that God is the Ruler of the universe and so we now pray...

Leader: We pray for people in positions of power in the Church. May they have a special concern and look out for those who are poor and weak.

Lord in your mercy, **All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all earthly rulers: kings and queens, presidents, prime ministers, and other people in positions of power. May they rule their people as Jesus would.

Lord in your mercy, **All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for prisoners. May they turn their hearts towards Jesus and follow Him in Love. Lord in your mercy, **All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for the members of our parish who are feeling sad or lonely for any reason. Lord in your mercy, **All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Lord, we know you need us to be your eyes and your hands and your hearts on earth. Help us to shine your love to everyone we meet. We make all our prayers through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen**

Walking Together Prayer for Children

Father, we thank you for the love you have shown us in the gift of Jesus, your Son.

We thank you for the gift of the Church, through which you show us that you are always with us and are always at work in our lives.

As we journey together to Synod 2023 help us to become the Church that you are calling us to be.

May your Holy Spirit be powerfully at work among us. Strengthen each of us and guide Francis, our Pope and Mark, our Bishop.

Help us to respond to the challenges of our times in new ways to bring your love to all our sisters and brothers. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

AMEN

St Boniface: **Pray for us!**

Walking Together 2023 Activity Sheet

All called and gifted by God

Feast of Christ the King Walking Together Activity Sheets

All called and gifted by God

Greta Thurnburg

When Greta was 8 years old, she heard about Climate change, she wondered why very little was being done about it, so she started challenging her parents to lower their carbon footprint. By the age of 15 she had started to protest about Climate Change in her school community, people started to listen to what Greta was saying and now Greta talks to people all over the world. Greta never gave up trying to get her message heard.

Why is Greta a good example to us all?

Who are you called to be?

What would you like to be when you are older?

Draw a picture or write about what you would like to do when you leave school.

All called and gifted by God

Why am I special?

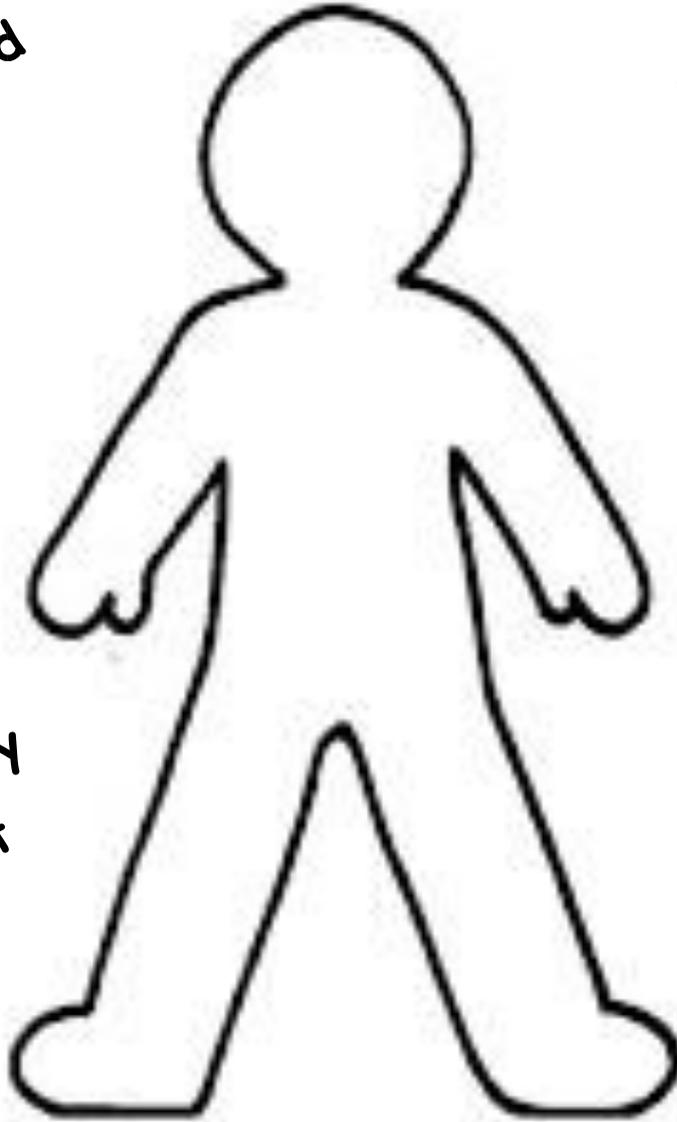
Fill the person with all the things that make you special

