



Catholic Education Week 2016 Children's Liturgy Material



"Learning to be Merciful."



We begin with the sign of the cross:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let's *Listen* to His Word together:

Readings adapted from the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time,



A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Love is patient, love is kind.

It is not jealous, it is not pompous,

it is not inflated, it is not rude,

it does not seek its own interests,

it is not quick-tempered, it does not

brood over injury,

it does not rejoice over wrongdoing

but rejoices with the truth.

It bears all things, believes all

things,

hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

So faith, hope, love remain, these three;

but the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God



Let's think about the message together:

Leader: This week is called 'Catholic Education Week'. During this week we think about what it means to grow and learn as boys and girls who believe in God.

This year the theme for Catholic Education Week is:

"Learning to be Merciful."

Mercy is sometimes explained using the same words as St. Paul uses for love. If you show mercy to someone it is a way of loving them so you are kind to them, you are patient with them, you forgive them and in doing these things, you show them how they should treat other people.



Messages from today's readings

All the things that love is

All the things that love is not!

Love never fails

Love lasts

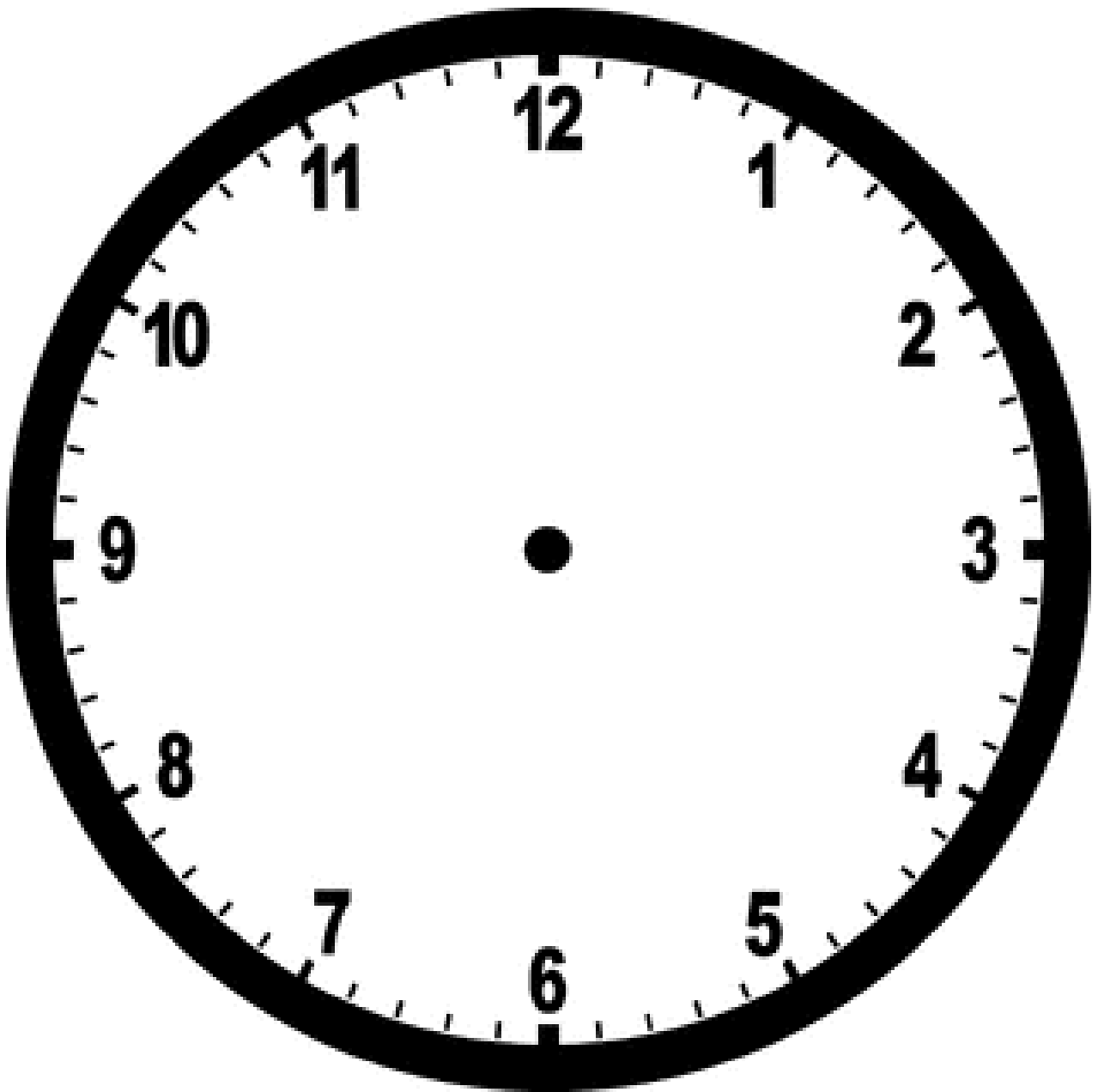
ACTIVITIES:

