
EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – YEAR C

14th September 2025

Vestment Colour: Red-

The Archdiocese of St Andrew's & Edinburgh has a website that contains further resources, information and plans for Children's Liturgy for use by Children's Liturgy Leaders. A full template is available on the website.

Health & Safety: *Once you are all assembled, take a head count in case of the need to evacuate (if possible, roster of names). Candles are permitted if they are included in your risk assessment.*

Introduction:

Leader: Today, we hear how much Jesus loves us and wants us to live in heaven. He wants us to have eternal life.

Make the Sign of the Cross together.

Light the candles on the table next to the Lectionary.

The Collect:

Leader: O God, who willed that your Only Begotten Son should undergo the cross to save the human race, grant, we pray, that we, who have known his mystery on earth, may merit the grace of his redemption in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever

All: Amen

The Gospel Acclamation: All stand to welcome the Gospel. (*You can encourage the children to sing the Alleluia*).

Alleluia, alleluia.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia.

Gospel: Select the correct Gospel from the Children's Lectionary (Year C). Alternatively use an approved translation of the Bible (the ESV-CE version or Good News Bible for Children). *Do not paraphrase the Gospel; however, you may need to explain unusual or difficult words and names to the children.*

John 3: 13-17

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

All: "Glory to You, O Lord."

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

Leader: "The Gospel of the Lord".

All reply: "Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ". Ask everyone to be seated.

Gospel Reflection: *the following are some suggestions to help with a discussion around the Gospel.*

- **Can you remember the name of the person Jesus is talking with?**
(Nicodemus)
- **We heard Jesus talk about the 'Son of Man'. Do you know who that is?** (Jesus)
- **Jesus said that the 'Son of Man' must be lifted up. What does that mean?**
(Explain to the children about how Jesus was lifted up on the cross. That Jesus chose to die on the cross because He loved us so much)
- **When Jesus died on the cross did, He stay dead?** (No. We know that Jesus rose again at Easter)
- **Because of this the Cross is a very special image for us. Have you seen a cross today?** (Point out a crucifix, discuss other images such as jewellery or paintings and when we make the sign of the cross)

Prayers of the Faithful

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

We now ask Our Lord to hear our prayers

Dear Jesus

Help us to love others around us, in our families, schools and community, just like you loved us.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer

Dear Jesus,

May those who feel lonely or hurt feel your love.

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord

May we all grow in your love.

All: Amen.