

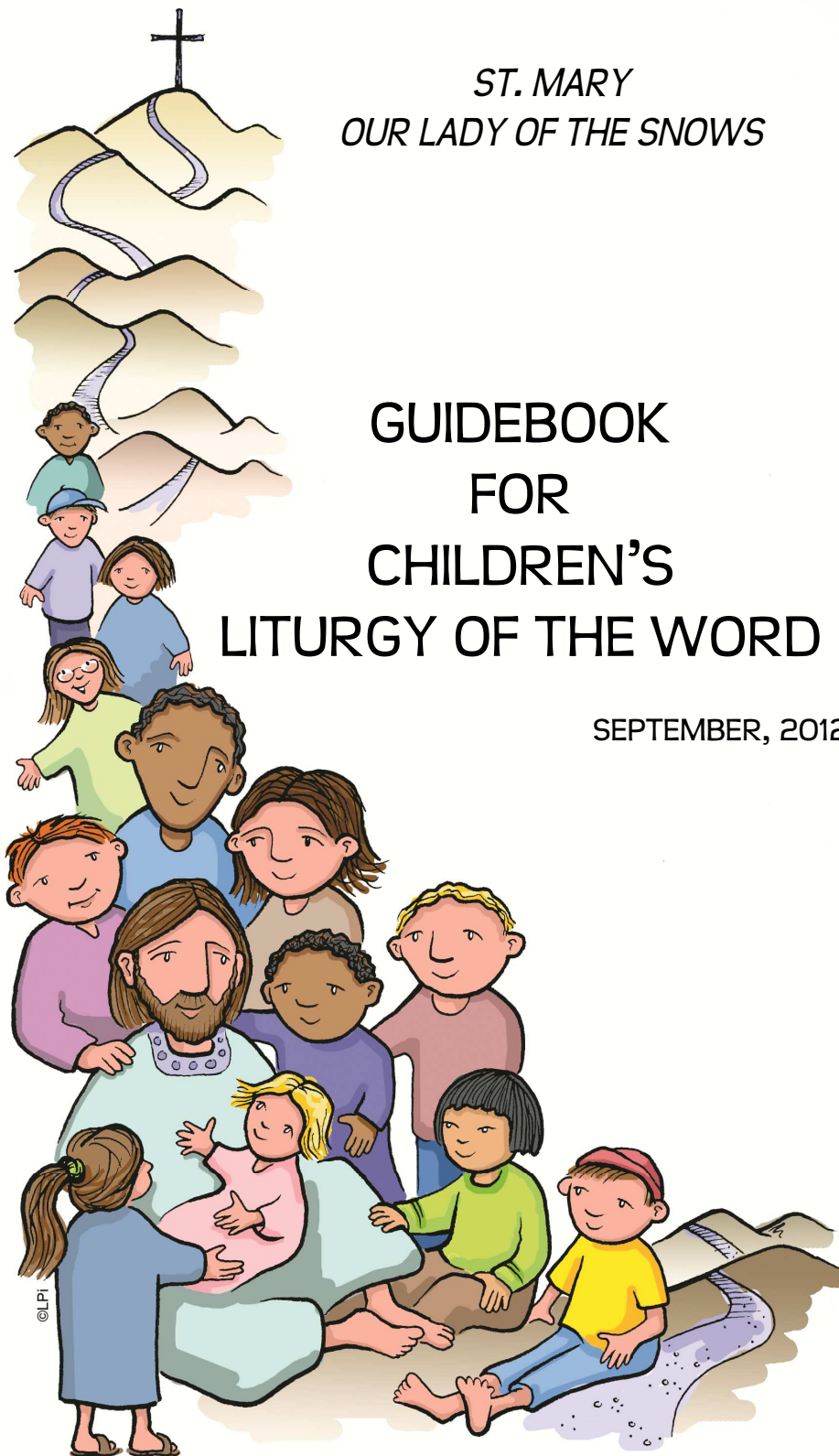
Thank you for being an important part of this mission to spread the Word of God. The children you serve and the people of St. Mary thank you.



ST. MARY
OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS

GUIDEBOOK
FOR
CHILDREN'S
LITURGY OF THE WORD

SEPTEMBER, 2012



Prayer for Our Children

Lord, we thank you for the gift of our children.
They are the youngest of our seeds planted in
the soil of our church.

Open their eyes so they may see the love of
their community.
Open their ears to hear the good news of your
Word.
Open their hearts so they may feel your loving
embrace.

We pray that our children may find nourish-
ment in the Liturgy provided by our Presenters.