I am a good friend

I am in a football team

I always try my best

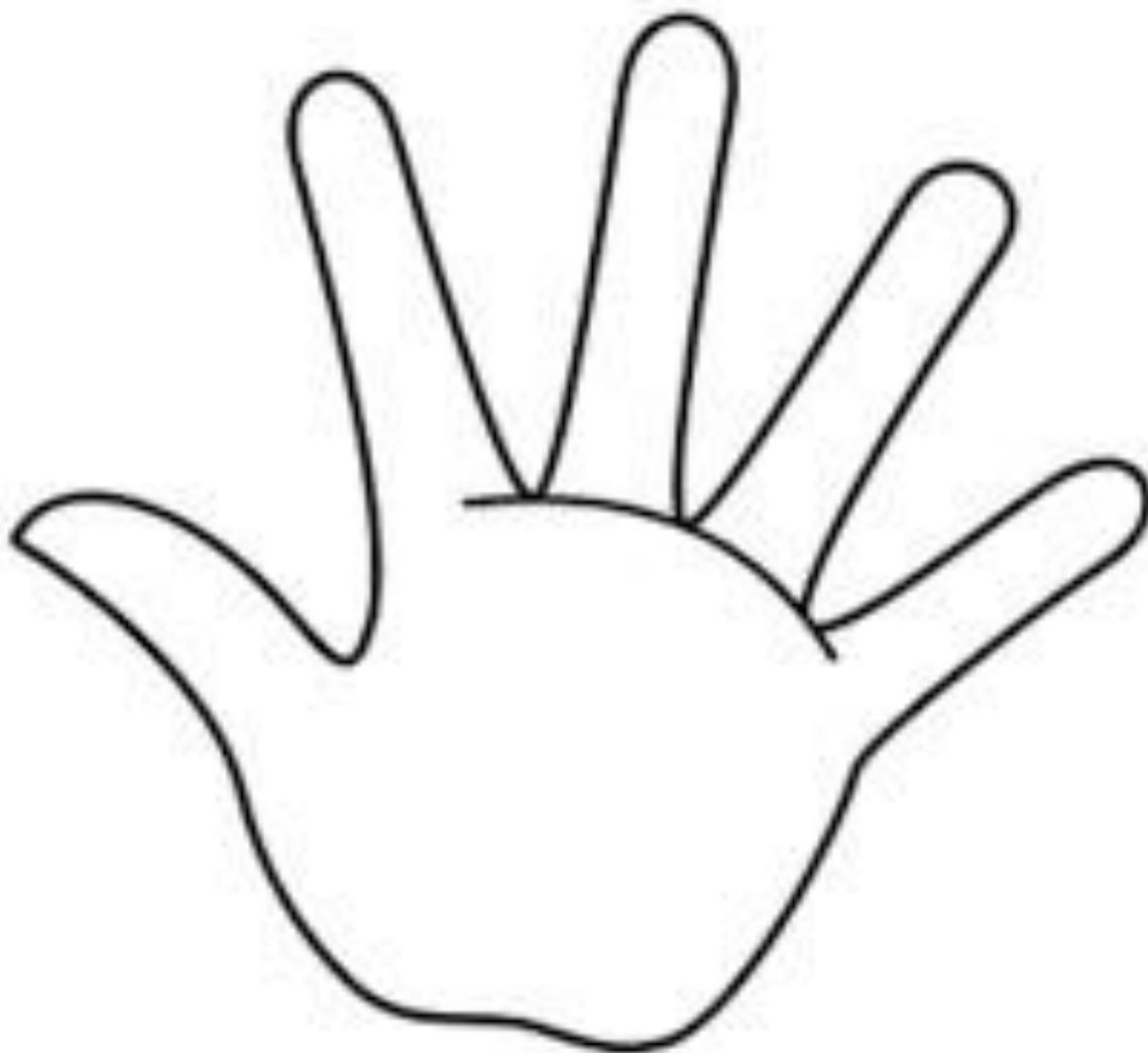
I love my family



All called and gifted by God

On the handprint write down all the things that make you special.

Cut the handprint out and make a display of all your hands in the church, showing how you are all gifted by God.



Sharing the mission of Jesus

Children's Liturgy of the Word for Sunday 28 November 2021



Sharing the mission of Jesus

Suggested Songs:

- The Kingdom of heaven – Mike Anderson
- City of God – Dan Schutte
- My redeemer lives – Hillsong Worship
- Bless the Lord - Taize

Suggested Resources:

- Activity sheets
- Pictures of Pentecost
- Pens
- Coloured felt tips/pencils
- Prepare a focus for the area where the children's Liturgy of the Word is to be held: Violet cloth, Lectionary, a candle and an Advent Wreath with three purple candles and one pink candle.



Catechist Background

1st Sunday of Advent, Year C Jesus speaks of the end of time in metaphorical language. He is reminding his listeners that our own lives and our own time on earth will not last forever. Despite the fact that his words describe some devastation, his message is positive, because all the readings point to the reality of peace and fulfilment. The promises made to a needy people who long for peace, are ones filled with hope, and tell us more about the God who makes them than those to whom they are made: a loving and provident God who offers second and third — numberless — chances.

Introduction

Today we will be talking about sharing the Mission of Jesus, not only by coming to Mass but also every day in our lives.

What does the word Mission mean?

50 days after Jesus had risen from the dead, he appeared to his disciples and sent them out to tell everyone the Good News. The disciples went out into the world and spread the news about what Jesus had said and done. Today, we share the same mission as the disciples. We have an important to show everyone that Christ is alive in us, in the way we treat each other and the things that we do.

