

## **Children's liturgy – Third Sunday of Easter (Year B)**

### **Preparing the worship space**

Colour: White

Props: Fact sheets, with question and answers.

**Song suggestions:** Go, tell everyone (227, Celebration Hymnal for Everyone)  
The Servant King (187, Celebration Hymnal for Everyone)

**Welcome:** We do not always understand things straight away, we need someone to teach us and to explain to us all the different things that we see in the world. Jesus teaches his disciples in today's gospel story. Let's think about how we learn today.

**Opening prayer:** Loving God, we give thanks for our school, our friends and our teachers, who help us when we don't understand. We pray that all children may have the chance to go to school to learn the skills that they need for the future. Amen.

**First reading (optional):** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

**Psalm:** Ps 4:2, 4, 7, 9 r. 7

**Gospel acclamation:** Everyone stands and sings the acclamation together. Suggestions include: 'Halle, halle, halle' (Caribbean) from 'Sing With the World', Alison Adam & John Bell; 'Alleluia' (Zimbabwe), Abraham Maraire Publications, WCC & GIA; 'Celtic Alleluia' (traditional); 'Alleluia! Raise the Gospel' from 'Go Before Us', Bernadette Farrell, OCP Publications.

**Gospel:** Luke 24:35-48

**Gospel reflection:** What do you remember from today's reading?

The disciples were talking to each other when suddenly Jesus appeared amongst them.

When Jesus appeared to the disciples, they thought they had seen a ghost. How would you feel if you thought you had seen a ghost?

Jesus explained to his friends all that it said in the Scriptures about him. The disciples then understood that Jesus had risen from the dead and was the Son of God. They truly believed in him, and they were happy.

Learning and understanding is very important. Who helps you to learn? Who do you ask when you don't understand something?

Teachers at school help us to learn and understand the world around us. But not all children around the world have the same chance to learn.

Their parents might not have enough money for them to go to school. There might not be a school near to them. Or they might have had to leave their homes because of fighting. Or there might be another reason why children can't learn as well as they would like.

Veronica lives with her family in Kenya. She loves going to school. But her family can't afford electricity, so Veronica used a paraffin lamp to study at home. The burning oil made her cough and she found it hard to concentrate. It made it very hard for her to do her homework and to learn.

How do you think you would feel if you had no electricity at home? What would you do if you didn't have electric lights to help you see to read and write when it is dark?

Now she has new hope, thanks to the power of the sun. Solar panels have been fitted at school, bringing light to the classroom. Veronica can now go to evening classes.

Veronica also has a solar lamp at home. Through local, renewable energy, Veronica has the power to study, learn, and build a bright future for herself.

She says: "Now that we have the solar panels at school, I'll be able to do the extra school work I need to. School empowers me to achieve my plans for the future."

How can we help others to learn in the coming week?

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

All children should have the chance to go to school and to learn. Let us think about this as we pray together:

We pray for children in other parts of the world: that they may have the chance to go to school and learn the skills that they need for the future. Lord, hear us...

We pray for our teachers and parents: that they may always make time to explain things to us when we do not understand. Lord, hear us...

We pray for the work of CAFOD: that it may continue to help families to send their children to school and achieve their dreams. Lord, hear us...

**Closing prayer:** God our teacher, help us understand your great love for us, and to share that love with our brothers and sisters throughout the world as we work to make the world a better and fairer place. Amen.

**Activity suggestions:**

Ask the children to colour in the accompanying illustration and to write on the back one thing that they have learnt today or why they think it is important for all children to have the chance to go to school.

Get the children to take part in a quiz, you could prepare little fact sheets with questions about children's lives from around the world, with answers below or on the other side (see the examples below). Ask the children to get into pairs and tell each other the question, and then the answer. Point out they have learnt something new today. Ask them how it feels to have learnt something new?

For example:

Q. What is a house called in a Sudanese village?

A. A tukul.

Q. What is the money called in Bangladesh?

A. Taka.

Q. In Rwanda the people speak kinyawanda. How do you say the number 3 in kinyawanda?

A. Gatatu (*GahTahToo* ).

You can find more information about children around the world in the resources at [cafod.org.uk/primary](http://cafod.org.uk/primary)

Ask the children to go home and share all that they have learnt and thought about today.

Ask the children to try and count how many new things they learn this week. Ask them to think about they can help other people to learn, at home, at school and in poorer countries around the world.