

Children's liturgy – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Preparation of the worship space

Colour: green

Song suggestions: Make me a channel of your peace (898, Laudate)

Welcome: In today's gospel we hear how Jesus did something very special at a wedding in Cana, changing water into wine. Let's think about the changes we can make in our lives and in our world.

Opening prayer: God of wonder, we know all things are possible for you. Help us to work together to change the world, so that it becomes a fairer place for all to live. Amen.

First reading (optional): Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm: Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10

Gospel acclamation: *everyone stands and sings the acclamation together.*

Gospel: John 2:1-11

Two days later there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine had given out, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no wine left."

"You must not tell me what to do," Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."

Jesus' mother then told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

The Jews have rules about ritual washing, and for this purpose six stone water jars were there, each one large enough to hold about a hundred litres. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill these jars with water." They filled them to the brim, and then he told them, "Now draw some water out and take it to the man in charge of the feast." They took him the water, which now had turned into wine, and he tasted it. He did not know where this wine had come from (but, of course, the servants who had drawn out the water knew); so he called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone else serves the best wine first, and after the guests have had plenty to drink, he serves the ordinary wine. But you have kept the best wine until now!"

Jesus performed this first miracle in Cana in Galilee; there he revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation® and used with permission, see details below)*

Gospel reflection: What do you remember from the reading today?

Jesus, his mother Mary, and the disciples were at a wedding, where they ran out of wine. Mary asked Jesus to help and so he changed some water into wine so that the celebration could continue.

How do you think that the servants must have felt when they saw that the water had turned into wine?

It must have been very surprising for them. And for the bride and bridegroom who were told that they had saved the best wine for last.

What do you think the word “miracle” means?

When we don't know how something happens, and we know it can only have been done by God, we call it a miracle. Turning the water into wine is the first miracle that Jesus performs. Can you think of any others? (*feeding the 5,000, healing people etc*)

Why do you think he performed this miracle, turning the water into wine? What does it tell us about him?

The miracle shows us how special and important Jesus is. It shows us that he is the Son of God and that he can do anything.

While we cannot work miracles, we can make real changes that make a difference to our own lives and the lives of others.

Joseph is a member of a CAFOD group in his primary school. They meet at lunchtime to do different activities and learn about, pray and help other children around the world who live in poverty.

Joseph and his friends planned their own CAFOD fundraiser to raise money to help even more children.

Thousands of children also let world leaders know that the eyes of the world were watching them ahead of the climate change talks last November. They made sure that their voices and the voices of those who are already facing floods, storms and natural disasters because of the changing climate were heard.

What changes do you think we can make to help build a fairer world, so that all people have what they need to live happy, healthy and peaceful lives?

Through seeing Jesus' miracle the disciples believed in him. Through our actions we hope that others will see that we believe in Jesus too.

Intercessions *You may want to ask the children to offer their own prayers or you can use the suggestions below.*

We know that all things are possible to God and so we pray together:

For more children's liturgy resources and illustrations see cafod.org.uk/childrensliturgy

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We pray for world leaders: that they may use their power wisely so all of their people can live free from poverty. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for people who are living in poverty throughout the world: that together with them we may never stop working for a fairer world and a future filled with hope. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, families and friends: that we may be inspired to make a difference, to change our own lives and reach out to help others who are trying to change their lives too. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God of life, may we be inspired by the miracles that your Son Jesus performed, to do our best to make a real difference to others around the world. Amen.

Activity suggestions

Invite the children to colour in the accompanying illustration and on the back to write or draw one thing that they would like to change about the world.

Encourage the children to share all that they have heard and thought about today with the people at home. Remind them to try to do something this week to make a real difference to another person, either locally or overseas.

*Gospel passage taken from:

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