How do you think we can do this?

Penitential Rite

For the times we have not shown people around us that we are followers of Jesus Christ.

Leader: Lord Have Mercy

Children all say: Lord Have Mercy

For the times we have hurt people with our words or actions.

Leader: Christ have mercy

Children all say: Christ Have Mercy

May we share the Good News of Jesus in our church, our school and our world. Leader:

Lord Have Mercy

Children all say: Lord Have Mercy

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: “Strange things will happen to the sun, moon and stars. The nations on earth will be afraid of the roaring sea and tides, and they won’t know what to do. People will be so frightened that they will faint because of what is happening to the world. Every power in the sky will be shaken.”

“Then the Son of Man will be seen, coming in a cloud with great power and glory. When all of this starts happening, stand up straight and be brave. You will soon be set free. Don’t spend all of your time thinking about eating or drinking or worrying about life. If you do, the final day will suddenly catch you like a trap. That day will surprise everyone on earth. Watch out and keep praying that you can escape all that is going to happen and that the Son of Man will be pleased with you.”

No-one is sure what Jesus meant when he spoke of the strange signs in the sky, but we know that Jesus will come again and we know that God loves us dearly. Just as we spend a lot of time getting ready for Christmas, so too we must spend some time to be ready for the time when Jesus comes again. Advent is a special time the church sets aside for us to prepare.

The Advent wreath is a good way of seeing the weeks passing – a circle of evergreen branches, with three purple and one pink candle. One candle is lit each week of Advent, with the pink candle lit on the third Sunday. We know that Jesus came to share love, forgiveness and peace with the world. If we share these gifts of his love each day by small acts of kindness then we will be ready to enjoy the celebrations of Christmas.

