Monday Gospel

This is taken from the CAFOD website: https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy

Preparation of the worship space

Colour: white

Props: Blue and green paper cut and stuck to make a world, colouring pens, pencils.

Song suggestions: He's got the whole world in his hands (973, Laudate)

Welcome: Today is TRINITY SUNDAY. We remember that God is three person in one: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. We know that 3 is a biblical number - ask your child what they know about the number 3 in the bible (eg Jesus rose on the 3rd day, Jesus was tempted 3 times, Peter disowned Jesus 3 times etc). Today in our gospel we hear how much God loves the world and everything in it. Let's listen to find out more.

Opening prayer: Generous, giving God, you loved the world so much you sent us your Son Jesus to show us how to live. Help us to show our love for the world too, respecting and protecting it so that all people can enjoy it now, and in the future. Amen.

Gospel acclamation: We make the sign of the cross on our head, we ask Jesus to be in the thoughts that we think. We make the sign of the cross on our lips, we ask Jesus to be in the words that we speak We make the sign of the cross on our heart, we ask Jesus to be in the love that we show to one another

Gospel: John 3:16-18*

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its saviour. Those who believe in the Son are not judged; but those who do not believe have already been judged, because they have not believed in God's only Son.

Gospel reflection: What do you remember from today's reading?

Today we hear that God loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, Jesus, into the world so that we might have eternal life.

God loves the world - all the people, plants, animals, birds, earth and everything else in it very, very much. And God wants us to love the world too.

We are called to show our love for the world and for all the people who live in it, for all the birds, flowers, trees and animals, for everything that God has created.

Sometimes, we think that because we are young we can't make a difference in the world. You may think that you have to wait to grow up until people will listen to you. Do you think that is true?

Some children from St Peter's school went to the Houses of Parliament in London to talk to the Government about how much they love the world and want to protect it.

In Peru, Jean-Pierre looks after a garden as part of a homework club that he goes to. He has made a sign to show one of the rules of the garden. He like his homework club and taking care of the garden. He says, "I like to water the plants so that they grow. Without plants we cannot breathe."

We all have a responsibility to look after the world and all that is in it, to love it and care for it.

Perhaps you already show how you love the world in the way you treat it? Do you recycle? Walk when you can instead of taking the car? Switch things off when you're not using them? What else do you do to show your love for the world?

What new thing will you do this week to show your love for the others and for the world?

Intercessions You may want to ask the children to offer their own prayers or you can use the suggestions below.

We pray to God, who loves the world:

We pray for world leaders: that they may make wise decisions for the good of all people and for the earth. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all people, especially those who are poor: that they may know that they are loved by God and that together we will all show our love for the world and each other. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be inspired to show our love for all and do all that we can to respect and protect God's wonderful world. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God of love, teach us how to love the world as you do. Help us to care for and respect the environment so that we may all live in harmony together, now and in the future. Amen.

Activity suggestions

	Colour in the accompanying illustration and discuss the different ways the children in the picture are showing love for our world. Write or draw on the back how you will show your love for the world in the coming week.
Tuesday &	This is your own private family time for prayers.
Thursday	You might like to use some of the prayer ideas that are in the school prayer bag – praying with lego, bubbles and plasticine.
Family	You might like to make a prayer chain which you add to every Tuesday and Thursday.
Prayers	You might like to add to your Prayer Space.
Wednesday	Today we take time to thank God our Father for making us all in his image and likeness.
Core Value	Sing: I'd just like to thank you for making me me! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imO2NiKo_AQ We thank God that we are his children.
	We thank God for making us special. Discuss with your child what makes them special.
	Talk to your child that although we are all made in God's image and likeness, some people think they are better than others.
	Tell them that some children and adults are persecuted because of their colour, their faith, their socio-economic background, their appearance. This is called racism.
	Talk to your child about racism.
	Tell them that when somebody is treated differently just because of the colour of their skin, or because of their faith, or their socio-economic background, or their appearance then this is wrong. You might wish to refer to racism in football or about the Black Lives Matter protests that have taken place last week all over the world. There is a lot of information/videos on the internet but you may wish to check this out to make sure it is suitable before sharing with your child.
	Pope Francis tweeted: We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form. At the same time, we have to recognize that violence is self-destructive and self-defeating. Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost. Let us pray for reconciliation and peace.
	Everyone is special to God. God loves us all. Finish by singing the song again.
Friday	PUT LOVE FOR THE WORLD INTO ACTION
reflection	We had a focus week on this topic last October and all the children designed their own t-shirts with this wording on them. This linked to this week's gospel story.
	It would be really good to discuss how you as a family are putting love for the world into action.
	Following the really hot weather, the water companies have asked us to reduce our water usage – how can you do this in your house?

RE: Week beginning Monday 8th June 2020

Do you go out for walks? Could you take plastic bags and gloves with you and do a litter pick as you go along? Have you noticed lots of weeds growing out of the rain drains at the side of the road? Could you clear one or two of these?

Could you all make a promise to have one night when you don't use technology – therefore reducing the amount of electricity you use? What alternative suggestions can you come up with?