



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME



## UNIT 7

# We Love One Another

### AIMS

1. To recognize that Jesus sees acts of love done for others as done to him.
2. To discuss the second great commandment: love one another.
3. To show how we can follow the New Commandment in real life situations.

### KEY WORDS

- COMMANDMENTS
- OTHERS

### RESOURCES

- Role-play cards.
- The 10 commandments Flashcards (see Resources for Unit 6).
- Worksheet 7.

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Light a candle.

Invite the children to make promises related to the theme of today's session. Ex. helping parents at home etc.

After each one the whole group responds: **Lord Jesus, Help us to follow you**

### NOTES

Care must be taken when discussing real life examples of how to put God's commandments into practice. Consideration must be given to the age and understanding of those in the group.

### INTRODUCTION

Blindfold a child. Invite another child to stand next to them. Ask the blindfolded child to try to guess who is the child standing next to them. This could be done by touching them and/or by asking questions to them.

Ask: has it ever happened to you that you were walking in the street and didn't recognise someone you knew, say because they looked different or had a different hairstyle etc? Invite children to give examples. Move on to ask: Have you ever met Jesus in the street or anywhere else? Children will probably reply that they never did. Here point out that they actually HAVE met Jesus. How?

### MAIN

- Take a couple of minutes to narrate the story of the Last Judgement (see text on side B of worksheet 7). Ask the children what did Jesus mean when he said: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome, lacking clothes and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Allow time for the children to give their responses.
- Explain that at the end of that passage Jesus himself said "In truth I tell you, in so far as you neglected to do this to other people, you neglected to do it **to me**." This clearly shows that whatever we do to others is as if we do it to Jesus. Being kind to others means we are being kind to Jesus. Refusing to help others means refusing to help Jesus. Jesus is actually present in other people we meet. Those who need our help. For us they are like Jesus in disguise. Time permitting refer to the story by Leo Tolstoy, Martin the cobbler (possibly using few images, DVD or PowerPoint).
- Many other Saints give us other ideas. St George Preca, founder of SDC as well as other saints recommend a very good exercise to help us do what God wants. Before doing something we should ask ourselves: "If Jesus was in my place, what would he do?" Jesus himself suggests: "Do to others what you would like others to do to you."
- Now refer to the second group of the commandments, that is from the 4th to the 10th Commandments (the first three were covered in the previous session). Ask one child at a time to read one of the commandments as you show them on board/poster or on cards. Briefly comment on each of them and give real life example of how to put each one of them into practice in real life situations.
  - ◆ 4th Commandment: Respect and listen to parents and other adults
  - ◆ 5th Commandment: Respect Life. Killing is always wrong. Look after yours and other people's health.
  - ◆ 6th Commandment: Respect yourself and your own body and others in relationships.
  - ◆ 7th Commandment: Respect property of others. Stealing of any sort is wrong.
  - ◆ 8th Commandment: Always tell the truth.
  - ◆ 9th and 10th Commandments are similar to 6th and 7th Commandment with a stress on 'covet' or being jealous.

### ACTIVITY

Use the Role play cards. Read out and discuss each of the 4 situations with the children. Ask them what would they do in those situations and how each is related to God's commandments. Hand out Worksheet 7 and briefly go through and talk about what the children should do at home.