

Third Sunday of Easter Year A – 26th April 2020

Preparation

- If possible arrange candles, crucifix and Gospel/ Sunday Missal on a table. For this week's reading place some stones on the table leading away from the crucifix.
- Ask children to collect photos of themselves as babies and as they look now and bring to this week's reflection.

Introduction

Today is the third Sunday in the Easter Season. Jesus has risen from his tomb and is walking around the land. He meets two of his followers.

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

An adult lights the candles.

Penitential Act

Ask the children to think about how they 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, *(To the Tune of Frere Jacques)*
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.

Gospel

Luke 24:13-35 (refer to) [https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children's liturgy](https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children's%20liturgy)

A reading from the Holy Gospel According to St. Luke

All say "Glory to You Oh Lord" while making a cross on your forehead, on your lips and on your heart.

Read aloud the text of the Gospel from the Cafod sheet for this Sunday from the link above. Finish by saying:

The Gospel of the Lord

All say : Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

Lead a Discussion on the Gospel

Ask the children, what they heard in the rather long Gospel?

- Praise them for listening attentively and elaborate any parts they may have missed.

Why do you think that the disciples did not recognize Jesus?

- People change as they get older and face life's challenges. Look at the photos collected of each child. Discuss the similarities and differences of the children as grew from babies.

What made the disciples begin to believe that the man they were talking to was Jesus?

- When he started talking to them about the scriptures and broke the bread and gave it to them. They learned from him, shared bread with him and grew stronger.

This is the template for what happens at Holy Mass. We come to Mass with all of concerns about what happened during the week, we listen to God's words (the Liturgy of the Word) share in Holy Communion (which is Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament under the appearance of bread after the consecration – liturgy of the Eucharist) and leave stronger and ready to live God's words in what we say, do and think each day.

Why do you think the disciples went back to Jerusalem so quickly?

- They wanted to tell others their good news. Just like us when we leave Mass, we are stronger, reminded of God's love for us and want to live the way he asked us to live.

- The stones leading away from the crucifix represent us leaving Mass and living God's Word.

- For each stone ask the children to: Name one thing that you will do live God's Word this week.

Prayers of the Faithful

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for keeping up safe and believing in us, even when we may doubt your love.

Lord in Your Mercy
-Hear our Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Help us to always believe in your love and show it by being kind and helpful to our family.

Lord in Your Mercy
-Hear our Prayer

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you for all you have done for us. Give us strength to always do as you say.

Jesus is Alive...Alleluia!