

Holy Spirit uses the “Sunday Book of Readings, The Lectionary Adapted for Children” and the Leader Guide to share the Liturgical readings with our children. This week you will find our readings for reflection are from Year A.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word Reflection – All Saints Day

Psalm 15

Response: “Those who seek your face Lord, with a pure heart, shall stand in your Holy Place!”

“The feast of All Saints focuses attention on two of our fundamental beliefs as Christians: we are baptized into a community and we live forever.”

- We are children of God now!
- We live our lives to strive to be good and live the way Jesus taught us.
- *The saints are those children of God who have lived the beatitudes.*

Summary of the Readings:

First Reading: 1 John 3:1-3 (*This is a reading from the first letter of John.*)

Brothers and Sisters,

See how much God loves us! John’s first letter tells us that we are called, “children of God.” He speaks of when Jesus comes again, that we will be like him. We will see him as he really is. Everyone who believes this tries to be good and pure. Just as we know Jesus is good and pure.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12 (*This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew.*)

In the Gospel reading today, Jesus speaks to his disciples up on the mountain. He teaches them “The Beatitudes”. The beatitudes are for us a way of life. Below is an excerpt from the Catholic Children’s Bible for the children.

“The Catholic Children’s Bible”

“The Beatitudes”

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean in heart,
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

(Based on Matthew 5:3-10)

Helping the Children to Reflect:

Today we will reflect on how we live the beatitudes because we are children of God. As Christians they are our way of life. Remind the children that we do not need to earn a relationship with God by living the beatitudes, we are already children of God. Just like we do not earn our families love by being kind and good. We are good and kind because we already love one and other.

Reflection Activity:

Tell the children that the Saints are people who lived to love and help others. They live forever with God. As a family pick a Saint that speaks to your hearts. Research this Saint's life together and ask yourselves these questions:

- What did this Saint do in their life that speaks to your heart?
- What are some things you could do to be like this person?
- What things do you do now that remind you of this Saint's life?

“You are blessed all you who hear me; you are blessed if you live by my Word.”

