

Children's liturgy –The Most Holy Trinity (Year A)

Preparation of the worship space

Colour: white

Props: Blue and green paper cut and stuck to make a world, colouring pens, pencils.

Song suggestions: He's got the whole world in his hands (973, Laudate)

Welcome: Today we hear how much God loves the world and everything in it. Let's listen to find out more.

Opening prayer: Generous God, you loved the world so much you sent us your Son Jesus to show us how to live. Help us to show our love for the world by respecting and protecting it so that all people can enjoy it now, and in the future. Amen.

First reading (optional): Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9

Psalm: Daniel 3:52-56. R. v.52

Gospel acclamation: *everyone stands and sings the acclamation together.*

Gospel: John 3:16-18

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its saviour.

Those who believe in the Son are not judged; but those who do not believe have already been judged, because they have not believed in God's only Son.

(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation® and used with permission, see details below)*

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

Today we hear that God loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, Jesus, into the world so that we might have eternal life.

God loves the world - all the people, plants, animals, birds, earth and everything else in it very, very much. And God wants us to love the world too. One of the ways we can show that we believe in God is to treat the world that we have been given with love and care.

We are called to show our love for the world and for all the people who live in it, for all the birds, flowers, trees and animals, for everything that God has created.

Sometimes, we think that because we are young we can't make a difference in the world. You may think that you have to wait to grow up until people will listen to you. Do you think that is true?

A few years ago, some children from St Peter's school went to the Houses of Parliament in London to talk to the Government about how much they love the world and want to protect it.

In Peru, Jean-Pierre looks after a garden as part of a homework club that he goes to. He has made a sign to show one of the rules of the garden. He like his homework club and taking care of the garden. He says, "I like to water the plants so that they grow. Without plants we cannot breathe."

We all have a responsibility to look after the world and all that is in it, to love it and care for it.

Perhaps you already show how you love the world in the way you treat it? Do you recycle? Walk when you can instead of taking the car? Switch things off when you're not using them? What else do you do to show your love for the world?

What new thing will you do this week to show your love for the others and for the world?

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

We pray to God, who loves the world:

We pray for world leaders: that they may make wise decisions for the good of all people and for the earth. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all people, especially those who are poor: that they may know that they are loved by God and that together we may all show our love for the world and each other. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be inspired to show our love for all and do all that we can to respect and protect God's wonderful world. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God of love, teach us how to love the world as you do. Help us to care for and respect the environment so that we may all live in harmony together, now and in the future. Amen.

Activity suggestions

Invite the children to colour in the accompanying illustration and discuss the different ways the children in the picture are showing love for our world. Encourage them to write or draw on the back how they will show your love for the world in the coming week.

Make a paper world out of blue and green paper and invite the children to write or draw on it how they will show their love for the world in the coming week. Or encourage the children to write a prayer of thanks and praise to God for the love that God has shown to the world.

Remind the children to share all that they have heard and thought about in the liturgy today with the people at home. If the children write a prayer, remind them to say it at home during the week. Encourage them to do at least one thing during the week to show their love for the world.

See cafod.org.uk/families for more child-friendly activities.

***Gospel passage taken from:**

Good News Translation® (Today's English Version, Second Edition)
© 1992 American Bible Society. All rights reserved.

Anglicisation © The British and Foreign Bible Society 1976, 1994, 2004. The copyright for the derivative work of Anglicisation pertains only to the text within the Good News Translation (GNT) that British and Foreign Bible Society adapted for British literary usage, consistent with Section 103(b) of the United States Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 103(b).

Bible text from the Good News Translation (GNT) is not to be reproduced in copies or otherwise by any means except as permitted in writing by American Bible Society, 101 North Independence Mall East, FL 8, Philadelphia, PA 19106 (www.americanbible.org).



For more children's liturgy resources and illustrations see cafod.org.uk/childrensliturgy

CAFOD is the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales and part of Caritas International. Charity no 1160384 and a company limited by guarantee no 09387398