How can we show we are Catholics when we are not in Church?

We are invited to stand before the Son of Man to receive the blessings promised by God. This is our invitation to take a watchful attitude in our lives, to keep our destination in mind, so that we don’t become preoccupied solely with the things that distract us from what is really important. We need to spend time on the important things, prayer and the work and mission that we are called to do, so that we can stand confidently before him.

What are your goals and the hopes and fears you have for your future?

How are you preparing for the future? What are the things that really matter to you? What are the things that distract you from these important issues? What are the things in your life that might hinder us from standing confidently before Christ?

Suggested Responses:

- Complete activity sheet
- Take a bible quote to share at home or with your neighbours and friends
- Write a message to someone to tell them about the things Jesus said and did
- Talk about how we can tell people about Jesus and record your answers to give to your Walking Together facilitator in your parish.

Prayer

We pray to the Holy Spirit to give us the gifts we need to help us to spread the Good News to people, to give us the courage we need to be followers of Jesus in our world today.

We pray for people who have turned away from God or who do not know God, may our witness of faith help people to feel God's love, so they will be filled with strength and hope.

Amen

Walking Together Prayer for Young People

Father, we thank you for the love you have shown us in the gift of Jesus, your Son.

We thank you for the gift of the Church, through which you show us that you are always with us and are always at work in our lives.

As we journey together to Synod 2023 help us to become the Church that you are calling us to be.

May your Holy Spirit be powerfully at work among us. Strengthen each of us and guide Francis, our Pope and Mark, our Bishop.

Help us to respond to the challenges of our times in new ways to bring your love to all our sisters and brothers. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

