

# Children's Liturgy of the Word



## 13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME MATTHEW 10:40-42

### BACKGROUND



We have come to the end of Easter and you will notice that the priest this Sunday will be dressed in green because it is Ordinary Time. It is the colour of hope and growth.

Today's Gospel focusses the children on the importance of hospitality in Christian life. To welcome another in Jesus' name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. We have many opportunities in our daily life to reach out to others, to be a welcoming presence and a sign of God's love. And Jesus promises that small acts of kindness will be rewarded.

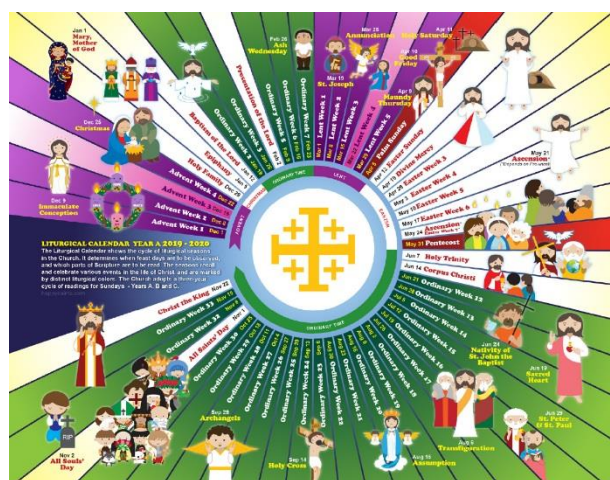
### PREPARATION

Prepare a prayer table with a crucifix, a green cloth (Ordinary Time) to receive the Children's Liturgy Candle and the Children's Lectionary. You may like to include a welcome sign or a glass of water.

Activity materials:

- Liturgical Year Calendar on the wall.
- Floorcloth
- Worksheets
- Picture of Jesus
- Variety of pictures around it with people making others feel welcome.
- Pencils and pens for worksheets.

You may like to set up a 'table' with a green cloth on the floor for the children with the worksheet for each placed around the edges, each being a special place for them to welcome them and make them feel at home.



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## SETTING THE SCENE

To help the children know they are still part of the Mass, ask what Father talked to them about before they came into the Children's Liturgy room. Ask what colour he is wearing (green). This is because Easter is over, and now we are in Ordinary Time. Show on the Liturgical Calendar.

Ask the children if they can remember any of the disciples names.

Let the children know that this Gospel is about Jesus getting the 12 disciples ready to go and tell everyone about how much God loves them. Some people won't want to listen to them. He's telling them to not be afraid, because everyone who does welcome them, are welcoming Jesus.

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## WE PRAY

God, help us to always welcome Jesus into our lives. Amen.

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## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

You may like to ask one of the older children (a good reader) to read the Gospel. As everyone stands for the Gospel Acclamation, the reader goes to the Lectionary Stand.

Gospel: MATTHEW 10:40-42 (*Read from the Children's Lectionary.*)

General: Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Fill us O Lord with your word.\_\_\_\_

Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Your word is life for our souls.

Reader:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

*Sign of the Cross on the forehead (God be in my mind)*

*sign of the Cross on the lips (God be in my words),*

*Sign of the Cross on the heart (God be in my heart)*

At the end of the Gospel: The Gospel of the Lord

Children: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



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## REFLECTION ON THE READING

Ask the children what words they heard, and build up a list on the board.

Summarise the Gospel using the words/reflection they have given.

Imagine if you met Jesus today, if he suddenly arrived at your house and rang the doorbell. When you realised who this 'stranger' really was, what would you do and say to welcome him?

What do we do to say hello? Discuss the pictures of people and what they are doing.

- Greeting people with a friendly smile.
- Looking after someone who is ill.
- Helping someone who has hurt themselves.
- Welcoming a friend and sharing your things.
- Sharing a meal.
- Letting someone join your game.
- Helping someone who is lost.

What does it feel like when someone welcomes you into their game, or shares their things?

Jesus asks us to always be kind and friendly to people, because then we are being kind and friendly to Jesus too.

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## RESPONSE

This week, make a special effort to be open and welcoming to people during the day. Remember, we are welcoming Jesus. If there is time, go through the worksheet with them.

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## WE BELIEVE

Say the little Creed together from the chart. 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?
- Do you believe in God the Son, Jesus, who loves and welcomes everyone?
- Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit, who is the love in the world?

**"I do, Alleluia! Alleluia!"**

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## WE PRAY

Again, try to relate the prayers to the Reading. To help children to include others in their prayers, ask who/what they would like to pray for. After each offering, repeat it, and add, *"...and for all who...."*

Conclude with the Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit...

All: Amen

The children return to the pews during the Offertory Procession.





