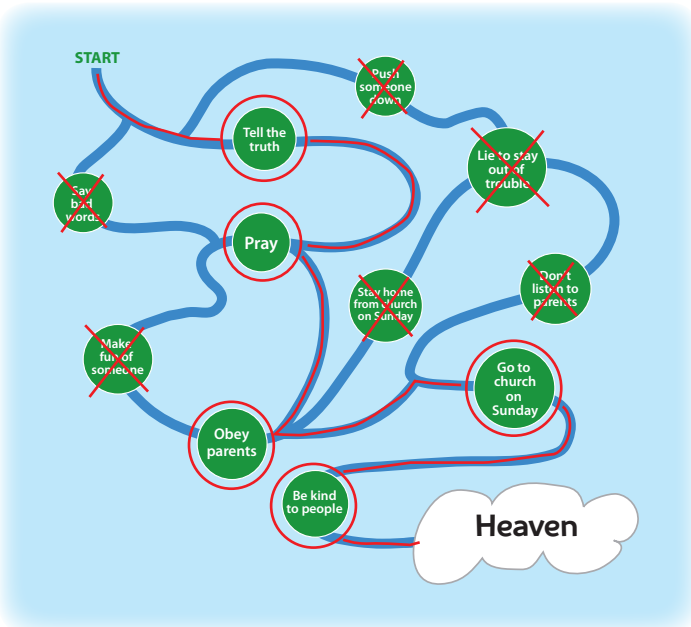


Activity

(Note: Some dioceses celebrate the Seventh Sunday of Easter on this Sunday, rather than the Ascension. The Children's Leaflet will work for either liturgy.) Families discuss ways of better living the Gospel message within their own family and with others. The children's activity is a maze through life that requires making some choices.



The Liturgy of the Word

Gathering

Ask the children to play “Do or Say.” Explain that they will take turns asking you to read something either from your “Do” list or your “Say” list. You will take the items in the order listed.

Whoever chooses from the “Do” list must do the action described. Whoever chooses from the “Say” list must answer the question written there. Explain that the game ends whenever someone gets a question he or she can’t answer or an action he or she can’t do.

Obviously, getting to the last item on your “Do” list will end the game. When that item is read, let the fact sink in that you have named an action impossible to perform. Then say to the group, “Game over! No one can go in two directions at the same time.” Then tell them to remember this important idea because you will say more about it later during the Homily.

Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us all bow our heads for prayer. Loving God, in today’s liturgy we will learn about what happened when it was time for your Son, Jesus, to leave this earth and return to Heaven. Teach us to follow in his footsteps, that one day we, too, might go to Heaven and be at home with him and with everyone else that he has gathered together into one great family of God. This we ask through the same Christ our Lord.

Children: Amen.

Invite the children to be seated. Light the candle and begin the First Reading.

First Reading

Leader: In today’s First Reading, Jesus has gathered his Apostles on a mountain outside Jerusalem. It is 40 days after he rose from the dead, and he is giving his disciples their final instructions.

Read Acts 1:8–11. Then say, “The Word of the Lord.”

Children: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

The Psalm may be either sung or spoken. Before beginning, sing or announce the response.

Leader: God mounts the throne to shouts of joy.

Children: God mounts the throne to shouts of joy.

Leader: *Read Psalm 47:1–2, 5–6, 7–8.*

Second Reading

Leader: Even though Jesus left this world in his human bodily form, he remains present to us through his Holy Spirit. In this Second Reading, Paul talks about the power we have because of our life in the Spirit.

Read Ephesians 1:17–21. Then say, “The Word of the Lord.”

Children: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Invite the children to stand. Sing the suggested Acclamation or another familiar one. If you choose not to sing the Gospel Acclamation, proceed to the Proclamation of the Gospel.