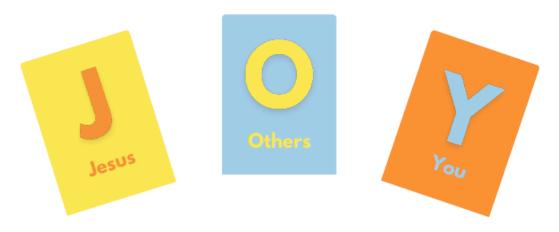
Year C - Third Sunday of Advent Luke 3:10-16, 18

Making Joy



Background

Joy can come in lots of different ways, it can come from doing some of our favourite things, and sometimes it comes when we do things for others. This activity asks the children to think about what they can do for themselves, for others and for Jesus to bring joy.



Instructions

On three large pieces of paper, write out the letters JOY on each of them and the words Jesus, Others and You below, as above.

This activity can be done in two ways. Firstly, using small bean bags or something that can be thrown and land on the paper get the children to live up and one at a time, throw the bean bags onto the paper.

Whichever letter it lands on, the children have to name something they can do for it.

For example:

- For Jesus: spend time in prayer, come to Mass, write a letter to Jesus
- For Others: do something helpful at home, write a note telling someone what you like about them., share a teat with someone else etc.
- For You: spend sometime doing a hobby, hang out with your friends, dance around to your favourite music.

Alternatively, put the large paper on the wall and give each child three post it notes, get them to write one thing for each and then invite each child to come up and add their notes to each of the letters and share with everyone what they have written down.

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Luke 2: 8-11

There were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of God stood before them in the glory of God and the shepherds were terrified.

But the angel said to them "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. On this day a Saviour is born, the Messiah, the Lord."

The Shepherds Candle

When the angel first appeared to the Shepherds they were scared. But their fear turned into joy once they saw the child Jesus.

This week the focus of the Advent candle joy. Just like the Shepherds who were transformed, Jesus can change our fears and despair into joy.

