

# Third Sunday of Easter

## Breakfast on the shore

### INTRODUCTION

There are many different ways to show people that we love them; a kiss, a smile, an act of kindness. Jesus appeared to his disciples and prepared a meal to share with them as a sign of his love and friendship.

### SIGN OF THE CROSS

### LIGHT THE CANDLES

Light the candles and say Candle Prayer 2: *Show me, show me little candle.*

### SORRY

As we say our sorry prayer together, let us ask for God's forgiveness, and his help to try again.

Ask one of the children to choose a sorry colour, and read the corresponding prayer aloud together.

### GLORIA

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

To welcome today's Gospel sing Acclamation 3: *Alleluia, alleluia.*

### GOSPEL (cf John 21:1-17)

Peter and some of the disciples had been fishing all night but had caught nothing. As daylight dawned, they noticed a man on the shore who called out to them, 'Have you caught anything?'

As they shook their heads, the stranger said, 'Try once more over there!'

They threw their nets back into the water and caught so many fish that their nets were ready to burst. At that moment Peter recognised Jesus, and jumping into the water, he swam to meet him.

On the beach, Jesus had made a fire and was cooking breakfast for Peter and his friends. After they had eaten, Jesus turned to Peter and asked, 'Do you love me?'

'Yes, Lord, you know that I love you,' Peter said.

Jesus asked Peter this question three times and after he had answered, Jesus told Peter about the work he wanted him to do.

### DISCUSSION

What made Peter recognise Jesus that day? – Jesus told Peter and the other disciples to cast their nets again, and suddenly they found them full of fish. Peter knew that only the son of God had the power to work such a miracle.

When the disciples found Jesus on the shore,

what was he doing? – Jesus was preparing breakfast for them as a sign of his love and friendship. He wanted to share a meal with his friends, just as he had done many times before, to prove to them that he was truly alive.

Have you ever prepared a meal for a special occasion to show how much you cared for someone? – Perhaps you have helped to bake a birthday cake, or brought breakfast in bed for one of your family.

When they had finished eating, what did Jesus ask Peter? – Jesus asked Peter the same question three times, 'Do you love me?' Each time Peter answered, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.'

Why do you think Jesus might have asked this on three occasions? – When Jesus was arrested, Peter was asked three times whether he was a friend of Jesus, and each time he said, 'No'. Jesus gave Peter another chance to prove his love for him. He wanted Peter to know that he trusted in his love, and wanted Peter to share this love and faith with the rest of the world.

When do we share a special meal with Jesus? – When we celebrate the Eucharist we gather together at a special meal, where Jesus shares himself with us in a very special way, as the 'Bread of Life'.

### ACTIVITY

Help the children to re-tell today's Gospel story in their own words and to imagine the scene. Ask them to draw a picture of Jesus preparing breakfast for his friends that morning on the shore.

Alternatively they can rewrite the story in a mini-book using the picture strip drawings.

### CREED

### CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus,  
help us to recognise you  
in the world around us  
and to show how much we love you  
by our words and actions.