

Liturgy of the Word with Children
Second Sunday of Lent, Year C
17 March 2019
Luke 9:28-36

Catechist Background

Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, the two major sections of the Hebrew Scriptures. They also each had a forty-day period marking the beginning of their ministries. Chronologically, in the scriptures, this story follows immediately after Jesus' announcement of his passion and death; it is a preview of his resurrection to come.

Setting the Scene

For the activity described below, you will need a representation of a tree without leaves. You could use a branch potted in the sand from last week, or alternatively, a large paper outline of a tree taped to the wall.

We Say Sorry

Leader: You come to us in light, Lord have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: You bring us out of the shadows, Christ have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: You teach us to share your love, Lord have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

We Pray (1)

God our Father, help us to hear your Son, that we may find our way to you.
Amen.

Gospel Intro

Remind the children that last week we heard about Jesus in some difficult circumstances, being tested by the devil. This week, we hear about a very different situation.

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

Reflecting on the Reading with Children

- This is a very unusual situation! What would you think if you were there with Jesus and his disciples?
- There are difficult times ahead for Jesus and the disciples. Looking back on this situation might have helped his friends to stay strong with him, having had a big hint that something very special was happening their friend.

Response

Show the children the empty tree. If it is potted in the sand from last week, show them. If you were a very young tree and couldn't remember last year, it might be a bit scary to see all the trees with their leaves off. It might seem rather hopeless, if you didn't know that spring and new leaves were just around the corner.

In the same way that new life in the spring follows a cold winter, this experience on the mountain reminds the disciples and us that something more special than we could possibly understand is at work with Jesus. Pass out a 'leaf' shape to each child, and encourage them to write their name (or draw themselves) on one side, and write 'hope' on the other. Attach the leaves to the tree with string or blu-tak.

We Believe

Relating to the creed what you have shared with the children, ask this series of questions and invite the children to reply, 'I do.'

- Do you believe in God, the almighty Father?
- Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, who we should listen to?
- Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, present among us today?

We Pray (2)

Again, try to relate the bidding prayers to the reading by saying, 'God in heaven, we know that just as you were present with us just as you were present to the disciples on the mountain, and so we pray...'

Leader: We pray for people whose jobs it is to tell others about you. May they never forget your glory. Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the world, that everyone may know your love and holiness. Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for people who are ill. Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for anyone we know who is feeling down. Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Thank you, Lord, for hearing all our prayers. Please look after all those in need. We make all our prayers through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

