

YEAR A
5th SUNDAY OF LENT

**WHOEVER
BELIEVES
IN ME
WILL LIVE
FOR EVER**

VISUAL AIDS

- > Bowl of bulbs, some just coming into flower.
- > Unplanted bulbs.
- > A crucifix.
- > Cross shape cut-outs.

WELCOME AND
PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing together:

**Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour.
Lord, you are the resurrection
and the life.**

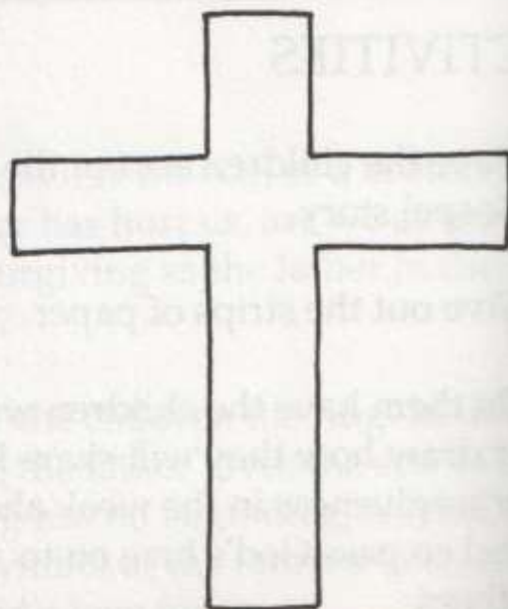
Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour.

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

Jesus often stayed with his friends, Martha, Mary and Lazarus in their home in the village of Bethany. So when Lazarus became very ill, his sisters sent a message to Jesus to let him know. Jesus waited two whole days before going to Bethany, and by the time he got there Lazarus had

DISCUSSION

How did Jesus feel about Lazarus?
Who were the other people in the story, and how did they feel?
What did they do . . . say?
What did Jesus do . . . say?
What do you think Lazarus felt like?
How do you think Martha and Mary felt to have their brother back?



YEAR A

5th SUNDAY OF LENT

SHARING

Invite the children to look at the unplanted bulbs. They look dead and dried up. But the power of new life is in them. Planted and watered they will grow like those in the bowl. In baptism we were given the power of new life, the life of Jesus. We were given the power to change from selfishness to love, power to be like Jesus.

In today's Gospel we hear a story about the new life that Jesus can give.

died and had been buried. Martha went to meet Jesus, and said to him, 'Lord, if you'd been here, my brother wouldn't have died.' Jesus replied, 'I am the resurrection.

Anyone who believes in me will live.'

Martha said,

'I believe, Lord.'

Then Martha and Mary took Jesus to the place where Lazarus was buried. Jesus was sad. Jesus lifted his eyes to

heaven, prayed to his Father, and then said in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!'

The dead man came out, with the bandages still on his hands and feet. 'Unbind him and set him free', said Jesus. Many who saw it believed in Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

ACTIVITIES

- > Have the children mime the Gospel.
- > Give out the cross shapes.
- > On them have the children write or draw what they can do to spread joy and happiness, ways of sharing the new life that Jesus has given us.

- > Recite this prayer, the children repeating it phrase by phrase:
**Father in heaven,
help us to be like Jesus, your
Son,
who loved us so much
that he died to save us.
Help us to be loving people,
so that we may bring Jesus' love
and joy
to the whole world at Easter.**

