

# Children's Liturgy of the Word



2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY LENT YRB TRANSFIGURATION MARK 9:2-10

YOUNGER 3-6YRS

## BACKGROUND



Last week, we saw Jesus in his humanity resisting temptation in the desert. This week we glimpse Jesus' divinity in his transfiguration on the mountain. Moses and Elijah, who the disciples saw talking with Jesus, represent the Law and the Prophets, the two major sections of the Hebrew scriptures. They also, like Jesus, had a forty-day period marking the beginning of their ministries.

The disciples are overwhelmed and want to record the event with a monument, but Jesus knew that the memory would be emblazoned in their hearts. He told his disciples to not tell anyone until after Pentecost. While the leper, in the Gospel a couple of weeks ago, couldn't contain himself and told everyone, the disciples obeyed.

The glory of the Transfiguration must have been a great comfort to them in the ensuing trials, and their

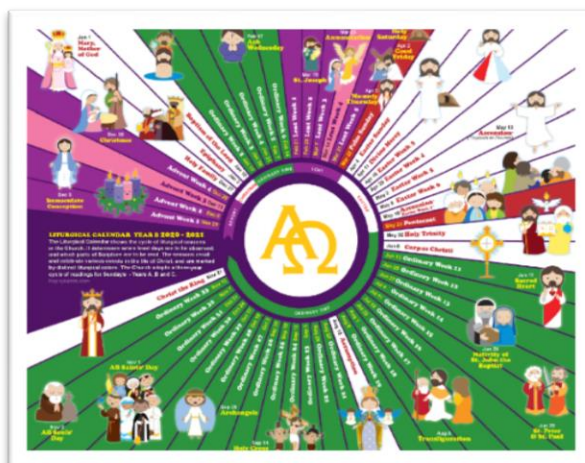
understanding would have grown sweeter, like grapejuice left in barrels to mature into fine wine. We now have this record of Jesus' divinity as well as his humanity on earth in three synoptic Gospels.

## PREPARATION

Prepare a prayer focus with a purple cloth (Lent), a place to receive the Children's Liturgy Candle and the Children's Lectionary. Sprinkle some glitter which will sparkle on the prayer space (with the carpet sweeper close by for afterwards!):

- Liturgical Year Calendar on the wall.
- Floorcloth
- Worksheets
- Picture of Jesus transfiguration
- Cards with the letters E, L, I, N, S, T (Spells LISTEN and SILENT)

Set up a 'table' with a purple cloth on the floor for the children with the worksheet for each placed around the edges so they feel welcome and at home in the room.



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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 (purple). This is because we have entered the time of Lent. We prepare our hearts for Jesus' death and resurrection at Easter. Show on the Liturgical Calendar the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent. What have they given up for Lent?

WE SAY SORRY

You come to us in light, Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

You bring us out of the shadows

All: Christ have mercy.

You send us to share your love, Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

God, help us to listen to your Word so that we may see your glory.

All: Amen

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## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Listen to the Word of God** (*to London Bridge is falling down*)

Listen to the Word of God, Word of God, Word of God.

Listen to the Word of God,

We are listening.

Let the children know they are going to need to sit quietly so all the parents can also hear the reading. (Parents need spiritual nourishment too.)

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9.

*(Read from the Children's Lectionary, or maybe an attending parent may like to read it.)*

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

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



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## REFLECTION ON THE READING

Retell the story at a children's level using the picture of Jesus. Show them Jesus glowing, Moses with his Ten Commandments (the Law) and Elijah with his scroll (he is a prophet) and the three disciples watching below.

- Why did Jesus go up into the mountain (to pray)
  - What would it have been like (scary, exciting, blinding)
  - What did the voice from the cloud say? (This is my beloved Son. Listen to Jesus)
- Who do you think the voice was?

- What did Peter want to do (build a monument to remember this moment)
- What did Jesus say (no, don't tell anyone yet, wait, be quiet)
- Why do you think Jesus told his disciples not to tell anyone about what they had seen? (They would understand better after he had died and they had been filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost)

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## RESPONSE

The disciples listened to God, who told them to listen to his Son, Jesus. They were silent until it was the right time to tell everyone.

Have you ever had to keep a secret? Was it easy? (Surprise birthday parties, waiting until Christmas day to unwrap presents) What was it like when we waited?

Have spread out the cards of the letters in a scrambled order. If you have a large enough class, ask the younger children to line up holding the cards. The children can then try to unscramble them into "LISTEN" and "SILENT".

This week, encourage the children to listen to their parents and teachers and have quiet times to listen to God – when outside, in the classroom, in prayer.

Worksheets are available that the children can do with their parents.




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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 who has made all good things?
- Do you believe in Jesus, who we listen to in our lives?
- Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, who helps us to listen to God in our hearts?

**"I do"**

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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 Sign of the Cross  
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.