AMEN

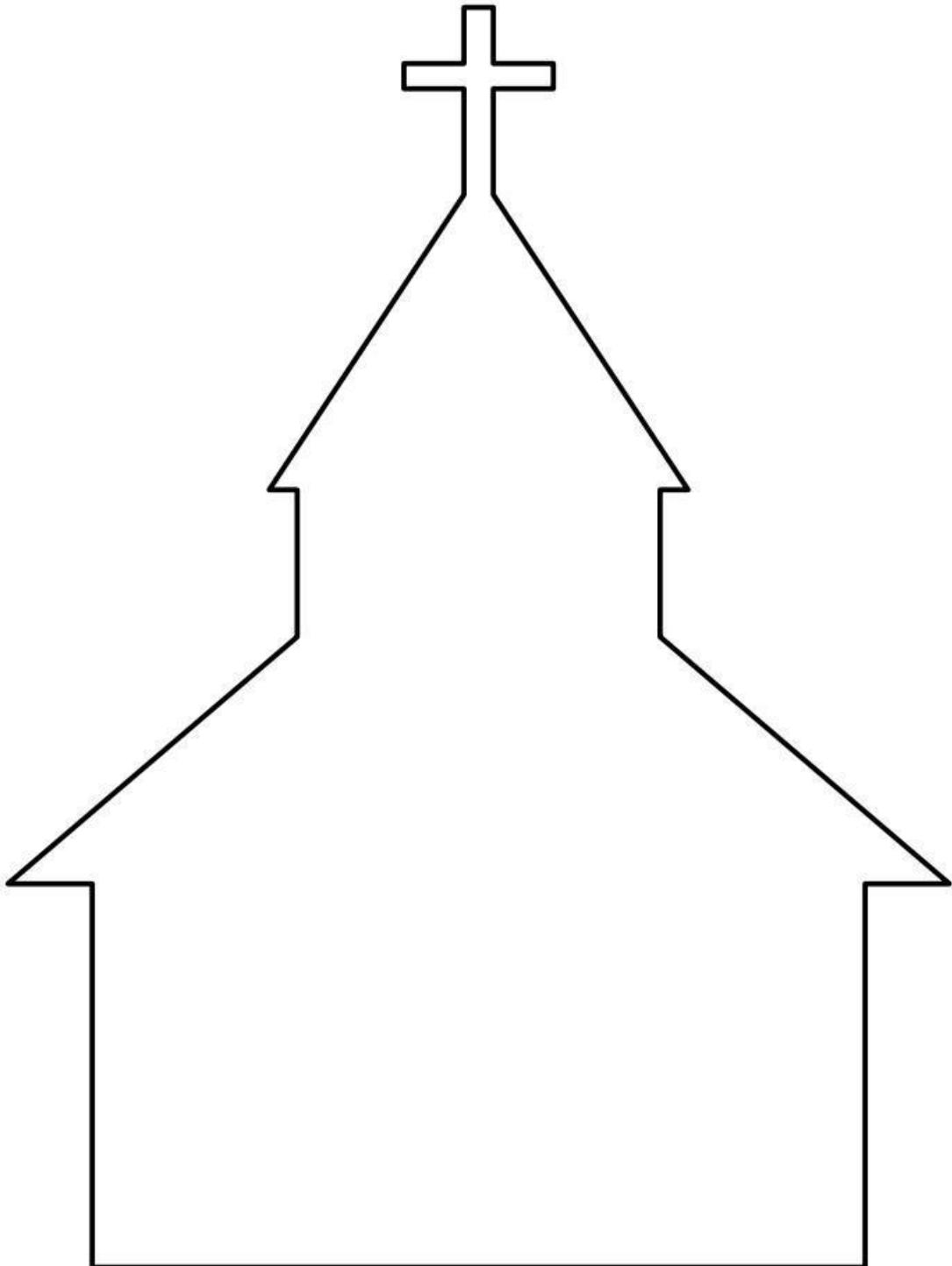
St Boniface: **Pray for us!**

Sharing the mission of Jesus

Walking Together 2023 Activity Sheet

Inside the church write down what is special about your church.

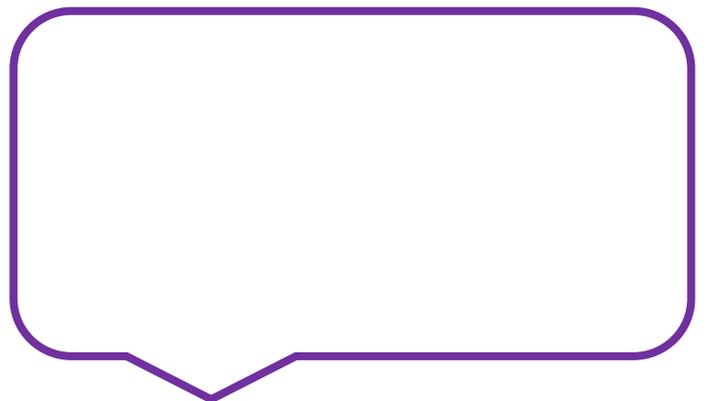
Around the church write down what is special in your life.



Sharing the mission of Jesus

Walking Together 2023 Activity Sheet

How can we tell people about Jesus through our words and actions? Write your ideas in the speech bubbles or scroll:



Sharing the mission of Jesus

Walking Together 2023 Messages

To:

My message about Jesus

To:

My message about Jesus:

Sharing the mission of Jesus

Cut out and share the bible quotes:

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12 "For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory."

Psalms 119:114

"You are my hiding-place and my shield; I hope in your word."

Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Psalms 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

1 Chronicles 16:11 "Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always."

Philippians 4:7 "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Jeremiah 29:11-13 "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.'"

1 Corinthians 16:13 "Be on guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be brave."

James 1:2-4 "Dear brothers and sisters, when any kind of trouble comes your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing."

Psalms 23:1 "The Lord is my shepherd. I have all I need."

Romans 8:31 "What shall we say about things as wonderful as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?"

Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you; your troubles will not overwhelm you. When you pass through fire, you will not be burned; the hard trials that come will not hurt you."

