

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

MAISY MILK ROSARY FOR PEACE



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN UNITED KINGDOM

ROSARY REFLECTION

AIM: To present the Wedding Feast at Cana as a model for prayer.

SUMMARY:

At the Wedding Feast at Cana, Mary told Jesus that the hosts had run out of wine, which would have been embarrassing for the family (weddings in Jesus' time went on for a week). This led to Jesus' first miracle; turning the water into wine. When we pray the rosary, we are asking our Lady to intervene for us and those we pray for, by presenting our petitions to the Lord.

IMAGERY:

This reflection takes the image of the barrels used in the Gospel story. Jesus told the servants to fill the barrels with water. Here, the children are invited to imagine putting their prayers/those they are praying for into a barrel, and inviting Jesus to transform each situation. Mary, didn't tell Jesus *what* to do in the Gospel miracle and likewise, participants are asked to give their prayers to God trusting in his love and power to bring about good. It is worth mentioning that God always hears and acts on our prayers, but sometimes we cannot see an immediate answer in the way we might want.

CONTENTS:

Presentation and Storyboard

SUITABLE FOR:

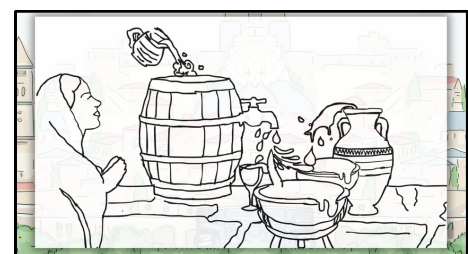
Reflection during a lesson, liturgy, prayer time or as part of an assembly (with storyboard back in class).

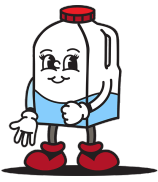
READ THE WEDDING AT CANA - JOHN 2: 1-11

AS YOU READ, PLAY SLIDES 2-5

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE)





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REFLECTION:

Imagine you were at the wedding, with Jesus, his mother and the disciples. Why did Mary want to help the hosts? What would have happened if she didn't realise and ask Jesus to help?

Jesus made 180 gallons of wine from the water. This is equal to 818 litres or 1440 pints! Why is this important? What does it show us about God?

SLIDE 6

Let's think about ourselves and the people we are going to be praying for this week. When we pray the rosary, we are inviting Our Lady, Jesus' Mother, to see our needs, just like she saw the needs of those hosting the wedding. We can invite her to tell Jesus what we need and what we are concerned about. Let's picture that we are putting our difficulties (as well as the difficulties of other people especially those helped by ACN) into barrels. Let's offer our prayers to Jesus, through his Mother, Mary, and ask that each person, situation or circumstance be transformed just like the water at Cana.

PRAYERS:

SUFFERING CHILDREN: SLIDES: 7-9

Jesus, we offer to you all the children of the world. Please help any child in this school who is having difficulties. We pray for children in other countries who have had to leave their homes due to war, persecution or poverty.

PEACE IN THE WORLD: SLIDES: 10-12

Let's pray for peace in the world. Lord we offer to you all the areas of the world where there is war. We ask that you bring peace to Ukraine and the Holy Land. We pray for all the families and children who are suffering as a result of war. Please help all those ACN is looking after: the refugees, those who have had to leave everything and those who have lost loved ones.

MY FRIENDS: SLIDES: 13-14

I ask you Lord, to bless my friends. Please help us all to look after each other and to be a friend to those who struggle to make friends. Please help us to forgive our friends when they hurt us and to ask for forgiveness when we need to...pause...

THINGS I WORRY ABOUT: SLIDES: 15-16

Mary, I ask you to pray with me for anything I am worried about today...pause... (bring to mind any worries you have and imagine placing them in the barrel with Mary).

