

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B – Family Lesson Plan

Prepare Prayer Area – Prayer cloth (white during the seven weeks of Easter season), candle to represent the Light of Christ, Bible, Cross/Crucifix, children’s artwork from previous weeks, items from nature, other symbols of choice. **A vine or branch with stems.**

Opening Prayer – (Easter has arrived, we can once again rejoice with Alleluias.)

Alleluia, Alleluia, **Jesus has risen.**

Alleluia, Alleluias, **he is the Light of the world.**

Preparation for Sunday Scripture Readings – Jesus says that he is like a vine and we are branches of the vine.

Read today’s Gospel – John 15:1-5, 7-8 (children’s version found on the home page of our website)

Reflect on the Gospel – Use the discussion points below that fit the age/s of child/ren:

- What did you hear?
- Discuss the story of Jesus as the vine and ourselves as its branches.
- What do you think Jesus is trying to tell us in the story of the vineyard?
- Why did he call himself the vine and us the branches? What did he mean?
- What can you do to produce lots of fruit?
- How can we stay joined to Jesus?

Closing Prayer

Leader: Taking confidence from God’s word in the readings we ask for our needs:

- For the Church, that it will be a place where people grow.

Let us pray to the Lord & Lord hear our prayer

- That people who have power over others will have compassion grow in their hearts.

Let us pray to the Lord & Lord hear our prayer

- For the sick, the hungry and those who are lonely.

Let us pray to the Lord & Lord hear our prayer

- That we will be of the growing part of the Lord’s vine.

Let us pray to the Lord & Lord hear our prayer

- For whom and what else shall we pray?

Leader: God, keeper of the vineyard, the One in whom we trust, hear the prayers we your children make to you. Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

A variety of activities are available and linked on the “Gospel Reading” page on our website homepage.