May our words, prayers, songs, and actions
help their roots take deep hold in the soil of
your church.

In your name we offer this prayer.

Amen.

Expectations of Presenters

In the week prior to your Sunday presentation,
prayerfully prepare for that liturgy.

- **Use the resources** given to you by the Faith Formation office.
- Other resources may be used to supplement your presentation, but are not necessary
- **Arrive at least 15 minutes** prior to mass to set up space
- **Attend the entire mass**, beginning to end
- **Put away materials** after mass
- **Find a replacement** if you are unable to make your date

Expectations of Assistants

- Help to **monitor children** (discreetly) during the presentation
- **Be attentive** to children and the liturgy
- Attend the entire mass, beginning to end
- Help the Presenter put away materials after mass

SPECIAL SET UPS

Contact the Faith Formation office at least by **WEDNESDAY** of the week prior to your presentation for any props or supplies needed that are not already supplied.



IMPORTANT

All presenters must have a background check performed by St. Mary staff. Also required is attendance at a “Protecting God’s Children Workshop” before beginning this ministry.

To do so, please go to www.virtus.org and register for a workshop that is convenient for you.

If you need assistance, please contact the Faith Formation office at 248-685-2702 or stmaryreligiouseducation@comcast.net

WHAT ELSE SHOULD YOU KNOW?

MOVEMENT

Young muscles need to be used often. Movement allows another expression of their faith. Lifting their arms, carrying a small object to the front, holding a sign for the prayer time are just some examples.

WEBSITES - FOR RESOURCES

Faithfirst.com/html/catechist/lectionary/lectionary.html

Webelieveweb.com/home_proclaiming_faith.cfm

Harcourtreligion.com/lifelong_catechesis/child.jsp

LITURGICAL COLORS

ORDINARY TIME

ADVENT

LENT

Fourth Sunday of Lent

PASSION/PALM SUNDAY

EASTER

PENTECOST

GREEN

BLUE / GREY

VIOLET

ROSE-to signal Half over

RED

WHITE

RED

PREPARATION IN ROOM 8 (supplies in closet)

Room will be set up in the following manner

1. Prayer table with appropriate Liturgical color
2. Liturgy banner with appropriate Liturgical color
3. Bible
4. Lectionary for Children
5. Candle (fake fire, DO NOT LIGHT CANDLE)
6. Podium
7. Cross
8. CD player, Call to Faith CD

Add any additional props, etc. you have brought

Sunday morning preparation

Arrive by 9:45 a.m. and **let Father know** you are here

Calling and sending forth

- Be at mass **in the beginning**
- Stand in the **center aisle** (so the children, Father and parents can see you)
- Hold the Lectionary (the book) **up high** so all can see
- Father will release children
- **Wait** for children to gather
- Proceed to room 7,8

The cloth on the prayer table and the banner will usually reflect these changes.

OPENING PRAYER

Begin with the Sign of the Cross

First Reading

Read from the Lectionary

- If you invite a helper to proclaim the reading they must have read it through prior to mass
- speak loud and clear

End with **“This is the Word of the Lord”**
and **“Thanks be to God”**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

- Invite all to stand
- Sing **“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”** -
Call To Faith CD Number 2, Song # 7

CHILDREN SING refrain 2 times:

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the Risen Lord,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Give praise to His name...*

Listen to the verse on CD

- Begin with **“This is a reading from the Gospel of ...”**
- Show them how to make the 3 crosses on their forehead, lips and heart saying:
“May God’s Word be in my mind, on my lips and in my heart.”
- This is when you will do the interactive reflection (homily)
- If you think the children did not hear the reading, re-read it (or parts of it) to them.
- END with **“This is the Gospel of the Lord”**
- Response: **“Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ”**

Interactive Reflection

- This may include question and answer with children
- Short lesson
- Demonstration to elaborate on the reading
- A song with or without hand motions
- Non-scriptural reading from children’s book (making sure to link the story to reading)
- Make only one or two clear points for them to remember

Prayers of the Faithful

- Petitions can be prepared ahead of time
- They should be written simply

Nicene Creed

- Read through together with children, display boards are located in closet

DO NOT give children anything to take back to church.

Any projects to be presented along with the “gifts” must be pre-approved and explained to Father.

DISMISSAL

- The ushers are good about giving you a 5 minute warning, but watch the clock. You have about 20 minutes.
- Line up the children in one row. Have them quiet down.
- Lead them to the doors at the back of the Narthex and wait quietly.
- When the collection begins, let them proceed to church.
- Stand in back and watch for children who may have not found their parents and assist as best you can. Please feel free to walk to the child and help.