

Fourth Sunday of Lent

14th March 2021

Preparing the prayer space

Place a purple cloth on the table or floor (purple – the colour for Lent)

Place a cross, bible and candle on it. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

- Youtube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
- Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
- Print out sheet if required



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND https://ministry-to-children.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Nicodemus-at-Night-150x150.jpg](https://ministry-to-children.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Nicodemus-at-Night-150x150.jpg)

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver:

Today, we hear that Jesus tells Nicodemus something very special and important. He tells Nicodemus that God sent him into the world. This is because God wanted to show all people how much he loves us by sending his only son to save us.

Opening prayer: Heavenly Father, you love us so much that you sent Jesus to be with us. Help us to open our hearts to love you more and by following Jesus, we can show others how much you love them too. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to John (3:16-17).

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

Jesus told Nicodemus:

“God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never die.

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn its people. He sent him to save them!”

The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the videos together

Jesus and Nicodemus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7743kxargw>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEqxNIqqgY0>

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why Jesus and Nicodemus met at night time ...

I wonder how Nicodemus was feeling when Jesus was speaking ...

I wonder what Nicodemus was thinking...

I wonder if other people's hearts would change if they heard Jesus' words too...

I wonder how I can show God's love to others...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

Apostle's Creed Song - by Adam Zarn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTG2hLu6ZcA> (2.35 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.
(*We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer'*)

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, all Church and world leaders to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for more people to know Jesus and find God's love for all through him.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray for our family, friends and communities that they will continue to show kindness to each other through their actions and words.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*)
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for all people who have died recently and or are suffering at this time. May they find rest with Jesus who promises to be with them always.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

Closing prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for loving us and giving us the gift of Jesus who promises a life with you forever. May our hearts be forever grateful for all you have done for us. Amen.

Closing song: *John 3:16- For God So Loved The World*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpD3dOTq9SE> (2:43 mins)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- Write a thank you prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).
- **Create a collage**
Draw a picture of a heart onto a paper of your choice and fill the heart with small pieces of coloured paper or tissue paper. (<https://sundayschoolzone.com/activity/jesus-taught-about-gods-love-bible-craft/view/>)
- **Piece together a puzzle**
Create your own puzzle of Jesus and Nicodemus using this resource.
<https://sundayschoolzone.com/activity/jesus-taught-about-god-jigsaw-puzzle/view/>