

**NEW! WEEKLY GOSPEL
REFLECTION VIDEOS**

CHILDREN'S LEAFLETS

Liturgy of the Word with Children

★ Children Celebrate!



Spring 2023 (Year A)

FEBRUARY 26, 2023 | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

through **MAY 21, 2023** | ASCENSION / SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Readings

The readings cited are the readings contained in the *Lectionary for Masses with Children*. These readings may differ at times from those heard by the adults. They may be shorter, there may be only one reading, plus the Psalm and the Gospel, or the First Readings may be different altogether from those the adults hear. The Gospel most always is the same, but may be the shorter form. The *Directory for Masses with Children* allows for these differences to accommodate the children's level of comprehension.



Activities

The last three pages of this book offer bonus activities intended for use by children who are pre-readers or beginning readers. Here are some suggestions, but all three activities could be used at any time. The first bonus activity brings to mind the Transfiguration of the Lord, which is the Gospel for March 5, 2023, the Second Sunday of Lent. The second bonus activity is based on the Gospel of the Good Shepherd from April 30, 2023, the Fourth Sunday of Easter. And the third bonus activity celebrates the Resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023 (this appears last to allow for the cut out portion of the activity).



Weekly Gospel Reflection Videos!

Available to subscribers of *Children Celebrate!* Visit <https://bit.ly/3Gea28P> for weekly Gospel Reflection videos. These videos can be used within your Children's Liturgy of the Word program or shared with parents and families to view at home.

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April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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Liturgy of the Word with Children

Today's Readings

Acts 2:14a, 36–41
Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 6
John 10:1–10



We Pray

Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd.
Guide us every day. Amen.

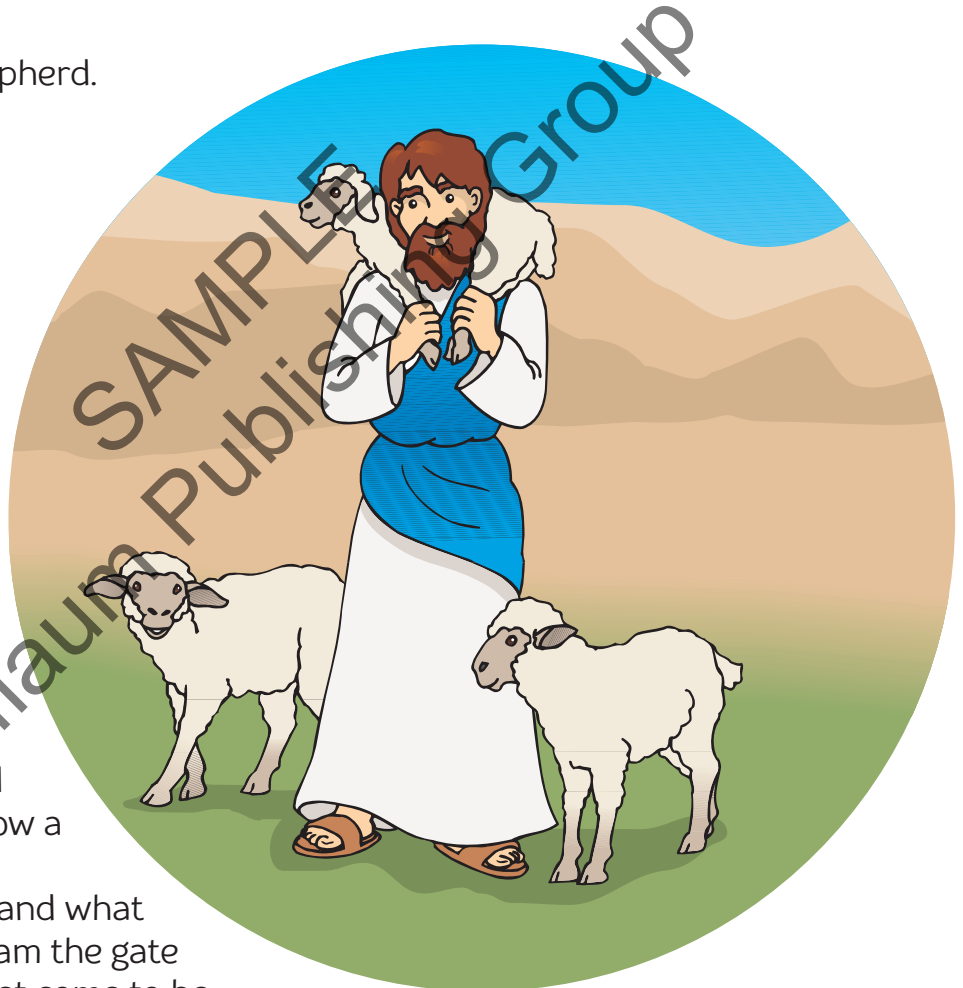


The Word of God This Week

Jesus Is the Savior

Jesus said, “Only thieves and robbers climb over the fence. The gatekeeper always opens the gate for the shepherd. The shepherd calls each sheep by name. The sheep know the shepherd’s voice and will follow him. They will not follow a stranger’s voice.”

The people didn’t understand what he was saying, so he said, “I am the gate through which everyone must come to be saved. Anyone who has come before me was false.”



Visit <https://bit.ly/3Gea28P> for this week's Gospel Reflection, Saint Spotlight, and more.

Activity

Beginning at the arrow, write down every other letter to find out what Jesus said in this week's Gospel. Cross out every other letter as you work. The first letter has been done for you.

Scan here
for family
resources.



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Family Corner

Faith Focus

So often we tell our children not to follow the crowd. We want them to become independent thinkers. So how do we get across the concept of following Christ? Perhaps the best way is to make the mention of Jesus' name and goodness part of our everyday vocabulary. If we give examples of doing things or handling situations as Jesus would, the more meaningful the concept of the Good Shepherd will become.

Family Activity

Cut an outline of a sheep out of construction paper. Keep a supply of cotton balls and a bottle of glue near the sheep. During this coming week, invite each family member to place a cotton ball in the sheep's body every time he or she has done something helpful for others. At a meal or another gathering time toward the end of the week, share some of the good things each family member has done.

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