

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Cycle A



Volunteer Overview

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

Weekly Flow Outline

1. Before You Meet With the Children

Read the Scripture readings, especially the Gospel. Readings can be found at: <https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>

2. Invite the Holy Spirit

Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your words and actions.

3. Welcome the Children

Begin with a warm welcome and the Sign of the Cross.

4. Proclaim the Gospel - Read out loud directly from Scripture.

5. Reflection Questions (sample questions provided but follow the Spirit!)

Encourage children to participate but never require a child to speak.

6. Send Forth

Close with prayer and return to Mass reverently.

Reminder

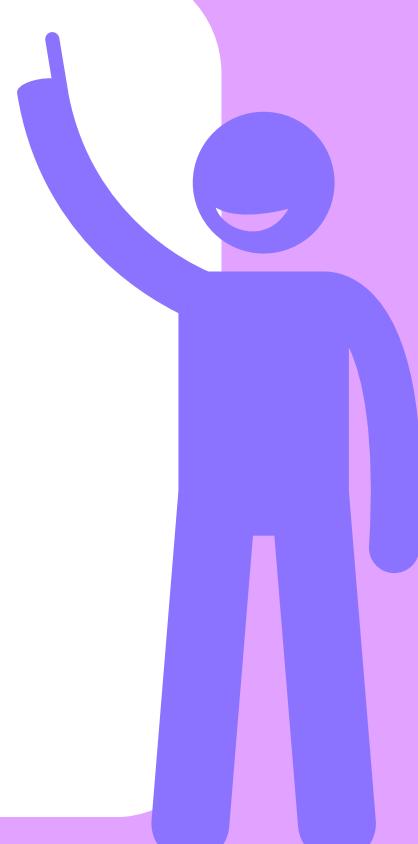
God works through your kindness, patience, and presence.

Trust that the Holy Spirit is at work—even in moments of silence.

“Let the children come to me.” (Matthew 19:14)

Thank You

Your presence helps our parish children encounter Jesus in a way that is prayerful, welcoming, and suited to their age. You are not expected to have all the answers. Your role is simply to help the children listen to the Gospel and reflect on how it connects to their lives. Children's Liturgy of the Word is an invitation—an opportunity for children to feel safe, seen, and loved by God and by the Church.



Children's Liturgy of the Word – Cycle A



3rd Sunday of Advent – Rejoice in the Lord

Scripture

- First Reading:
Isaiah 35:1–6, 10
- Gospel:
Matthew 11:2–11

Jesus brings joy even when life is difficult.



Reflection Questions

Personal: What brings you joy?

Relational: How can you help someone feel happier?

Mission: How can you share joy this week?

Catechist Note

Joy comes from Jesus, not circumstances.

Sending Forth Prayer

Jesus, thank You for the joy You bring. Amen.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 35:1–2, 5–6ab, 10

Thirsty deserts will be glad,
and barren lands will rejoice and blossom like flowers.
They will bloom everywhere and sing joyful songs.
They will be as majestic as Mount Lebanon
and as glorious as Mount Carmel or the plain of Sharon.
Everyone will see the glory and the majesty
of the LORD our God.

The blind will see, and the deaf will hear.
The disabled will leap about like deer,
and tongues once silent will shout.

The people the Lord has rescued will come back singing,
as they enter Zion.
Happiness will be a crown they will always wear.
They will rejoice and be glad,
because all sorrows and worries will be gone.

The word of the Lord.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 146:6cd–7ab, 7c–8, 9 and 10c

R. Lord, come and save us.

God always keeps his word.
He gives justice to the poor
and food to the hungry.

R. Lord, come and save us.

The LORD sets prisoners free
and heals blind eyes.
He gives a helping hand
to everyone who falls.

R. Lord, come and save us.

The LORD God of Zion
will rule forever!
Shout praises to the LORD!

R. Lord, come and save us.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of James

James 5:7–10

My friends, be patient until the Lord returns.
Think of farmers who wait patiently
for the spring and summer rains
to make their valuable crops grow.
Be patient like those farmers and don't give up.
The Lord will soon be here!
Don't grumble about each other or you will be judged,
and the judge is right outside the door.

My friends, follow the example of the prophets
who spoke for the Lord.
They were patient,
even when they had to suffer.

The word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA

Isaiah 61:1

R. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Spirit of the Lord now upon me
has sent me to bring good news
to the poor.

R. Alleluia, Alleluia.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Matthew 11:2–11

John was in prison when he heard what Christ was doing.
So John sent some of his followers to ask Jesus,
“Are you the one we should be looking for,
or must we wait for someone else?”

Jesus answered,
“Go and tell John what you have heard and seen.
The blind are now able to see,
and the lame can walk.
People with leprosy are being healed,
and the deaf can hear.
The dead are raised to life,
and the poor are hearing the good news.
God will bless everyone who does not reject me
because of what I do.”

As John’s followers were going away,
Jesus spoke to the crowds about John:
“What sort of person did you go out into the desert to see?
Was he like tall grass blown about by the wind?

“What kind of man did you go out to see?
Was he someone dressed in fine clothes?
People who dress like that live in the king’s palace.

“What did you really go out to see?
Was he a prophet? He certainly was.
I tell you that he was more than a prophet.
In the Scriptures God says about him,

‘I am sending my messenger ahead of you
to get things ready for you.’

“I tell you that no one ever born on this earth
is greater than John the Baptist.
But whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven
is greater than John.”

The gospel of the Lord.