



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



Holy Family - *Jesus had a Family*

Scripture

- First Reading:
Sirach 3:2–6, 12–14
- Gospel:
Matthew 2:13–15,
19–23

Jesus understands family life and calls us to love one another.



Reflection Questions

Personal: What is something you love to do with your family?

Relational: How does Jesus want us to treat our parents, siblings, or caregivers?

Mission: How can you help bring peace into your home this week?

Catechist Note

Affirm that families are not always perfect but are loved by God.

Sending Forth Prayer

Jesus, help our families love like Yours. Amen.



THE HOLY FAMILY
Sunday in the Octave of Christmas

FIRST READING
A reading from the book of Sirach

Sirach 3:2–6

Children, the LORD expects you to honor your father,
and has given your mother authority over you.

If you honor your father,
your sins will be forgiven.
If you praise your mother,
treasure will be stored up in heaven for you.

If you honor your father,
your own children will make you happy,
and all of your prayers will be answered.
If you respect your father,
you will live a long life,
and if you listen to the LORD,
your mother can relax.

The word of the Lord.

THE HOLY FAMILY

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 128:1–2, 3, 4–5 (see 1)

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways.

The LORD will bless you
if you respect him
and obey his laws.
Your fields will produce,
and you will be happy
and all will go well.

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways.

Your wife will be as fruitful
as a grapevine,
and just as an olive tree
is rich with olives,
your home will be rich
with healthy children.

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways.

That is how the LORD will bless
everyone who respects him.
I pray that the LORD
will bless you from Zion
and let Jerusalem prosper
as long as you live.

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways.

THE HOLY FAMILY

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians

Colossians 3:12–17

Brothers and sisters:

God loves you and has chosen you as his own special people.

So be gentle, kind, humble, meek, and patient.

Put up with each other,

and forgive anyone who does you wrong,

just as Christ has forgiven you.

Love is more important than anything else.

It is what ties everything completely together.

Each one of you is part of the body of Christ,
and you were chosen to live together in peace.

So let the peace that comes from Christ
control your thoughts.

And be grateful.

Let the message about Christ completely fill your lives,
while you use all your wisdom
to teach and instruct each other.

With thankful hearts,

sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

Whatever you say or do should be done

in the name of the Lord Jesus,

as you give thanks to God the Father because of him.

The word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA

Colossians 3:15a, 16

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

May the peace of Christ
rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message
live within you.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY FAMILY

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Matthew 2:13–15, 19–23

An angel from the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.
The angel said, “Get up!
Hurry and take the child and his mother to Egypt!
Stay there until I tell you to return,
because Herod is looking for the child
and wants to kill him.”

That night Joseph got up
and took his wife and the child to Egypt,
where they stayed until Herod died.
So the Lord’s promise came true,
just as the prophet had said,
“I called my son out of Egypt.”

After King Herod died,
an angel from the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph
while he was still in Egypt.
The angel said, “Get up and take the child and his mother
back to Israel.
The people who wanted to kill him are now dead.”

Joseph got up and left with them for Israel.
But when he heard
that Herod’s son Archelaus was now ruler of Judea,
he was afraid to go there.
Then in a dream he was told to go to Galilee,
and they went to live there in the town of Nazareth.

So the Lord’s promise came true,
just as the prophet had said,
“He will be called a Nazarene.”

The gospel of the Lord.