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: SLIDES: 17-18

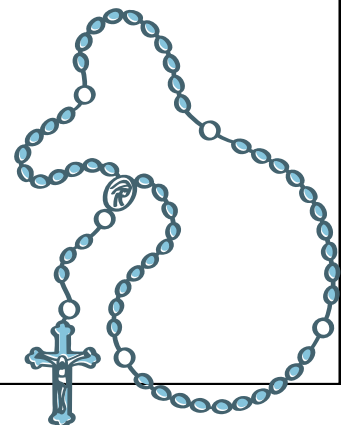
Jesus, help those who are in hospital or housebound. Please look after the elderly and all those who have serious illnesses. I ask you to bless people from my family who are unwell.

MY FAMILY: SLIDES: 19-20

Bring to mind members of your family...pause...as you picture each person, ask God to bless them.

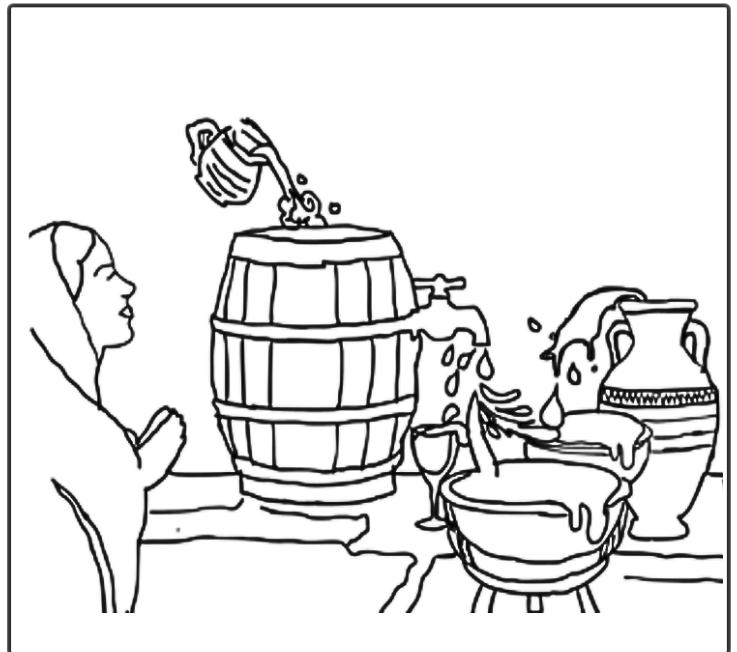
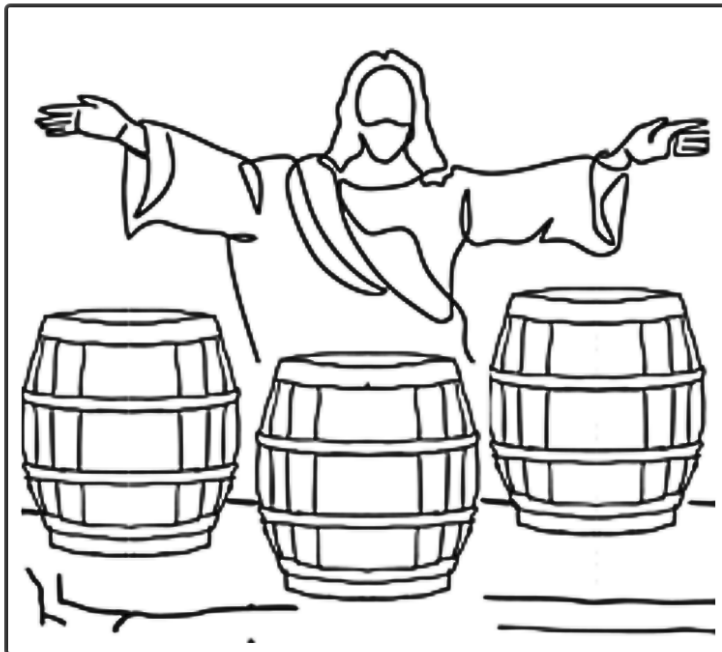
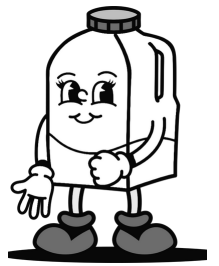
CLOSING PRAYERS: SLIDES: 21-23

CLOSING SLIDE: SLIDE: 24



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The Wedding Feast at Cana



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