
What is the Church?

Children's Worksheet: Unit 4

**We are People who
Celebrate God's Word**



Listening is very important

Someone once said that God gave us two ears but only one mouth
because listening is more important than speaking

Can you think of some people that you listen to?

We hear all sorts of different things - that just happens to us
but listening is an activity - something we do

When you want to listen very carefully, what do you do?

We can listen

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| with our ears | - to hear the words people speak to us |
| with our minds | - to understand what they are saying |
| with our hearts | - to accept the message and let it affect us |

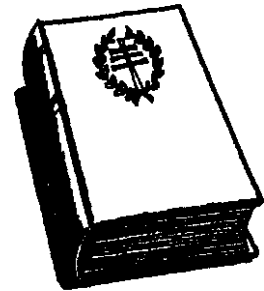
When we gather together at Mass

...we listen to God's Word

The Bible tells us about God and God's people.

In the Old Testament we hear about the people of Israel and their special relationship with God.

In the New Testament we hear about Jesus and those who were his first followers.



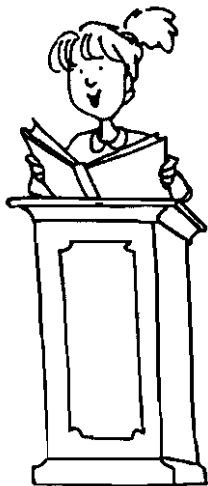
Our readings at Mass are taken from the Bible - both the Old and New Testaments.

They are printed in a special book called the Lectionary.

The reader stands at a special place to read to us.

Our task is to listen attentively - even if we have the words in front of us.

On a Sunday we have three readings and a responsorial psalm.



In the Gospel reading we hear what Jesus said and did when he was on the earth.

Sometimes the Gospel book is carried in a procession, or incense is burnt, or candles are held either side of the lectern as the priest reads the Gospel. All of these show that the Gospel is very important.

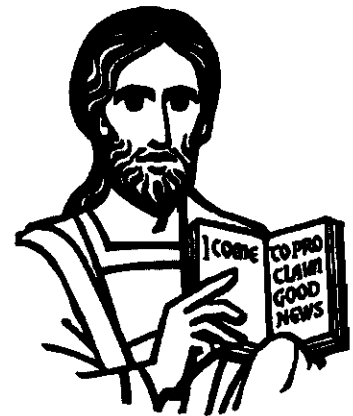
After the Gospel reading the priest gives a homily which helps us to reflect on the readings we have heard and think about what they might mean for us in our own lives.



The Gospel is Good News

The Good News is the fact that Jesus, through his death and resurrection, has made it possible for us to share God's eternal life.

Jesus is the Word made flesh. He came on earth to tell us the Good News himself and to show us how to live as his followers.



When Jesus had returned to heaven, his first disciples decided to write down the things he had said and done so that future generations could also hear this Good News.

What stories from the Gospels can you remember?

The Holy Spirit helps us to listen well

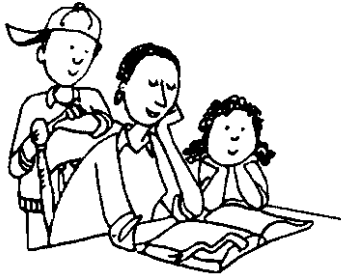


The Holy Spirit helped the first disciples of Jesus to put the Gospel stories together.

We receive the Holy Spirit in our Baptism and at Confirmation.

Amongst the gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit are the gifts of wisdom and understanding. These gifts help us to listen well to the scriptures and think about what they mean for us.

At home...



Find out if you have a family Bible or a book of Bible stories. If not, see if your parents will buy one. Read some of these stories (perhaps with your parents or brothers and sisters) and talk about the message they give us.



Choose one of your favourite Bible stories and write it in your own words (or draw a picture of it).

This worksheet belongs to: _____