

Year B

Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year

All goodness comes from God

INTRODUCTION

Anyone who loves Jesus and acts in his name, is filled with the goodness of God. Whatever our religion or race might be, God will see this goodness, and reward us with his love.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

LIGHT THE CANDLES

Light the candles and read this passage aloud:

Live your lives as children of the light.

Do not hide in the darkness,
for there is nothing to fear.

Fill your lives with love and goodness,
and follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

(Romans 13:12-14)

SORRY

If we have shut out God's love and turned away from him, let us ask his spirit to change our hearts as we pray:

Lord Jesus,
you were always kind and caring;
forgive us if we have been selfish or unkind,
and help us to become
more loving and thoughtful.

Lord in your mercy...

All: *Hear our prayer.*

GLORIA

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

To welcome today's Gospel sing Acclamation 2.

GOSPEL (MARK 9:38-41)

One day John came to Jesus and said, "Lord, we saw a man curing the sick in your name, and because we did not know him, we told him to stop."

But Jesus said to him, "Do not stop anyone who is using my name from doing something good. By their actions they show their love for me, and they can do no harm. Any person who acts kindly for my sake will be rewarded for their goodness in heaven."

DISCUSSION

John was worried that the actions of the man curing the sick might not please Jesus. Although this man was a follower of Jesus and cured people using his name, the disciples did not know him. John tried to stop the man from what he was doing.

As followers of Christ we are called Christians, and we try to live as Jesus did, filling our lives with kindness and love, and obeying God's commandments. This man was also a Christian, a follower of Jesus, who showed his love for God by helping people who were sick. Jesus saw the goodness of this man who acted with kindness and love, and he was pleased.

God's generosity is so great that he freely offers his love to all people of every race, color, and religion. He shares this love with the world through the gift of his Holy Spirit. The spirit brings us his gifts and guides our lives, so that we can share God's goodness with everyone we meet.

ACTIVITY

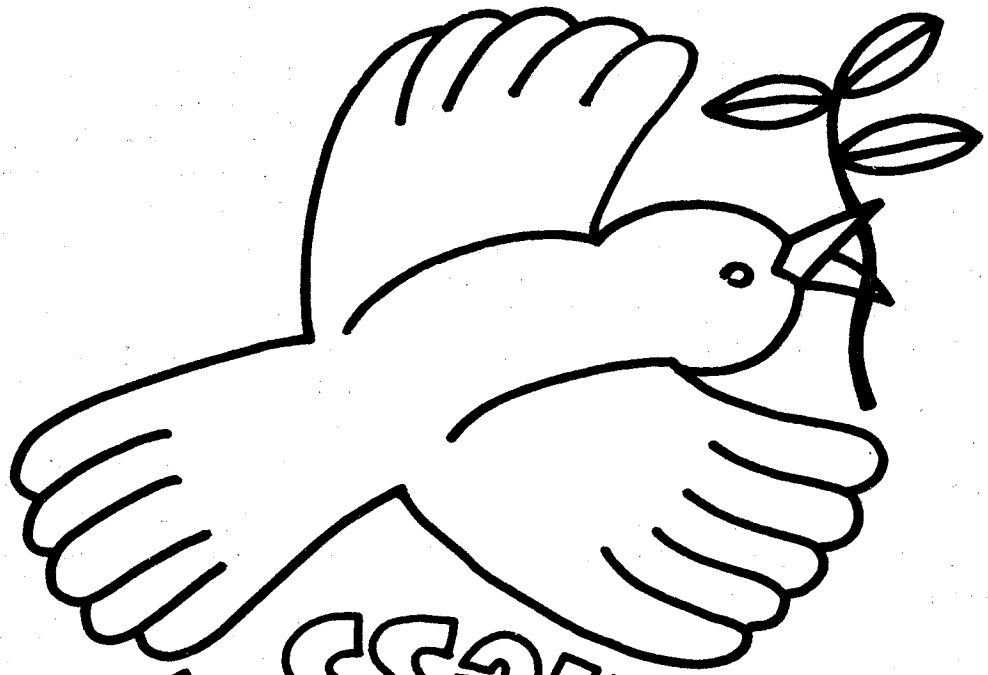
Copy the dove and the picture of the world onto a large sheet of paper. Have the children color the dove, cut it out, and paste it onto cardboard.

Spend some time talking about the Holy Spirit, and see if the children can remember the seven gifts which the Spirit shares with us. (See Pentecost Sunday.)

CREED

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray that the spirit of God
will work through our lives,
so we can share
Christ's love with the world.



God shares his love
with the world.

A circular line drawing of the Earth, showing the outlines of continents and oceans. The drawing is simple and clean, suitable for coloring. It is positioned in the center of the page, surrounded by the text.

God shares his love
with the world.