



Liturgy of the Word with Children

Te Ritenga o te Kupu hei ngā Tamariki

Prepared by the Liturgy Centre, Catholic Diocese of Auckland

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Green

'The first disciples' or 'Come and see'

1 Samuel 3:4-10, 19 Psalm 40 John 1:35-42

*"Here I am Lord, your servant is listening."
With these words we echo the words of the boy Samuel
each day of our lives. We are assured of the same
answer as the Apostles when we ask "Where do you live
Lord?" the reply is always the same
"Come and see."*



Leader's Preparation

In preparation for leading this celebration begin by reading and reflecting on the Scriptures for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, starting with the Gospel. (You may choose to use or focus on one reading only, but remember that the Gospel may not be omitted.) Then look through the preparatory material that follows and familiarise yourself with the Liturgy Outline.

GOSPEL

John 1:35-42

On one occasion John was with two of his followers. When he saw Jesus walking by, he said, "Here is the Lamb of God!" John's two followers heard him, and they went with Jesus.

When Jesus turned and saw them, he asked, "What do you want?"

They answered, "Rabbi, where do you live?" The Hebrew word "Rabbi" means "Teacher."

Jesus replied, "Come and see!" It was already about four o'clock in the afternoon when they went with him and saw where he lived. So they stayed on for the rest of the day. One of the two men who had heard John and had gone with Jesus was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother and tell him, "We have found the Messiah!" The Hebrew word "Messiah" means the same as the Greek word "Christ." Andrew brought his brother to Jesus. And when Jesus saw him, he said, "Simon son of John, you will be called Cephas." This name can be translated as "Peter."





Samuel was sleeping in the temple when the Lord called out to him. "Here I am," Samuel answered. He ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, sir. What can I do for you?"

Eli replied, "I didn't call you. Go back to bed." So Samuel went back.

Once more the Lord called Samuel's name. Samuel got up. He went to Eli and said, "Here I am. What can I do for you?" But Eli told him, "Son, I didn't call you. Now go back to sleep."

Samuel did not realise that the Lord was speaking, because this was the first time the Lord had spoken to him. When the Lord spoke a third time that night, Samuel again went to Eli and said, "Here I am. What can I do for you?" Eli now knew that it was the Lord who was speaking to Samuel. So Eli told him, "Go back to bed. If someone speaks to you again, answer, 'Lord, I am your servant. Speak, and I will listen.'" Once again Samuel went back and lay down.

The Lord came and stood beside Samuel. Then he called out as he had done before, "Samuel! Samuel!" The boy replied, "Lord, I am your servant. Speak, and I will listen."

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and made everything he said come true.

PSALM

Psalm 40

Response: **Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**
or **Alleluia!**

I patiently waited, Lord, for you to hear my prayer.

You listened and you gave me a new song, a song of praise to you. **R**

"I enjoy pleasing you. Your Law is in my heart."

You, Lord, never fail to have pity on me;

your love and faithfulness always keep me secure. **R**

Background to the Readings for Leaders

Eli had hoped his own sons would succeed him at the temple, but God had other plans, through Samuel, prophet and kingmaker the twelve tribes of Israel will become a nation. John the Baptist's mission was to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus and then direct them to him and away from himself. Jesus is identified by John as "The Lamb of God" that is, one whose life is to be a sacrificial offering—the Messiah. John's testimony sets in motion the attachment of the first disciples to Jesus. In the final verse Jesus calls Peter by a new name indicating that he is taking on a whole new way of life, that he has made a life-changing choice. To be a disciple of the Christ is to be completely transformed and to embark on a new direction in life.

Images from the Readings

- "Here I am"
- "I will listen"
- Lamb of God
- "Come and See"

Reflection for Leaders

In today's First Reading and Gospel we have a parallel between the calling of the two disciples and the hearing of Samuel.

In the Gospel the invitation "come and see" is made to us too —we follow, listen and remain with Jesus because we believe he is what we need. The call to be a follower of Jesus is just the beginning though. Growing within the body of Christ, the community, is a lifelong process. Year by year our understanding of what and who we are is fed by listening to the scriptures, participating in the liturgy and prayer to our creator as a true Christian, with and through Christ. In the First Testament it was God who called people to share life, in the New Testament it is Jesus who calls to new life.

Leaders might like to retell for the children the story of Hannah, Eli and Samuel.

Reflecting on the Readings with the children

Before Sunday read over the suggested discussion points given in the Leader's Liturgy Outline. With the 8-12 year olds: First, listen to the children's own responses to the Reading/s and then, if needed, use some of the discussion starters suggested.

With the 5-7 year olds: Adapt some of the questions in the 8-12 material and then join with the older group for the 'Liturgical Action'.

Suggested Focus

Prepare a focus for the area where the children's Liturgy of the Word is to be held:

Green cloth (ordinary time), Lectionary, candle.



LEADER'S LITURGY OUTLINE

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

At a suitable moment after the Opening Rites, but before the First Reading is proclaimed, the children are presented with the Children's Lectionary and a candle and sent, with their ministers, to the place where they will celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word, with words of dismissal such as the following:

INVITATION – Pōwhiri I invite the children to join in the procession for their celebration of the Liturgy of the Word.

To the Minister of the Word: Receive this Book of Readings and proclaim God's Word faithfully to the children entrusted to your care.

Receive this candle as the light of Christ who is present in his Word.

PROCESSION WITH THE BOOK OF READINGS – Te Kapa o te Pukapuka Tapu

WELCOME – Ko te whakatau

Leader: O God, Help us to be open to you in our lives and to seek you out for we know that you love us. Amen.

