

Second Sunday of the Year

The miracle at Cana

INTRODUCTION

A miracle is a sign of God's power and glory, a remarkable and amazing event that cannot be explained. Today we hear how Jesus performed his first miracle by changing water into wine.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

LIGHT THE CANDLES

Light the candles and read:

Jesus is the light of the world
who chases away the darkness with his love.

SORRY

Let us ask Jesus to forgive our mistakes and to lead us back to his love, as we sing Sorry Song 1.

GLORIA

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

To welcome today's Gospel sing Acclamation 2.

GOSPEL (JOHN 2:1-11)

Jesus and his mother, along with his disciples, were invited to a wedding in a town called Cana. There was food to eat and wine to drink, and the celebrations carried on throughout the evening. Then Mary came to Jesus and said, "Son, there is no more wine for the guests to drink."

"Why do you ask for help when my time has not yet come?" Jesus asked, but Mary turned to the servants and said to them, "Do whatever Jesus tells you." Nearby stood six very large water jars, and Jesus told the servants to fill them with water. "Now, pour some out and take it to the head waiter," he said.

The water had been changed to wine! After tasting it, the head waiter went to the bridegroom and said, "Sir, you have certainly saved the very best wine until last."

The celebration carried on, and there was plenty of wine for everyone. Those who knew what Jesus had done were filled with wonder by this sign of his power.

DISCUSSION

Has anyone here ever been to a wedding? After the bridegroom and bride have been married, there is usually a joyful celebration or party where there is plenty for everyone to eat and drink.

At the wedding in Cana, they ran out of wine in the middle of the celebration. How would you feel if you invited lots of people to a party and then ran out of food or drink? The celebration would be spoiled, and you would feel disappointed and embarrassed.

When Mary heard about the wine, she turned to Jesus for help in this time of difficulty. She believed and trusted in his kindness and goodness, and knew that somehow he could save the day from disaster.

Jesus performed his first miracle by changing the water in the jar into wine. The bridegroom and the guests did not realize what had happened, but the disciples of Jesus and the servants had seen for themselves that ordinary water had been changed into wine. They were the first to catch a glimpse of the power of Jesus, and they must have been amazed.

Mary acted out of kindness and concern, and showed complete trust in Jesus' goodness. Like Mary, we should be kind and caring about others and always ready to turn to Jesus in times of difficulty. Jesus listens to his mother, and when we pray, we can ask Mary to pray with us for all our needs.

ACTIVITY

Cut out the shape of a water jug from a large sheet of paper. Copy and cut out several smaller jars, the pictures of the servants and disciples, the figures of Jesus, and the bride and groom.

Ask the children to color these, and glue them to the large jar shape to be displayed on a board. Using the pictures, help them to tell the story of Christ's first miracle.

CREED

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, help us to turn to you
in times of difficulty
and place our trust
in your goodness and love.

