

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

12 February 2023 - Year A

“Be reconciled before you offer your gift.”

Something to Think About

What does it mean to be a peacemaker? How can you be a peacemaker in your family this week?

The Story

Jesus' message in today's short reading is simple: if we are to be true disciples, it's not so much what we say, but what we do that counts. He is saying to the people, "Don't pretend to be something you are not". Being a peacemaker is one way of showing a commitment to God's Kingdom. Jesus wants us to be peacemakers.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

5:23-24

Jesus said to his disciples:

"If you are about to place your gift on the altar and remember that someone is angry with you, leave your gift there in front of the altar.

Make peace with that person, then come back and offer your gift to God."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

Click to watch the video:

[We Can Be Peacemakers](#)



Group Discussion

Discuss with the children what it means for them - at their age and stage of development - to live in right relationships with all people and all of creation. How might you treat people with kindness? How might you show someone you are sorry? How might you take care of God's creation so that it stays beautiful for other people to enjoy?

Praying For Others

Leader: Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

Reader 1: We pray that our leaders will care for all people and for the environment. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for people we find it difficult to forgive. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for people who show us how to be gentle and loving. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray that we will be peaceful people. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray that our actions will match our words as we follow Jesus. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



Dear Jesus,
Fill our hearts with love for all people.
Help our actions to match our words as
we do our best to follow you.
Amen.

Group Activity

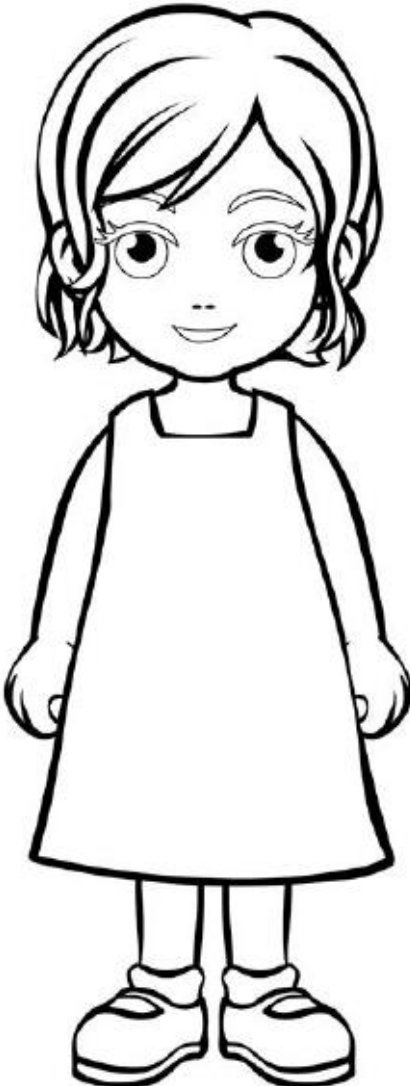
I AM A PEACEMAKER

You will need: a worksheet for each child, coloured markers, optional decorative craft items.

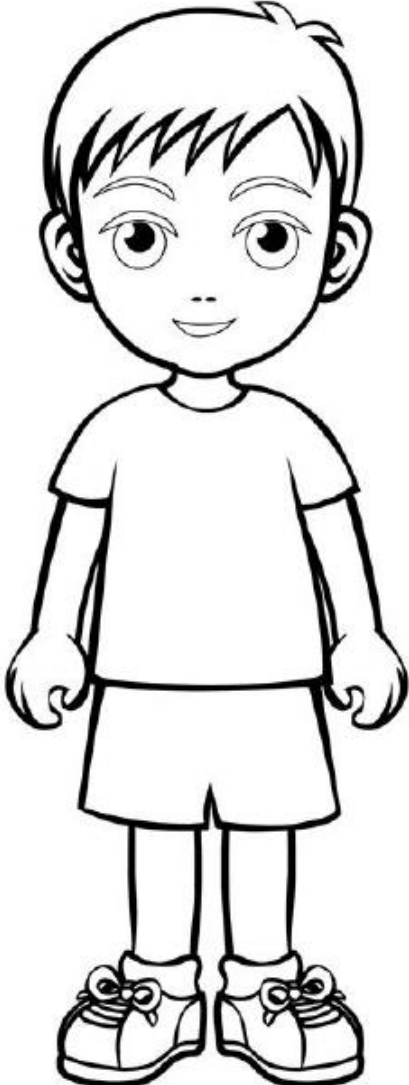
- 1) Talk to children about how they might be a peacemaker this week.
- 2) Invite children to draw or write about this on the worksheet in the 'thinking bubble'.
- 3) Children may then colour in the rest of the page.
- 4) There may be time for a sharing session, where children can present their peacemaking ideas.



I am a peacemaker when I ...



I am a peacemaker when I ...



JESUS SAYS: MAKE PEACE!

Write or draw a story of how
you made peace with a friend

A close-up photograph of a person's hand making the peace sign (V-sign) against a light blue background. The hand is positioned horizontally, with the index and middle fingers extended upwards and the thumb tucked down. The skin tone is a natural brown color.

WHAT DOES THIS SIGN MEAN?