P3.2 – Mary trusted God's plan

CfE Experiences and Outcomes & TIOF Core Learning

RERC 1-15a – Hours of God

I can honour Mary as the mother of Jesus and our mother. I can share why we honour her.

Success Criteria from Core Learning

- I can participate in the creation of a prayer space, in honour of Mary in my classroom – especially during Advent and the months of May and October.
- I can recognise images and icons of Mary in the church and in school.
- I can participate in a simple liturgical procession honouring Mary
- I can thank Mary for saying "yes" to God and agreeing to be the mother of his son.

Key Vocabulary

Honour Mary, saying "yes" to God.

Teaching and Learning

Link to previous learning about "the Annunciation" in (Lesson P2-1)

Introduction

Read the story of the Annunciation from Luke's Gospel again with the children displaying image by Dante Gabriel Rossetti 1828 – 1882 (AR3-2a). In threes the children discuss the key elements of the religious art (further information can be found in AR3-2b).

Highlight Mary's innocence as she was such a young girl, remind the children that she must have been very scared and confused. Discuss how the children would feel if an angel suddenly appeared to them in a circle time style, "I would feel...."

The children could create freeze frames of the important parts of the story highlighting the fact that Mary accepted that God had a plan for her and trusted in him if they had not done so in P2.

The Wedding Feast at Cana

Now ask the children to listen to the Story of the Wedding Feast at Cana, John 2:1-11.

The children could be divided into 6 groups to create a freeze frame of the important elements of the story.

Discuss the main elements of the story:

- Jesus and his Mother had been invited to a Wedding Celebration.
- The Hosts run out of wine at the Party.
- Mary feels sorry for the hosts and asks Jesus to help
- Mary tells the stewards to do whatever Jesus tells them she believes he has the power to help.

- Jesus turns the water to wine.
- The celebration is saved.

Each freeze frame is "thought tracked" where the teacher asks each character in the frame to tell the others how they are feeling at that point in the story. Highlight that Mary trusted that Jesus had the power to help.

Hot Seat – Mary

The children sit back in a circle and the "teacher in role" takes on the character of Mary. The children can ask "Mary" questions about her life. The teacher should maintain Mary's trust and faith in God's plan from the moment that she said "Yes" and accepted she was to be the Mother of God.

What does it mean to "Honour" Mary?

Write the word 'honour' on the white board. The children think pair and share the definition. Explain that to honour someone means to think very highly of them because they are so important. Highlight that honouring someone is different from worshipping them and that we worship God the father and honour Mary as the Mother of Jesus.

Stained Glass Windows in Honour of Mary the Mother of God

The children research online stained glass images honouring Mary the Mother of God. They choose one which they find appealing and sketch this on white paper with pencil. The children then go over their original sketch with very thick dark black felt pen. They then colour the rest of the image using felt pens, ensuring that the whole A4 sheet is covered in ink. The sheet of paper is then dipped in cooking oil until transparent, it is dabbed dry with tissue paper and is hung to dry for 5 days. Once the image is dried it has created an effective stained glass window effect which can be displayed in the class.

How can we accept Gods plan for us?

Discuss that God's plan is that we spread his love and share his Good news. In a circle time activity the children complete the sentence: "I can say 'Yes' to God and spread his love by..."

Resources

AR3-2a - The Annunciation by Dante Gabriel Rosetti image

AR3-2b - Teacher information on the Rosetti artwork.

Bible passage John 2:1-11 the wedding feast at Cana

A4 paper, Felt pens and cooking oil to create stained glass windows.

Research Challenge

- Do you have any icons or images at home which "Honour" Mary?
- Where have you seen images of Mary Honoured as the Mother of God?
- How can you accept God's plan for us, that we should spread the Good News?