

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



5th Sunday of Lent

3 April 2022 - Year C

“Let the person among you without sin be the first to throw a stone.”

Something to Think About

Have you ever been quick to judge someone who has made a mistake? Maybe next time you could look on that person with compassion and love.

The Story

In this week's story, the religious leaders try to trap Jesus. They bring a woman in front of all the people who has broken one of the religious laws. In those days, someone who broke that law would be stoned to death. The religious leaders ask Jesus what he thinks. Jesus invites anyone who has never sinned to throw the first stone. One by one the people leave, because they had all sinned. Jesus does not condemn the woman but lets her go.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

8:2-11

Jesus spent the night on the Mount of Olives. Then early the next morning he went to the temple. The people came to him, and he sat down and started teaching them.

The Pharisees and the teachers of the Law of Moses brought in a woman who had been caught in bed with a man who was not her husband. They made her stand in the middle of the crowd. Then they said, "Teacher, this woman was caught sleeping with a man who is not her husband. The Law of Moses teaches that a woman like this should be stoned to death! What do you say?"

They asked Jesus this question, because they wanted to test him and bring some charge against him. But Jesus simply bent over and started writing on the ground with his finger.

The crowd kept on asking Jesus about the woman. Finally, he stood up and said, "If any of you have never sinned, then go ahead and throw the first stone at her!" Once again he bent over and began writing on the ground. The people left one by one, beginning with the oldest one in the crowd. Finally, Jesus and the woman were there alone.

Jesus stood up and asked her, "Where is everyone? Isn't there anyone left to accuse you?"

"No, sir," the woman answered. Then Jesus told her, "I am not going to accuse you either. You may go now, but don't sin anymore."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Video

Click to watch the video and sing along: [You Forgive Me](#)



Group Discussion

Sometimes it can be tempting to point the finger at someone else who has done the wrong thing and forget about the mistakes and bad choices that we ourselves have made. Jesus wants us to act with compassion and forgiveness towards others. How could you show compassion to people in your daily life?

Praying For Others

Leader: Gathered as one with all creation, let us pray for the needs of the world.

Reader 1: We pray for our leaders. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for those who suffer violence. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray that all people will be treated fairly. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray that we will always be caring towards others. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray for those who need a new start. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



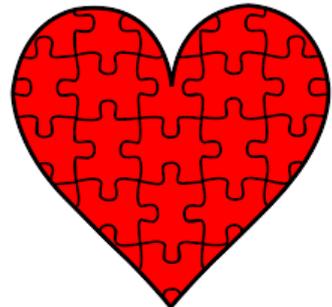
Lord Jesus,
Help us to be kind and compassionate
people. Teach us to forgive others and to
trust that you will forgive us.
Amen.

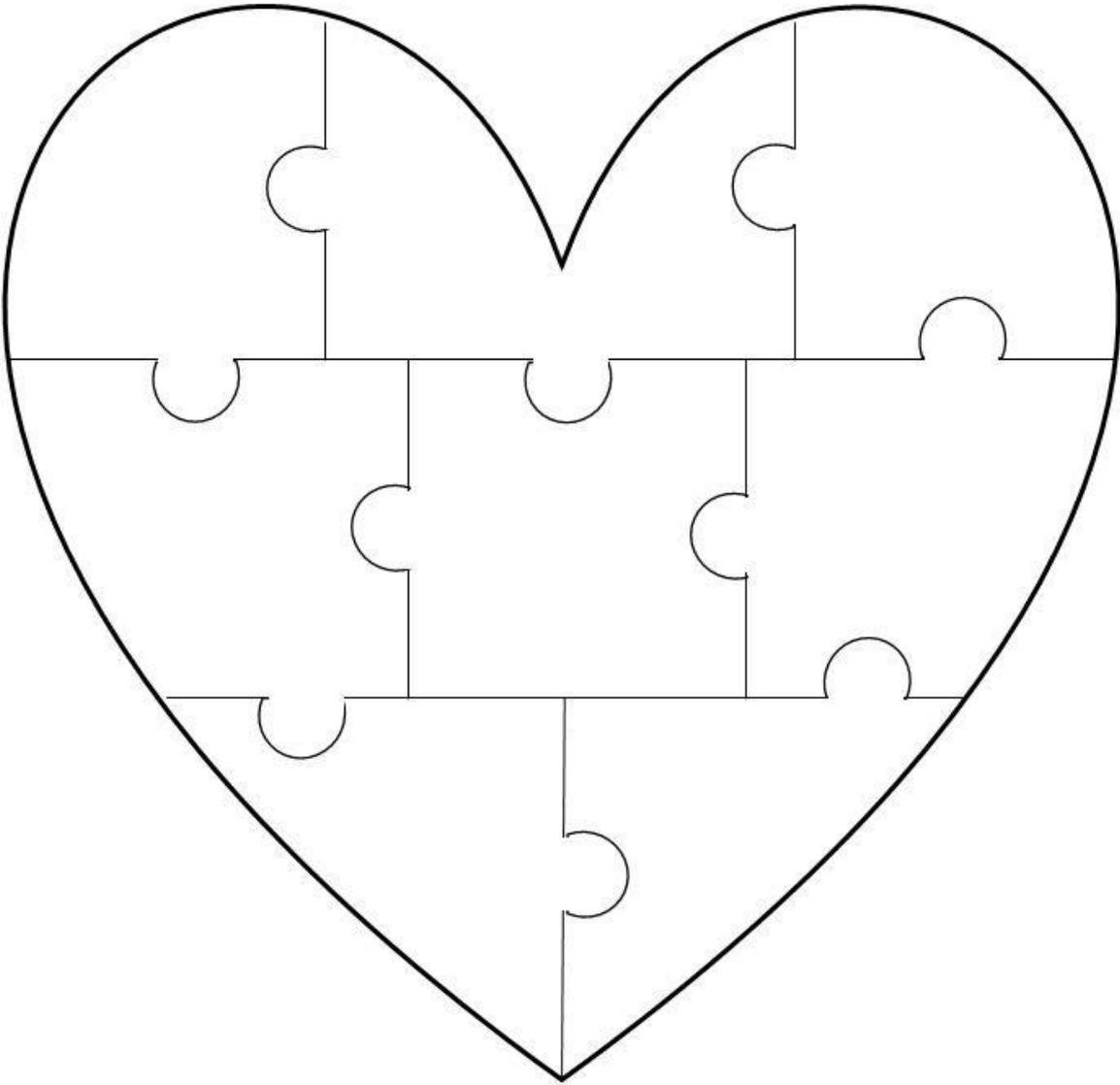
Group Activity

A Heart of Compassion

You will need: heart template for each child photocopied onto red cardboard, scissors, another piece of card to glue the puzzle onto, glue. Optional if pre-cutting the puzzle pieces: small sandwich bags to store the pieces of each puzzle in.

1. Cut out the puzzle pieces.
2. On the other sheet of card, assemble the puzzle pieces into a heart shape and glue it down.





WHAT WOULD YOU DO?



**SOMEONE IS
BEING BULLIED**

**SOMEONE IS
SAD + ALONE**

**SOMEONE IS
UPSET + CRYING**