WE HAVE SEEN HIM

VISUAL AIDS

- > Pictures of Jesus.
- > Easter candle.
- > Bread.
- > Heart shape cut-outs.
- > Quiet, sad, mood music.

SHARING

Use this time to set the mood for today's Gospel.

Have the children sit quietly. Invite them to imagine that they are Jesus' friends, all gathered together in the Upper Room on the first Easter Sunday.

They have heard that the body of Jesus is missing from the tomb.

They are upset, frightened.

Use the music to help establish the mood.

Let the children remain seated in this way for the proclamation of the Gospel.

PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

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

Two of Jesus' friends were on their way to a village called Emmaus, talking about all that had happened over the past few days.

Have the children discuss what happened over those days, especially Good Friday.

While they were talking someone came along and joined them. It was Jesus, but they did not recognise him. 'What are you talking about?' hasked. Sadly, they replied 'You must be the only person in Jerusalem who doesn't know what's been happening here. How Jesus of Nazareth was crucified. We had hoped he would be the one to set us free. Worst still now it seems his tomb is empty. Some of the women say angels told

them Jesus is risen, but none of our friends have seen anything of him.' Then Jesus said,

'You foolish people! Why can't you see this is what the prophets said would happen, that the Christ would suffer and so enter into his glory!' And going through all the scriptures, Jesus explained everything that was about himself. They reached Emmaus in the evening, and invited Jesus to join

them at the inn for a meal. When they sat at the table, Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and shared it with them. Immediately they recognised that it was Jesus, but he vanished from their sight. 'Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road' they said to each other. They went straight back to Jerusalem to tell the others. This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

DISCUSSION AND ACTIVITIES

- > Divide the children into three groups:
 - 1. Jesus' friends in the Upper Room
 - 2. The two friends and Jesus
 - Innkeeper, servants and customers in the inn.
- > Mime the Gospel:

- The Upper Room group listen as Peter, John and the women describe the empty tomb (Easter Sunday Gospel).
- The two friends set out for Emmaus; the stranger joins them. Narrate what happens.
- Arrival at the inn; welcome by innkeeper; served by servants; the meal; Jesus breaks bread; friends recognise him; dash back to Jerusalem.
- Back to Upper Room; excitement and happiness as they exchange stories of having seen Jesus.
- > Give out the cut-out shapes.
- > Have the children write or draw on them how they will spread the happiness of Jesus in the week ahead.