How we pray together

Children's Liturgy for Sunday 5 December 2021



Suggested Songs:

- Song of the Body of Christ – David Haas
- Children of the Light – CJM Music
- Lord hear my prayer – Taize

Suggested Resources:

- Activity sheets
- Pens
- Coloured felt tips/pencils

Prepare a focus for the area where the children's Liturgy of the Word is to be held: Violet cloth, Lectionary, a candle, sandals and a walking stick and the Advent Wreath

Catechist Background:

The Church sees John the Baptist as the last prophet of Israel who looked and yearned for the coming Messiah. John prepares the people for the coming of the Lord and announces him, and his spirit of expectation as displayed in today's Gospel is contagious. John lived in the desert, rejecting the prevailing culture of the day and instead proclaimed the possibility of freedom and holiness. Like a competent MC, John has stirred the people up into a storm of fervour and high expectation – the whole community,

tax collectors, soldiers, everyone — putting their lives in order in a fizz of anticipation and preparation. The baptism he offered was a plunging into water to signify a person's repentance of sin. When asked what people had to do in response to his preaching, he advocated not praying and fasting but changing the way they treated others. His call was compelling — he called others into the desert, to leave the things that amuse and distract them, and come to meet the One who can satisfy them.

Introduction

Today we will be talking about how we pray together. There are lots of different ways to pray, can you name some? (Praying in silence, song, prayers in school, grace before meals etc.)

What is prayer? Prayer is a conversation with God. God will always listen to our prayers. Sometimes we pray for things we need or want, sometimes we pray to say thank you to God or to ask God's help. Sometimes lots of people come together to pray like today in Mass or in school, sometimes a few people will gather in a prayer group and a lot of times people will pray on their own to God.

When we talk to God it is important to listen to what God is saying to us in our lives. We may not have an experience of God like John the Baptist did in today's Gospel reading but by praying we can pay attention to God.

Let us bow our heads and talk silently to God now about the things that are on our mind. In your head talk to God, like you are talking to a friend.

Penitential Rite

For the times we have ignored God in our lives and not taken time to pray. Leader:
Lord Have Mercy **Children all say: Lord Have Mercy**

For the times we do not live in the way Jesus teaches us to.

Leader: Christ Have Mercy **Children all say: Christ Have Mercy**

May we find God through our prayers.

Leader: Lord Have Mercy **Children all say: Lord Have Mercy**

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of Luke

3:1-6

For fifteen years Emperor Tiberius had ruled that part of the world, and Annas and Caiaphas were the Jewish high priests. At that time God spoke to Zechariah's son John, who was living in the desert. So John went along the Jordan Valley, telling



the people, “Turn back to God and be baptised! Then your sins will be forgiven.” Isaiah the prophet wrote about John when he said, “In the desert someone is shouting,

‘Get the road ready for the Lord!

Make a straight path for him!

Fill up every valley and level every mountain and hill.

Straighten the crooked paths and smooth out the rough roads.

Then everyone will see the saving power of God.’

John the Baptist is Jesus’ cousin. God sent John the Baptist to prepare the people for the coming of his Son, Jesus. John was filled with the Holy Spirit, and had the courage to stand before the crowds and preach to them. He told the people of Israel to turn back to God and ask for forgiveness for their sins so they were ready to listen to the words of Jesus when he came. Today we are asked to do the same thing. Our belief in Jesus brings us all together to pray and to worship God.

Suggested Responses:

- Complete activity sheet
- Write your own prayer
- Pray together the Examen
- Make a prayer tree. Add your own prayers and leave in church for other people to add to.

Prayer

Pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us all to say:

Our Father, Who art in heaven,

Hallowed be Thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in

Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we
forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Leader: With hopeful hearts let us ask our loving God for all our needs.
For all God's family, that we may share the Good News with everyone.

