

## Second Sunday of Easter Year C – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019

### Introduction

Today we remember when Jesus appeared to the Apostles after He had risen from the dead. The apostles were in hiding -locked in the upper room as they were afraid of the people who crucified Jesus. They were overjoyed when He visited them. Thomas was not there at the time and refused to believe them saying that he would not believe until he saw Jesus and touched His wounds.

Make the Sign of the Cross – a sign of the love God has for us. (This is optional, as we have already done this at the start of Holy Mass, but for young children it helps to demonstrate and practice how to do this correctly.

Light the candles on the table next to the Lectionary. (An adult lights the candles).

### Penitential Act

Ask the children to think about how they have behaved in the past week. Ask them if they have always been kind and helpful to others, obedient to their parents, listened to their teachers etc.

Lead the children in singing the “sorry song”.

We are sorry,  
Truly sorry,  
Heal us Lord, (sung to tune of Frere Jacques)  
In Your love,  
Help us to do better,  
Help us to be kinder.  
Forgive us,  
Forgive us.

## **Gloria (sung)**

Choose a children's version of the Gloria from one of our listed Children's Liturgy Resource books, or you may have another CL resource. You will probably want to practice your chosen Gloria and use it every week so that everyone becomes familiar with it.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia.  
We have seen  
The risen Lord  
And we believe now  
Truly we believe now,  
You are our Lord,  
And our God. (same tune as above)

## **Gospel**

Select the correct Gospel from the Children's Lectionary. This week it's on page 42 of "Sunday. Book of Readings. The Lectionary Adapted for Children." (Year C)

John 20:19-29

"A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John".

**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, speak God's word and keep God's word in our hearts) **as we say together "Glory to You, O Lord."**

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

**"The Gospel of the Lord"**.

All reply: **"Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ"**.

Ask everyone to be seated.

## **Lead a Discussion on the Gospel**

Where were the Apostles and why? (Hiding as they had seen the Lord crucified and were scared to go out in case the crowds turned on them as well).

Who came to see them? (Jesus came in to the room where they were even though the doors were locked).

How did the apostles feel when they saw Jesus? (overjoyed)

What did Jesus say and do? (Jesus said "Peace be with you" and He showed them His hands and His side. Jesus said "As God has sent me to you, now I am sending you to others").

Which apostle was not there when Jesus appeared? What did he say when the apostles told him that they had seen Jesus risen from the dead? (Thomas was not there. He did not believe them and said he would only believe if he saw Jesus himself and could touch His wounds).

What happened next? (Jesus appeared again about a week later and this time Thomas was there. Jesus told Thomas to touch his wounds in his hands and side).

What did Thomas say to Jesus? ("My Lord and my God").

What did Jesus say to Thomas? (That he believed because he could see and touch him, but "blessed" are those who have not seen him and yet believe).

### **Prayers of the Faithful ( optional/ time dependent)**

You may wish to prepare some of these yourselves or ask the children for their prayers. Here are some suggestions for today:

Dear Jesus, help us to always have faith in You. Help us never to forget that You love us so much that You died on the cross for us. May we always love You and pray as Thomas did “My Lord and my God.”

**Lord, in Your mercy.**

All reply: **“Hear our prayer.”**

Dear Jesus,

Help all those who do not know or believe in You. Help us to show your love to them.

**Lord, in Your mercy.**

All reply: **“Hear our prayer.”**

### **Closing Prayer**

Let us pray as Jesus taught us to pray as we say together the “our Father”.

“Our Father, who art in heaven ....

Now ask for volunteers for the Offertory Procession. After the procession, children return quietly to sit with their families in church.

