TRUST JESUS

VISUAL AIDS

> Pictures of rich and poor people.

> Pictures of people giving and receiving gifts, using their skills to cook, paint, etc.

> Coin shape cut-outs.

> A collecting box.

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Alleluia!

A reading from the Good News given to us by Mark.
Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus was sitting down opposite the collecting box in the Temple, and he watched the people putting their offering in the box. Some of the people who were rich put a great deal of money into the box.
Then along came a poor widow. She put two small coins in the box. They

DISCUSSION

Where was Jesus?
What was he watching?

Which gift did Jesus say was worth most? Why?

Is it only rich people who can give gifts, only grown ups?

What really counts with gifts?
- the love that they stand for.

Encourage the children to offer examples of gifts they can give at home, at church, etc.

SHARING

Encourage the children to talk about gifts they have given and received.

Why do we give gifts?
- to show love, care.

What kinds of gifts are there, apart from presents?
- gifts of time, patience, helping at home, listening at school.

Do we always thank those who give us gifts?
- friends for playing with us; teachers, dinner-ladies, etc?

Do we thank God enough for giving us everything,
but especially for giving us Jesus?

were the smallest of all coins, worth less than a penny.
Jesus saw what she put in and said to his friends,
'This poor woman has put more into the box than anyone else. Others gave from what they had to spare; but she put in everything she had, all she had to live on.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

ACTIVITIES

> Give out the cut-out shapes.

> On them have the children write or draw about a 'gift' they will offer someone in the week ahead, e.g. a letter, or a visit to a lonely person.

> Collect the 'coins' into the collection box.