

## Sunday in the Octave of Christmas

### The Holy Family

26<sup>th</sup> December 2021

#### Preparing the prayer space

Place a white cloth on the table or floor (white – the colour for solemnity)

Place a cross, bible, and candle on it. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

#### Prepare materials

- YouTube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
- Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
- Print out sheet if required



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

#### Gather around the prayer space as a family

**Parent/Caregiver:** In today's gospel, we hear that after the feast of the Passover, Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the temple listening to the leaders and asking them questions.

#### Opening prayer:

Lord God, help us to have confidence and to trust in you. Lead us down the path that will allow us to come closer to understanding your great plans for us.

#### Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (2:41-52)

**All:** Glory to you O, Lord.

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for Passover. And when Jesus was twelve years old, they all went there as usual for the celebration.

After Passover his parents left, but they did not know that Jesus had stayed on in the city. They thought he was traveling with some other people, and they went a whole day before they started looking for him. When they could not find him with their relatives and friends, they went back to Jerusalem and started looking for him there.

Three days later they found Jesus sitting in the temple, listening to the teachers and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was surprised at how much he knew and at the answers he gave.

When his parents found him, they were amazed. His mother said, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been very worried, and we have been searching for you!"

Jesus answered, "Why did you have to look for me? Didn't you know that I would be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he meant.

Jesus went back to Nazareth with his parents and obeyed them.

#### The gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

#### Prayerfully watch the videos together

Finding Jesus in the temple [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ho\\_3gvIWzbu](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ho_3gvIWzbu) (1:30-3:15min)

Jesus Teaches in His Father's House <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lg5yHuk0wQ>

### Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder how they realised Jesus was not with them...

I wonder what it would have been like for Joseph and Mary...

I wonder why Jesus was in the temple...

I wonder what the teachers in the temple were thinking...

I wonder how Jesus may have felt knowing his parents were worried...

I wonder what I can do to listen more to my parents...

### Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

*I Believe* - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVkgGQ> (4 mins)

**Intercessions:** Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.  
(*We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer'*)

1 We pray Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, all Church and world leaders will lead their communities with wisdom, courage and in good faith.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for all immigrants, refugees and the homeless that they will find a place to call home.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray that all the members of our Church will remember to welcome those who may feel lost, displaced or lonely.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*)

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for our world, that there will be peace and harmony among people who experience division and separation.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

**Closing prayer:** We lift our hearts and the prayers of our community. We make these prayers through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Closing song:** Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWeXVnRm6R8> (4:09min)

### Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has end.

- **Prayer journal**

Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).

- **Colouring In**

<https://sundayschoolzone.com/activity/where-was-jesus-coloring-page/view/>

- **Young Jesus in the Temple**

Create the scene of Jesus in the temple <https://www.jesus-without-language.net/young-jesus-luke-2-make-2/>

- **Sunday Connection**

As you gather as a family, have fun playing the game "How well do you know me?" ... Observe that one thing about families is that we learn to know each other well. <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/holy-family-of-jesus-mary-and-joseph-c-sunday-connect/>