

Children's liturgy – Second Sunday of Lent (Year C)

Preparation of the worship space

Colour: purple

Song suggestions: Praise to you, O Christ our Saviour (200, Laudate)

Welcome: In today's gospel we hear about an amazing thing that happened to Jesus, which showed the disciples just how important he was. A great change came over him. Let's think about the changes we can make during Lent.

Opening prayer: God of light, you sent your Son Jesus to show us how to live. Help us to make a change in our world, so that all people may live free from poverty and hunger. Amen.

First reading (optional): Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Psalm: Psalm 26:1 7-9, 13-14

Gospel acclamation: *everyone stands and sings the acclamation together. For Lent we use an acclamation that doesn't use the word 'Alleluia'.*

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took Peter, John, and James with him and went up a hill to pray. While he was praying, his face changed its appearance, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly two men were there talking with him. They were Moses and Elijah, who appeared in heavenly glory and talked with Jesus about the way in which he would soon fulfill God's purpose by dying in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were sound asleep, but they woke up and saw Jesus' glory and the two men who were standing with him. As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, how good it is that we are here! We will make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." (He did not really know what he was saying.)

While he was still speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them with its shadow; and the disciples were afraid as the cloud came over them. A voice said from the cloud, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen — listen to him!"

When the voice stopped, there was Jesus all alone. The disciples kept quiet about all this and told no one at that time anything they had seen.

(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation® and used with permission, see details below)*

Gospel reflection: What do you remember from the reading today?

Jesus goes up a hill with Peter, James and John to pray. While he is praying a great change comes over him. His face was changed and his clothes became sparkling white. How do you think the disciples felt when they saw this?

Then a voice came from the clouds saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen – listen to him.” Whose voice do you think this is? How do you think the disciples felt after hearing God speak directly to them?

How would you feel if you had been on the mountain with Jesus when all this happened?

Jesus is changed. And everything changes for the disciples too. After all they know now that Jesus really is the Son of God.

Through our prayers this Lent we can hope for wonderful changes too. We can ask God to help us to act differently, to make the world a fairer place, and to treat others as we would wish to be treated.

God asks us to listen to his Son. Do you think you could listen to God and Jesus a bit more this Lent?

How do you think we can best listen to Jesus and ask him for help?

The disciples thought perhaps they should stay on the mountain and worship Jesus, but Jesus took them back down. Our Christian life is mostly lived among people who need us to show God’s love. Our faith is not something just for church, but it is something that we have to live out every day in all that we do.

What do you think you can do to show love in the coming week?

What will you do to try and live more as God asks you to? How will you listen and change your life and the lives of others for the better?

Intercessions *You may want to ask the children to offer their own prayers or you can use the suggestions below.*

Let’s pray together:

We pray for the world’s leaders: that God may guide them to make wise decisions for the good of all people in the world. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all people who struggle to get enough to eat. Together, with God’s help, may we change our world so that everyone has their fair share of food. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, our family and friends: that we may take the time to listen to what God asks of us and act to change our lives and our world for the better. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God our Father, help us to see your Son in all people and to treat them as we would wish to be treated ourselves. Help us to listen and to live our lives as you ask us to. Amen.

For more children’s liturgy resources and illustrations see cafod.org.uk/childrensliturgy

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Activity suggestions

Share the activity sheet with the children and invite them to colour in the picture of Jesus on the mountain, and to write what they will do to reach out in love this week in the heart.

Download the conversation cards (available in the Lent section at cafod.org.uk/familyprayers) and encourage the children to use them to find out a bit more about each other, or to take them home to use with their family.

Invite the children to sit quietly for a few moments and listen to God. They could think about all the things that they would like to change to make the world a fairer place. Encourage the children to write or draw a list of these changes and the difference that they would make to the world, so that all people have the things that they need. You could use biodegradable glitter to make the children's prayers or pictures sparkle, like Jesus in today's gospel.

Find more activities and resources to help children to Walk Against Hunger and support CAFOD this Lent at cafod.org.uk/primary

*Gospel passage taken from:

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