

Acts of Worship

Virtue: FRIENDSHIP

I am friendly and show my friends love.

I want the best for my friends.

Week 1

Gathering together

Focal point: Bible, cross, candle etc

A small selection of toys

White/ gold cloth (Christmas season)

Introduction:

Play the introduction/opening scene of Toy Story:

https://www.google.com/search?q=toy+story+opening+credits&rlz=1C1DIMC_enGB876GB876&oq=toy+story+opening+credits&aqs=chrome..69i57j0i13i512j0i22i30i8.11239j0j15&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:e17b056c,vid:RvO2Eg-rUG8

What is a good friend? Ask the children for responses. What do they value in a friend? How does having friends make you feel?

Today we are going to talk about what St Paul tells us about what it means to be friends with each other, and how we should treat each other.

Word

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.”
(Colossians 3:12-14)

Response to/reflection on the Word

Which virtues does St Paul talk about? (Take responses). These are all important virtues – how can we show them towards each other?

St Paul tells us that the virtue of love binds all the other virtues together. As we start a new year, how can we show love towards others?

We are going to think about the Gospel reading we have just heard and what this means to us as we start a new year.

Give children time to pray silently, or pray with them. Alternatively, there are some prayer examples below:

Let us pray.

We pray for our school family as we start a new year. May we all show love towards one another following the example of Jesus.

Lord hear us

Lord Graciously hear us.

Acts of Worship

We pray that we treat each other as true friends, clothing ourselves with virtue.

Lord hear us

Lord Graciously hear us.

We pray that we use words and actions that show that we God in each other and ourselves.

Lord hear us

Lord Graciously hear us.

We offer all of these prayers to God as we say 'Our Father...'

Going forth

This week, try to offer friendship to a person you don't usually play with. Show them kindness, gentleness and compassion.

Ideas for music:

A new commandment

Jesus says love everybody

We are the Church

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Week 2

Gathering together

Focal point: Bible, cross, candle etc

Green cloth (back to ordinary time)

Word: John 13:34-35

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Response to/reflection on the Word

Play reflective music.

This is a great commandment from Jesus. What do you think He means when he says ‘love one another’? How could we show love towards each other? What could we DO? How does it feel when someone shows that they care about us?

Going forth

This week, can the children show that they are a good friend to others by showing love towards each other?

Ideas for music:

A new commandment

Jesus says love everybody

We are the Church

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Week 3

Gathering together

Focal point: Bible, cross, candle etc

Green cloth

Picture of Jesus and Peter

Word: John 21:15- 15

So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I [e]love You."

He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?"

And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep".

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response to/reflection on the Word

Peter loved Jesus. He left everything and followed Him, Peter had promised Jesus that he would always love Him and never betray Him, but he did. He denied he even knew Jesus. However Jesus forgave him and Jesus gave Peter a special job. Even though Peter made a terrible mistake Jesus forgave him because he loved His friend. God's love is unconditional. He loves us no matter what we do. This example of friendship is perfect.

Play reflective music:

Do you forgive others when they make mistakes?

Do you love each other no matter what?

Link back to first act of worship and virtues St Paul lists – if we are good friends we will show these to one another, just like the perfect example Jesus gives us.

Going forth

Jesus gives us an example of true friendship. This week, try to copy this friendship by being patient with one another and forgiving each other when we make mistakes.

Ideas for music:

A new commandment

Jesus says love everybody

We are the Church

The love I have for you

What a friend we have in Jesus

Love is his word