

Pentecost Pray through Art



Prayer through art has long been appreciated and used through the history of the church. We see it through, stained glass windows, sculptures, paintings etc. Creating art is an expression of the gifts of creativity and imagination, God gave us. It allows us to draw us more deeply into our own hearts and minds, allowing us to be present in the moment and open to hear God's voice.

Today the children will have a chance to pray using their imaginations and creativity. They will explore the sensation of working with clay or plasticine to create a human being.

Explain to the children that today they will be using plasticine/clay to pray and like all prayer time, it's crucial to do this in silence. The purpose of the activity is not to make a masterpiece but rather to empty their minds and allow God in. Invite the children to find their own space and play quiet music to encourage a space of silence.

Instructions

To begin, ask the children to close their eyes and feel the plasticine in their hands. Mould the plasticine for some time, enjoying the sensory feel of it in their hands. While the children are moulding, share with the children the verse from Jeremiah 18: 6, "As the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand." Explain to the children that like the potter shapes the clay so too, God shapes us. We become what God wants us to be.

Invite the children to open their eyes and create a person. Remind them that in the same chapters of Jeremiah, 18: 4 that the potter makes mistakes, his creations are not perfect. Often he starts his creation again but in the end he knows his creation is never going to be perfect. So too, we are not perfect but with the help of the Holy Spirit we can try to be.

Once the children have finished their creations invite them to breathe life or Ruach into their creation. Ask them to pretend to take their own breathe, like God did, and blow it out into their person and remember the life God gives us. Remind them that the Holy Spirit is symbolised in many forms in the Bible and wind or breath is one of them.



You will need

- Plasticine/clay
- Table cloth/cardboard (to create on)
- Paddlepop sticks or plastic knives

