



Children's liturgy – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome: Today we hear Jesus telling people what it is he has come to do. One of the things he says is that he has come to bring good news to people who are poor. Our faith calls us to do the same. Let's think a bit more about what this good news is and how we can share it with others today.

Opening prayer: Loving God, you sent your Son Jesus to share the good news of your love for everyone. May we also share this good news through our words and all that we do. Amen.

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Dear Theophilus:

Many people have done their best to write a report of the things that have taken place among us. They wrote what we have been told by those who saw these things from the beginning and who proclaimed the message. And so, Your Excellency, because I have carefully studied all these matters from their beginning, I thought it would be good to write an orderly account for you. I do this so that you will know the full truth about everything which you have been taught.

Then Jesus returned to Galilee, and the power of the Holy Spirit was with him. The news about him spread throughout all that territory. He taught in the synagogues and was praised by everyone.

Then Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath he went as usual to the synagogue. He stood up to read the Scriptures and was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it is written,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people."

Jesus rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. All the people in the synagogue had their eyes fixed on him, as he said to them, "This passage of scripture has come true today, as you heard it being read."

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

Jesus is teaching in the synagogue. He reads a passage from the Scriptures which is about himself (although the people listening don't know that until he explains it afterwards).

The Scripture passage talks about what Jesus has been sent to do. What does it say?

It says that he has come to bring good news to people who are poor. What do you think this means?

Can you remember a time when you heard some good news? What was it? Can you tell me about it?

Good news means different things to different people. It can be confidence, peace, enough food, a safe place to live, light in the darkness, doing well at school, getting to spend the day with friends.

We are all God's children. God loves us all. No matter where in the world we are, whether we are rich or poor, and we should all have the chance to live in a world of peace, dignity and fairness. This is the good news of Jesus.

This year is a special Jubilee Year. In the Bible a Jubilee Year was a time of renewal and celebration. Debts were cancelled, people could rest, and because crops weren't planted even the land was able to rest. It was also a time of freedom: prisoners and slaves were freed, and land was given to those who didn't have any. Just like Jesus talks about in today's reading.

Jesus makes it clear that his mission is to bring the justice and freedom of the Jubilee. We can share in this mission to create a world of justice, peace and love. How do you think we can make the world a fairer, more peaceful place for everyone?

We now celebrate a Jubilee Year every 25 years and for this Jubilee, Pope Francis has asked us all to be "Pilgrims of Hope". This hope comes from knowing that God loves each one of us, whoever we are.

How do you think we can try to share Jesus' good news and the hope of the Jubilee with our brothers and sisters around the world today?

Activity

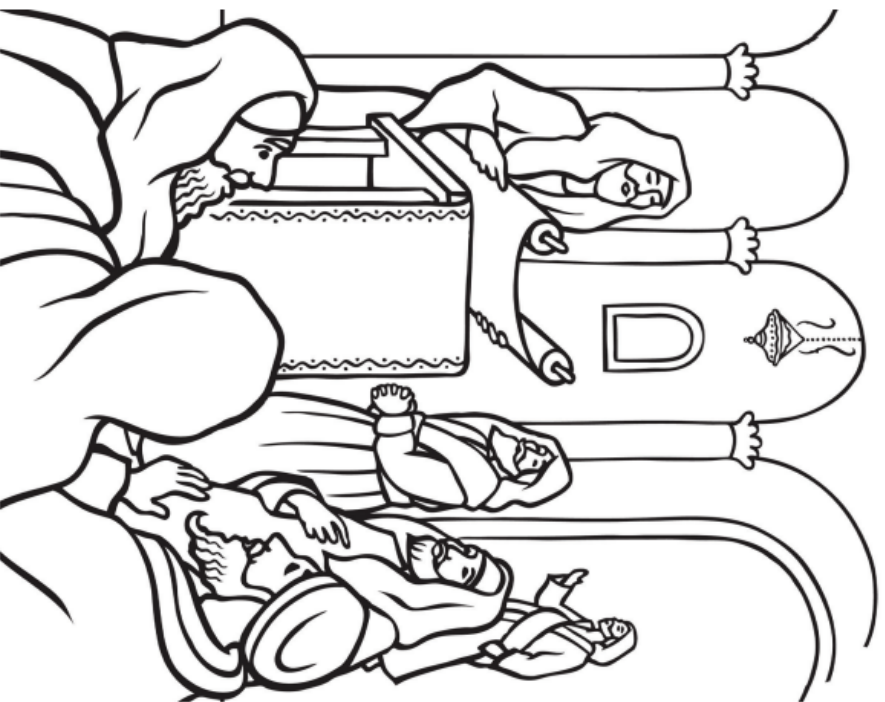
Colour in the accompanying activity sheet and write or draw on the back write your own Jubilee prayer using the prompts on the sheet.

Remember to share all that you have heard and thought about during the liturgy with your family during and to try to share the hope and freedom of the Jubilee in our world this week.

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C

Gospel: Luke 11-4; 4:14-21

"Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."



A year of Jubilee

Jesus announces the Jubilee (the year of the Lord's favour) - a time when people can rest, make a fresh start and look after each other and the world. Jesus proclaims good news for those experiencing poverty, new sight for the blind and freedom. **Use the back of this sheet to draw what a joyful Jubilee world might look like.**

Renew, Reset, Recommit

Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year with the theme Pilgrims of Hope. **Make your own prayer for the Jubilee in the dotted lines.**

God of new beginnings

we know you care about all that is wrong in our world,

Walk with us in this Jubilee year,

Pilgrims of hope, and give us more...

RENEW
What do you think we need more of? Hope, courage, love or something else.

RESET
What places or situations in the world do you especially want to pray for?

*Thank you for the chance for a fresh start
and to set things right.
We pray for change in our world, especially...*

*Help us to see where you are at work in our world today,
and help us to join you, showing your love by...*

RECOMMIT
What will you do to join God's Jubilee this year. How will you show love?