

Lesson for Nov. 6, 2011

All Saints Sunday

Introduce children to the concept of saints. "Saint" can mean either

- 1) someone especially holy, whose life shows us something new about God
- 2) anyone who joins the church.

On All Saints Sunday, we remember and celebrate the saints who have died. Some of them are the especially holy, famous types: St. Francis, St. Patrick, St. Mary. Others are the saints who weren't famous but whom we personally remember, like grandparents and others whom we respected and loved.

Have the children name saints they can think of, either famous or not.

Activities:

- 1) If there is time after the project, read aloud a story of a saint. (I will put some in the classroom.)
- 2) The project:  
Make a pole with streamers which can be carried in the 11:00 procession. Some of the streamers will have the names of saints on them.

Instructions:

Have the children cut LONG streamers out of the fabric provided. Some strips need to be 6 feet or more in length.

On the long narrow strips of the sheet, the children can write the names of saints they want us to remember during our service.

If there are leftover strips of the sheet, they can be put in the narthex with markers and people arriving for the service can write names and tie the white strips onto the other strips.

The strips should be tied to the large metal rings provided, leaving a section of the ring bare to be clipped onto the pole which will carry it. The poles are about 9 feet high.

If there is not room on the ring to tie all the fabric, simply make a second loop and tie it to the ring, then tie the fabric onto that loop.

Try to get older children or members of the Rite 13 group to volunteer to carry the streamers in the procession. Other children can march with them as assistants, to help them direct the pole into its holder (at the corners of the altar platform).

Closing

Dear God, thank you for your wonderful saints. They have made the world a better place. They have loved us and shown us how to love others. When we remember them, we feel grateful, happy, and proud. Help us to follow in their footsteps. Amen.