



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 (see below), especially the Gospel.

Readings also 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.

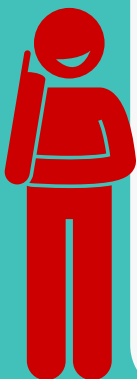
4. Proclaim the Gospel - Read out loud directly from Scripture.

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



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture

- **First Reading:**
Jeremiah 20:7–9
- **Gospel Reading:**
Matthew 16:21–27

Following Jesus—even when it is difficult



Reflection Questions

Personal: When have you felt God asking you to do something difficult?

Relational: How can you encourage someone who feels discouraged?

Mission: How can your words and actions help others know God?

Catechist Note

Following Jesus means choosing what is loving and right—even when it is difficult. Our “crosses” may be challenges such as forgiving someone, including a person who feels left out, obeying when we do not want to or standing up for what is right. Jesus does not ask us to face difficult things alone.

Sending Forth Prayer

**Lord, help us carry
Your love into the
world through our
words and actions.
Amen.**



Daily Readings

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 124

Reading 1

Jeremiah 20:7-9

You duped me, O LORD, and I let myself be duped;
you were too strong for me, and you triumphed.
All the day I am an object of laughter;
everyone mocks me.

Whenever I speak, I must cry out,
violence and outrage is my message;
the word of the LORD has brought me
derision and reproach all the day.

I say to myself, I will not mention him,
I will speak in his name no more.
But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones;
I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

R. (2b) **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**
O God, you are my God whom I seek;
for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts
like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary
to see your power and your glory,
for your kindness is a greater good than life;
my lips shall glorify you.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus will I bless you while I live;
lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.
As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied,
and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

You are my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.
My soul clings fast to you;
your right hand upholds me.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Reading 2

Romans 12:1-2

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.
Do not conform yourselves to this age
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,
that you may discern what is the will of God,
what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Alleluia

cf. Ephesians 1:17-18

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
that we may know what is the hope
that belongs to our call.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to show his disciples
that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly
from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes,
and be killed and on the third day be raised.
Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him,
"God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you."
He turned and said to Peter,
"Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me.
You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

Then Jesus said to his disciples,
"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself,
take up his cross, and follow me.
For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world
and forfeit his life?
Or what can one give in exchange for his life?
For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory,
and then he will repay all according to his conduct."