R Amen.

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:4-10,19

(if used)

The Word of the Lord / Ko te Kupu a te Ariki
Thanks be to God / Whakamoemiti ki te Atua

Psalm 40 **Response:** Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will
or Alleluia!

D G Bm A D G Asus⁴ A



General: Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Fill us O Lord with your word._____

Bm G D A G A D



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Your word is life for our souls.

Gospel: John 1:35-42

Minister of the Word: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Children: **Glory to you, O Lord / Korōria ki ā koe, e te Ariki**

At the end of the Gospel: The Gospel of the Lord

Children: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ / Kia whakanuia rā koe, e te Ariki, e Hēhu Karaiti.**

REFLECTING ON THE READINGS WITH THE CHILDREN – Whai Whakaaro

8-12 year olds: *Suggested Beginning: A good place to begin is with the question: What did you hear? Allow each child the opportunity to respond in their own words to hearing the Word of God. Then begin a general discussion, building on these responses, perhaps using some prepared questions, like the following, to stimulate ideas.*

- John the Baptist described Jesus as the “Lamb of God.” Why did John compare Jesus to a lamb? (To encourage discussion, try to provide a picture of a lamb for the children to look at.)
- Lambs are meek and gentle, just as Jesus was. Often they were offered by people as a sacrifice to God to show their love for him. Jesus was sent by his heavenly father to proclaim the Good News and to save us. Like a lamb, he was prepared to be sacrificed, to suffer and to die out of love for us, so that we could share everlasting life in heaven.
- When John pointed Jesus out, what did the two men do? John had often told his followers about the one who was to come after him: the Messiah promised by God. John urged his followers to go with Jesus and to become his disciples, so they followed him.



- What did Jesus do when he saw the two men following him? He invited them to join him and took them to his home. They were completely amazed by this meeting, and marvelled at everything Jesus said.
- One of these men became an apostle of Jesus. Do you know his name? His name was Andrew, and he was the brother of Simon Peter. After this first meeting with Jesus he ran to tell his brother Simon Peter all about Jesus because he believed that Jesus really was the saviour of the world.
- Do we respond to God's call by saying "Speak Lord your servant is listening?"

5-7 year olds: Adapt some of the questions in the 8-12 material and then join with the older group for the 'Liturgical Action'

LITURGICAL ACTION – Ko te Ritenga Karakia

Sing or pray as an 'echo prayer': *Speak From Your Heart, Monica Brown (As One Voice Vol. 2, 108)*

Refrain: You can speak from your heart to me, O Jesus,
 You can say anything you'd like to say to me,
 And I will speak from my heart to you, O Jesus,
 And say to you whatever I'd like to say.

PROFESSION OF FAITH – Panui o te Whakapono

We believe in God the Father,
 who made the whole world.
 We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
 who was born in Bethlehem
 and lived among us,
 who died on the cross for us,
 and rose from the dead.
 We believe in the Holy Spirit
 who brings life and love to us all.
 We believe that the Church is one family,
 and that one day
 we will share everlasting life
 with God in heaven.
 Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL – *Te Īnoinga o te Hunga Whakapono*

(Here are some suggested intercessions; you are encouraged to compose your own according to the age and experience of the children)

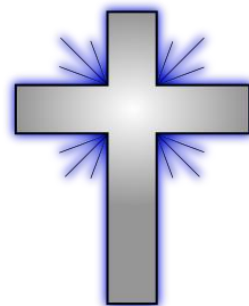
Leader: Full of the hope of the Gospel let us bring our needs before God.

- For the Church where her people learn to give and receive forgiveness.
Let us pray to the Lord ℟ Lord hear our prayer
or **E te Ariki whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou**
- For an end to war and violence in the world. Let us pray to the Lord.
Let us pray to the Lord ℟ Lord hear our prayer
or **E te Ariki whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou**
- That the people of Aotearoa New Zealand will always seek fairness and justice.
Let us pray to the Lord ℟ Lord hear our prayer
or **E te Ariki whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou**
- For the grace to be gentle with our family, friends and all people.
Let us pray to the Lord ℟ Lord hear our prayer
or **E te Ariki whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou**

Leader: O God you care for your people, shower your blessings on us and on those for whom we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

The children rejoin the assembly before the prayers over the gifts.



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Liquid Picture

John 1:35-42

The first disciples

Note to leaders: The following **liquid picture** is appropriate to use with children of any age but especially suitable for **younger children**.

How to do liquid pictures:

Liquid Pictures is a form of drama which allows a story to be presented in a flowing or liquid manner. The process follows this pattern:

- Divide the story or Scriptural passage into five or six main statements.
- Accompany each statement with a simple action that can be held in a freeze frame position.
- Choose one child to say each statement and do a simple action. These children form a straight line facing the audience.
- A leader introduces the story.
- The first child steps forward, repeats the statement two or three times (once is not enough for children to remember!) then freezes.
- The second child steps forward, repeats the statement and freezes.
- The process continues until the last child finishes.
- The leader concludes with a simple statement.

Leader: There is Jesus, the Lamb of God!

What do you want?

Rabbi where do you live ?

Come and see!

The disciples followed Jesus.

We have found the Messiah!

Leader: Peter and the other disciples followed Jesus.



From 'Just Imagine 4, Many Creative ways of presenting Scripture' written by Rina Wintour, Mountjoy Enterprises, www.mountjoyenterprises.com.au. Available from the Liturgy Centre.