Let us pray to the Lord **All: Lord hear our prayer**

For those who govern us, that they will show justice and mercy to all

Let us pray to the Lord **All: Lord hear our prayer**

For people everywhere who are suffering

Let us pray to the Lord **All: Lord hear our prayer**

That we will live lives of service to others

Let us pray to the Lord **All: Lord hear our prayer**

Leader: Saving God, shower your blessings and protection upon us and those for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Walking Together Prayer

Father, we thank you for the love you have shown us in the gift of Jesus, your Son.

We thank you for the gift of the Church, through which you show us that you are always with us and are always at work in our lives.

As we journey together to Synod 2023 help us to become the Church that you are calling us to be.

May your Holy Spirit be powerfully at work among us. Strengthen each of us and guide Francis, our Pope and Mark, our Bishop.

Help us to respond to the challenges of our times in new ways to bring your love to all our sisters and brothers. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

AMEN

St Boniface: **Pray for us!**



Walking Together 2023 Activity Sheet

How we pray together

Can you unjumble the letters to show some of the different places we can pray:

HRUCCH _____

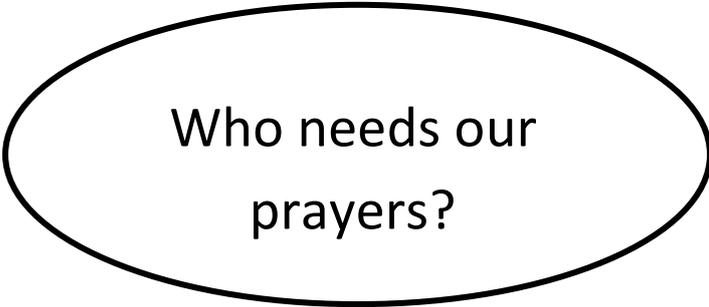
MHOE _____

OLSHC _____

Draw a picture of Jesus and John the Baptist below:



In Church we pray for the needs of the world. Who are the people and places that need our prayers?



Who needs our
prayers?

Walking Together 2023 Activity Sheet

How we pray together

Write your own prayer here:

Dear God,

Walking Together 2023 Activity Sheet

How we pray together

An Examen

Find somewhere comfortable to sit and close your eyes.

For a moment, think about how you are feeling right now and concentrate on your breathing.

Imagine that Jesus is sat right next to you, spend a moment sat with Jesus in silence.

Now tell Jesus about the good things that have happened this week.

When you are ready tell Jesus about anything that is worrying you or has upset you this week.

Let Jesus reply to you. What do you think he would say to help you?

Now think about the week coming up, talk to Jesus about it.

When you are ready open your eyes.

Building community, nurturing belonging

Children's Liturgy of the Word for Sunday 12 December 2021

3rd Sunday Advent Year C

Building
community,
nurturing
belonging



Suggested Songs:

- The Kingdom of heaven – Mike Anderson
- Many are the lightbeams – Olle Widstrand
- God has chosen me – Bernadette Farrell
- And all the people said Amen – Matt Maher

Suggested Resources:

- Activity sheets
- Pens
- Coloured felt tips/pencils
- Parish Newsletter

Catechist Background

The readings today revisit the theme of promise and move it in a slightly different direction. They establish God's promise in a particular time and place. Then they characterise it as one of wondrous transformation. To understand the prophecies of redemption in the Old Testament, it helps to imagine the Jewish people in captivity with little hope of seeing their homeland again. Baruch brings the good news of salvation to the people in exile in Babylon.

He promises that they will return home to Jerusalem. The joy of the promise is linked with being clothed in God's own splendour at the end of time. The Gospel describes the word of God coming to John in a very specific place and time. It is this word that defines John's mission. It is John's voice which calls the people of his time to a change of heart; to a new understanding of who they are and who God is. The road being made straight and smooth is an important image for Luke. Jesus is often found on the road and the journey he makes to Jerusalem is at the heart of the Gospel.