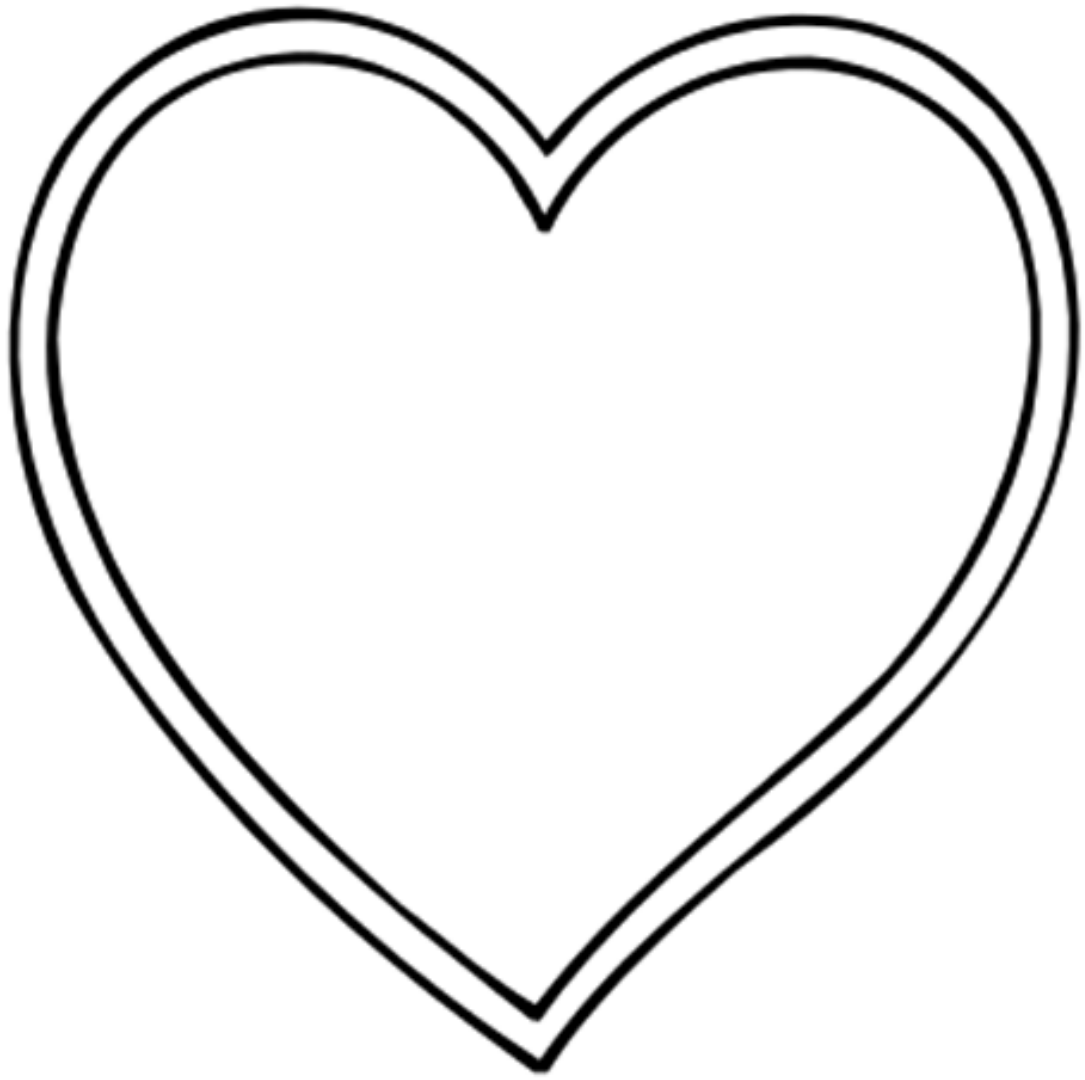
Ask the children to look at the 'messages' from today's readings. Explain what each one means and invite the pupils to talk about all the times that they have been patient or kind this week.

Tell the children that St. Paul wrote these beautiful words in a letter to his friends. Ask them to imagine that they received the letter in the post from Paul and that he has asked them to reply. They can reply by choosing one of the activities below.

Children can choose which activity to complete:

- 1) Write a letter to St. Paul telling him all of the ways that you have shown love to others. You can write your letter on one of the clock or heart templates if you want.**
- 2) Draw a picture of one way that you have been patient (the clock face) or kind (the love heart)**
- 3) Write a prayer in the love heart template thanking God for the gift of faith and for all the people who love you.**







Pray together: If you have time, in silence think and pray about all the good things that you have done and said today. Ask God to help you to continue to show people your faith tomorrow.



You could conclude your time together by displaying all of your 'patience' and 'kindness' activities for the parish to read.

Catholic Education Week Prayer:

**Father of all,
in your love for us,
help us to develop our own talents
so that we may become like Jesus
and lead lives of goodness.**

**Bless all learners
and all teachers.**

**Help us, through our learning,
to believe in you
and to celebrate the life of your Church.**

**Help us to grow in holiness
as we grow in friendship with you
and try to become saints.**

**We make this prayer
in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen**

