

DIY Sunday school for the 5th Sunday in Lent

From St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto

March 29, 2020

(Parents - for the art activities this week, you can get by with paper and things to colour with. If you're feeling more ambitious, there are options to make window paint, go outside with sidewalk chalk, or collect rocks and paint on them. And don't forget to let me know if you and your kids would like to be next week's song leaders: send me the video!)

Below is a script you can use to take your kids through Sunday school, along with links to some videos, and some supplemental images of the craft and the day's reading. This week we got extra special help from both Mother Johanna AND Adam McComb. Thank you both!!

PLEASE!! Send us pictures of your beautiful rainbows and videos of your songs!

With care and prayer,
Your SMM children and youth team

1. Welcome

Welcome, everyone, to the Fifth Sunday in Lent!

Things are still a little different, and we can't see each other yet, but I know that all the kids and grownups at St Mary Magdalene are sending out lots of love and prayers. We're all doing our part at home, and today in Sunday school, we're going to come up with some *new* ways to send out love and joy into the world.

Today in Sunday school we'll hear a lesson about hope and new life – Jesus does something miraculous – but all around us, there are also signs of hope and new life. Maybe you've even seen some of them in the ground? The next time you're outside, look for any buds and leaves emerging from the ground, or on trees. So, we're also going to watch other stories of new life and hope together, and think about how all of us can help out.

For now, let's sing our welcome song along with this week's very special guests: Fisher, Aven and their mom, Marlene

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/03bgae8zt55os1z/Fisher%26AvenPrayerandFasting.mov?dl=0>

2. Story: either Miss Rumphius OR the Very Hungry Caterpillar OR both

(We've chosen 2 stories this week - Miss Rumphius is probably better for kids 3-4 and up, and the Caterpillar is wonderful for the littlest. If you have two kids in your house, you could always watch both)

Ms Rumphius: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxh8ZPU_HfY

Very Hungry Caterpillar: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXHScpo_Vv8

3. Questions and Discussion

I wonder...

- What 3 things did Miss Rumphius learn as a little girl?
- What adventures did she have?
- What did she do to make the world more beautiful?
- how could WE make the world more beautiful

OR/AND

I wonder...

- What did the caterpillar eat?
- Which foods in the book do YOU like to eat?
- What happened to the caterpillar at the end? What was it like to be in a cocoon?
- Let's pretend: can we be caterpillars? Cocoons? butterflies?

4. Activity: Hide and Seek (we found that several stories/videos in a row was too much for some families - let's move)

OK, let's come back together:

What was it like to hide?

Were you curled up in a dark space? Did you want to be found?

Today, we'll hear a story about Jesus bringing someone out of a dark space, and we'll think about what it was like to wait for that to happen.

5. Today's Lesson: Mary, Martha and Lazarus (John 11: 1-45) - picture bible pages attached

Mother Johanna has put together a special lesson to talk us through the story of Lazarus.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWCsbdzPVeU&feature=youtu.be>

(Further questions, if appropriate)

- How do you think Mary and Martha felt before Jesus arrived? How would you feel?
- How did they feel afterwards?
- What would it be like to be Lazarus, coming out of the tomb? How would you feel?

6. Craft: "It Will Be Ok" Rainbows for Windows

Right now, we're all stuck inside - on rainy days, or when we're tired or cranky or sad, it can feel a little like being in a tomb. But just like Lazarus, and Mary, and Martha, we can have faith that this is not forever, that things will change and we will emerge.

We can have HOPE and we can have FAITH.

We can also share that hope with other people; we can make messages of hope and faith for other people to see.

And, at the same time, we will make the world more beautiful — just like Miss Rumphius!
Our world will transform — just like the hungry caterpillar!

All over the world right now, kids and adults are making and drawing pictures of rainbows to put up in their windows, telling other people that it will be ok. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51953553>

We know that the rainbow is a very special sign; it reminds us of God's promise to take care of people, that he sent to Noah after the flood.

SO today, we are going to make rainbows to share with other people. Attached to this email are some images to inspire you!

You will need paper and markers or crayons or pencils, and tape to put it up in the window.

You could also paint or draw right on the window if you want:

<https://rootedchildhood.com/window-painting-for-kids/>;

<https://handsonaswegrow.com/art-homemade-window-paint-take-2/>

For the real craft enthusiasts...

<https://www.smartschoolhouse.com/diy-crafts/stained-glass-art>

Or, if you have sidewalk chalk, you can take it outside and draw on your sidewalk or front steps, and write hopeful happy messages for people to see when they go by

If you have the materials and are feeling inspired, you could paint rocks with rainbows or signs of spring, and leave them behind you as you go on a walk for other people to see.

7. Goodbye Prayer and Song

This brings us to the end of Sunday school for today. Let's say our goodbye prayer together, and sing our goodbye song, and we'll come back together again next week.

Dear God

You are the source of hope and of all new life

Thank you for giving us this day, and this spring

And for reminding us of your goodness with each new bud and flower

With each caterpillar and butterfly

Help us to bring bring hope to our family and friends, and everyone in the community

And to make the world more beautiful every day

And in those moments when things are a little sad or scary,

And it's hard to stay hopeful,

We know you are with us — always and forever.

In Jesus' name we pray

Amen

Song: Once again, let's join this week's song leaders, Fisher and Aven!

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/v0env17equtqliy/Fisher%26AvenGoodbyeSong.mov?dl=0>