Introduction

Today we are thinking about how we can welcome people to our community and how we can include all people in our church so that we can help our communities grow and be stronger.

What does the word community mean? (For example: a group of people in the same place who share things in common)

Can you give examples of some of the communities you belong to?

Penitential Rite

For the times we have not helped our community, at home or at school.

Leader: Lord Have Mercy **Children all say: Lord Have Mercy**

For the times we have been un-co-operative or made someone feel left out.

Leader: Christ Have Mercy **Children all say: Christ Have Mercy**

May we live peacefully, always walking in the footsteps of Jesus.

Leader: Lord Have Mercy **Children all say: Lord Have Mercy**

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of Luke 3:10-16, 18 (Shortened Version)

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" John told them, "If you have two coats, give one to someone who doesn't have any. If you have food, share it with someone else.

When tax collectors came to be baptised, they asked John, "Teacher, what should we do?" John told them, "Don't make people pay more than they owe."

Some soldiers asked him, “And what about us? What do we have to do?” John told them, “Don’t force people to pay money to make you leave them alone. Be satisfied with your pay.” Everyone became excited and wondered, “Could John be the Messiah?”

John said, “I am just baptising with water. But someone more powerful is going to come, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

In many different ways John preached the good news to the people.

The crowds wanted to be ready to welcome the Messiah. John told them what to do. His words are just as important for us today, so that we too will be ready for Jesus to come.

Today’s candle in the Advent wreath is pink – a symbol of joy as we look forward to Christmas.

We might think of ways that we can bring some joy to someone else who might be sick or lonely at this time. To help to build community we need to live peacefully together, as Jesus teaches us.

Here are some dilemmas that you may experience. For each one say how you can help and why:

1. You see someone new come into children’s liturgy, they haven’t been to church for many years. What do you do?
2. You see someone who is crying. How can you help?
3. You do really well in a test at school, but all your friends have done badly. Would you boast about how well you did or would you help your friends to do better next time?
4. Your friend asks you to their house to play when you should be going to church, do you play with your friend or go to church?
5. Your best friend steals something from you but later gives it back. Would you forgive your friend or would you not be friends anymore?
6. Two of your friends are arguing with each other. How can you help them?
7. You get teased for going to Mass on a Sunday and believing in God. What do you do?

Suggested Responses:

- Create a list of rules for your own parish
- Create different role plays which show how to be part of the Kingdom of Heaven
- Complete activity sheet (copies of the newsletter are needed to accompany this activity)

Prepare a focus for the area where the children’s Liturgy of the Word is to be held: Violet cloth, Lectionary, a candle, a bowl of water and the Advent Wreath

Prayer

We pray for the help we need in our daily lives to welcome the stranger, to live in peace and to tell others about how great God is. We ask for the courage to live our lives in a way that shows people that we are followers of Jesus Christ.

We pray for this community of [name of church] Help the members in our own community to work together to be the Church we are called to be.

We ask all this through Christ our Lord

Amen

Walking Together Prayer

Father, we thank you for the love you have shown us in the gift of Jesus, your Son.

We thank you for the gift of the Church, through which you show us that you are always with us and are always at work in our lives.

As we journey together to Synod 2023 help us to become the Church that you are calling us to be. May your Holy Spirit be powerfully at work among us. Strengthen each of us and guide Francis, our Pope and Mark, our Bishop.

Help us to respond to the challenges of our times in new ways to bring your love to all our sisters and brothers. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

AMEN

St Boniface: **Pray for us!**

Walking Together 2023 Activity Sheet

Building community, nurturing belonging

Make a list of all the good things about your church community

Look at your parish newsletter. What are some of the groups in your church community? Write them down here:

How can you welcome people into your church?

Some people may find it difficult to get to Church (For example if they have a disability or dementia). How can we help them to be part of the community?

1.

2.

Walking Together 2023 Activity Sheet

Building community, nurturing belonging

Draw a poster or design a leaflet to advertise your parish

