

Third Sunday of Easter Year B – 18th April 2021

Preparation

- If possible arrange candles, crucifix and Gospel/ Sunday Missal on a table.

Introduction

Today is the third Sunday in the Easter Season. Jesus has risen from the dead and today we hear how he sent his Apostles out into the world to be witnesses to His death and resurrection and to bring the good news to the world that when we repent and change our lives and believe in Jesus our sins will be forgiven.

As we gather at home today, we thank God for our families and for this time we spend together in prayer. We do this today, knowing that God is with us, helping us always especially when times are difficult.

Make the Sign of the Cross – a sign of the love God has for us.

An adult lights the candles.

Penitential Act

Adults and children think about how you have behaved in the past week. Especially when our daily routines are different just now. Have you shown patience to those around you? Have you been kind and helpful even when you don't feel like it and it's difficult?

Lead the children in singing the "Sorry Song".

We are sorry,	<i>(To the Tune of Frere Jacques)</i>
Truly sorry,	
Heal us Lord,	
In Your love,	
Help us to do better,	
Help us to be kinder.	
Forgive us,	
Forgive us.	

Gloria (Sung)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of the Father.

Amen

All stand to welcome the Gospel singing the **Gospel Acclamation:**

(Sing to the tune of 'If You're Happy and You Know It')

Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord,

As we listen to the story,
let us praise him for his glory.
Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord ⁽¹⁾

Gospel (Luke 24:35-48)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Explain and demonstrate – make three crosses: one on your forehead, one on your lips and one on your heart. In this way we think God's word, we speak God's word and we keep God's word in our hearts as we say together:

“Glory to You, O Lord.”

Use this link to read the Gospel if you don't have a Sunday Missal

<https://cafod.org.uk>Education>Children'sLiturgy>

Read the Gospel aloud to the children. At the end say:

“The Gospel of the Lord.”

All reply : **“Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ”**

Lead a Discussion on the Gospel

In the Gospel the two disciples who had met Jesus on the road to Emmaus were telling the other disciples how they did not recognise Him at first, but only when he broke the bread. They were telling the other disciples this when suddenly Jesus appeared among all of them. How did they react when Jesus appeared? (They were terrified at first because they thought they were seeing a ghost. They couldn't believe their eyes).

How did Jesus reassure them?(He showed them His wounds in His hands and His feet and invited them to touch Him. When they still could not believe it was really Him, He asked for food to eat so they grilled some fish for Him to eat. He took it and ate before their eyes to prove that He was really there and that He was not a ghost).

How did the disciples feel then? (They were filled with joy).

Jesus left them a message. What was it? (He explained that by dying on the cross and rising from the dead three days later, He had fulfilled the scriptures. He told the disciples that He was sending them out as witnesses to tell everyone the good news that their sins are forgiven when they repent and change their lives and believe in Jesus, the Son of God now risen from the dead).

We are also witnesses for Jesus and should help others to believe in Him. We should witness to God's love for everyone, by our actions and good deeds for others.

Prayers of the Faithful

Lord Jesus,

Help us always to tell others of Your great love for everyone, by witnessing to the truth of Your death and resurrection as foretold in the scriptures.

Lord in Your Mercy
-Hear our Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Send Your Spirit to fill us with the strength we need to teach others of Your unending love for us.

Lord in Your Mercy
-Hear our Prayer

We now pray together saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name:
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil. **Amen.**

We can also say the following prayer as a **Spiritual Communion**:

Spiritual Communion (Prayer of St. Alphonsus Liguori)

My Jesus,
I believe You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You Sacramentally,
Come at least spiritually into my soul,
I embrace You as if You were already come,
and I unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, Strengthen our faith in You and help us to witness to Your love by our good deeds and words.

Jesus is Alive...Alleluia!

References

1. The Complete Children's Liturgy Book. Katie Thomson, published by Kevin Mayhew. P349.