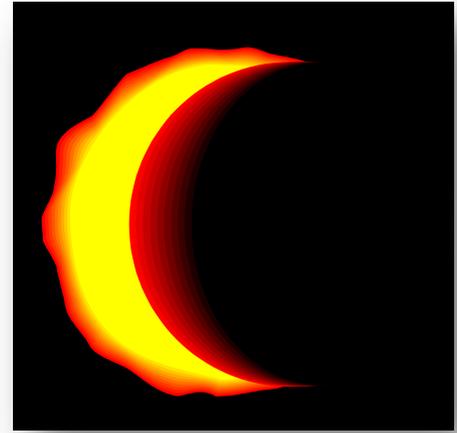


CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B NOTES FOR LEADERS



The readings this week are difficult for children. We are very close to the end of the church's liturgical year. A new cycle, Year C, will commence with the beginning of Advent. Advent is the beginning of the church's year.

It is not surprising that the readings focus on the end times. The language of the readings is what we know as 'apocalyptic' which is symbolic and vivid in its imagery.

The reading from Daniel paints a picture of people in persecution and pain. But there is mention of the hope of resurrection. Those who have suffered will be rewarded and will 'shine like the stars'. Older children might discuss ways in which they 'shine like the stars'. Reflect also on what else is possible to do in order to shine even more brightly! Direct the children to think in terms of what they can do for others rather than boasting about their gifts or achievements.

The gospel gives a similar message. As Christians we believe in the resurrection. The important thing for us is how we are living now. The first Sunday in Advent will remind us to be ready! This is the same message now. None of us knows our future or how long we shall live on this earth. It is important to make the most of the 'now' times, to live as if there were no tomorrow. To care as if everything depended on us. To give as if we are the only ones with anything to give.

The psalm says it all: You, God are my hope. You are all I want! Pray together using the creative reflection which is based on Psalm 15(16).



INTRODUCTORY RITES OF MASS

DISMISSAL AND PROCESSION FROM THE CHURCH

I invite the children, please, to stand.

My dear children, you will go now to hear God's word, to praise God in song and to reflect on the wonderful things God has done for us. We will await your return so that together we may celebrate the Eucharist.

A cross bearer leads the way out.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

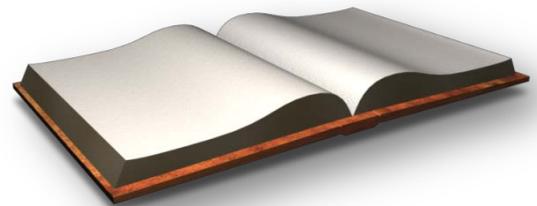
INTRODUCTION

Create a simple prayer focus that articulates the liturgical flavour of the season. Use a green candle and a piece of green material.

The Children's Lectionary is enthroned in a place of honour with the candle.

This is the thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary time. The readings this week remind us to live caring and just lives.

A moment of silence follows.



[FIRST READING]: DANIEL

12:1-3

A reading from the prophet Daniel

When that time comes your own people will be spared.

Prince Michael is the protector of your people,
and he will appear when a time of terrible trouble comes.

That will be the worst time in all history.

Nothing like it has ever happened before.

But your people who have their names written in the book
will be protected.

Many of those who lie dead in the ground will rise from death.

Some of them will be given eternal life,

but others will receive nothing but eternal shame and disgrace.

Everyone who has been wise will shine as bright as the sky above,

and everyone who has led others to please God will shine like the stars.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

[RESPONSORIAL PSALM]: PS 16:5, 8-11

R. Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

You, Lord, are all I want!
You are my choice,
and you keep me safe.
I will always look to you,
as you stand beside me
and protect me from fear. **R.**

With all my heart,
I will celebrate,
and I can safely rest.
I am your chosen one.
You won't leave me in the grave
or let my body decay. **R.**

You have shown me
the path to life,
and you make me glad
by being near to me.
Sitting at your right side,
I will always be joyful. **R.**



[GOSPEL ACCLAMATION]: LUKE 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!

***Be watchful and pray constantly,
that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.
Alleluia!***

GOSPEL: MARK 13:24-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Son of Man shall gather his elect from the four winds.

Jesus said to his disciples:

“In those days, right after that time of suffering,

‘The sun will become dark,

and the moon

will no longer shine.

The stars will fall,

and the powers in the sky will be shaken.’

Then the Son of Man will be seen coming in the





clouds
with great power and glory.
He will send his angels to gather his chosen ones
from all over the earth.
Learn a lesson from a fig tree.
When its branches sprout and start putting out
leaves,
you know summer is near.
So when you see all these things happening,
you will know that the time has almost come.

You can be sure that some of the people living today
will still be alive when all this happens.
The sky and the earth will not last forever,
but my words will.

“No one knows the day or the time.
The angels in heaven don’t know,
and the Son himself doesn’t know.
Only the Father knows.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RECEIVING THE WORD

CHORUS PLAY

Chorus plays present scriptural stories in the form of a play with both individual characters and a chorus. The chorus aspect allows for whole group participation. One of the aims of chorus plays is to provide not only a presentation of the story but also an informed interpretation of it. There are many excellent sources of reference available today to assist interpretation, especially biblical commentaries.

Leader: Keep me safe God, you are my hope.

All: You are my hope God.

Child 1: You are my hope God. Protect me from danger.

All: Protect me from danger.

Child 2: Keep me safe God. Watch over me at all times.

All: Watch over me at all times.

Child 3: You are my hope God. Show me what is right.



All: Show me what is right.

Child 4: Keep me safe God. Make me not afraid.

All: Make me not afraid.

Leader: Keep me safe God, you are my hope.

All: Keep me safe God, you are my hope.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin Mary', all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the
dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the
living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.



GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Leader: Let us pray.

Reader: We pray that our leaders will be people we can trust. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for people who live in fear. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for the homeless and the hungry. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that we may be honest and fair. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

DISMISSAL AND PROCESSION TO THE CHURCH.

As we go to celebrate the Lord's Supper, we carry God's word in our hearts. May God's Holy Spirit help us to put it into practice.

A cross bearer leads the way out.

