INFORMATION FOR LITURGY GROUP LEADERS AND TEACHERS

This resource can be used in a classroom setting or in a parish by a family Mass/children’s liturgy group. For each week during Lent, there is a group activity that the teacher or group leader can use. The activity relates directly to the Gospel reading for that Sunday and the story of a child who has been on the Trócaire Box over the past four years.

As we prepare to welcome the World Meeting of Families to Ireland in August 2018, this resource will be particularly useful in introducing children to the stories of other children and their families from around the world.

HOW TO USE THE PASSPORT

A photocopy of the Trócaire Family Passport is given to each child who in turn brings it with them to Mass each week of Lent. The passport is designed to allow conversations about Lent, faith, family and justice to flow between home, school and parish. Upon learning about each country and completing each family activity at home, each child will receive a stamp from the teacher or group leader when they present their Trócaire Family Passport.

Note: You will need a stamp to recognise the activity that each child has completed on their Lenten journey.

SONG SUGGESTION

‘He’s Got the Whole World in his Hands’ could be sung as each child presents their Trócaire Family Passport during the children’s liturgy gathering.

CURRICULUM LINKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>THEMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Junior Infants | 1. My Family
               | 2. Our World            |
| Senior Infants | 1. Our World           |
               | 2. We Belong            |

Fatu and Kumba, Sierra Leone
FOURTH WEEK OF LENT
Sierra Leone
Kumba lives in Sierra Leone. Her mother is a hairdresser. She teaches other people in her community how to be hairdressers. There recently was a landslide in Kumba's community. Kumba's mother kept her family safe in the landslide. I am thankful for my mother because ____________________________.

THIRD WEEK OF LENT
Honduras
Maria lives with her mother, Miriam, in Cuyamal on the coast of Honduras. Her community is built on a sandbar, which is a strip of sandy land between a river and the sea. Sometimes there are big storms. When a storm comes, the sea level rises and the beach and sandbar flood. Then everyone has to leave their homes until the flood waters have gone down again. My safe place is ___________________.

FIRST WEEK OF LENT
Ethiopia
Mahlet from Tigray in Northern Ethiopia was on the Trócaire box in 2015. Her family depends on their land to grow crops. They eat the vegetables, and sell them at the local market to earn money. Their land has become dry and barren like a desert. The rain does not fall as much as it used to because of climate change, which makes it very difficult to grow crops. I love ___________________ and am giving it up for Lent.

SECOND WEEK OF LENT
Kenya
Antony and Amos are brothers who live in Kenya. Their father has to work in a town far away to earn money. They listen to their mother when she asks for help in their home. They help her to collect water and help her in the house and on the farm. When all of the work is done they like to play football. I offered to help _____________ when they asked me.

FIFTH WEEK OF LENT
TODAY’S GOSPEL
In today’s gospel Jesus asks us to follow him. We can do this by helping others. In the past four weeks of Lent we have met Mahlet, Antony, Amos, Maria and Kumba from different countries around our world. We learned about their lives and their challenges. What can we do to help them?

1. ___________________________________________
2. ___________________________________________
3. ___________________________________________

My good deed was ____________________________

TRÓCAIRE FAMILY PASSPORT
Ethiopia

SECOND WEEK OF LENT
Kenya

FIRST WEEK OF LENT
Ethiopia

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT
Sierra Leone

THIRD WEEK OF LENT
Honduras

Stamp Here

Stamp Here

Stamp Here
SECOND WEEK OF LENT

Gospel: Mark (9:2–10)
‘This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him.’
Theme: Love & Transfiguration

Ask the children
1. Do you listen to your family when they ask for help at home?
2. When does your mum show love to you?
3. How does your mum show love to others?
4. Do you ever feel that you are not listened to?

Group Activity
Practise listening to others by playing the game Chinese Whispers.

THIRD WEEK OF LENT

Gospel: John (12:20–33)
‘How can you rebuild it in three days?’
Theme: Love & Rebuilding

Ask the children
1. Why was Jesus so frustrated and angry with the money-changers in the Temple?
2. What Temple was Jesus really speaking about?
3. Do you think Maria’s mum worries about her daughter? What does she worry about?
4. Do you think it is difficult for Maria and her mum to rebuild their home each time it is flooded?

Group Activity
Invite the children to make a circle and say that you are going to make a storm. Start by making a sound. Try making a sound by clapping your hands and imitating the clouds. Build the storm by increasing the noise. When the noise is at its highest, gradually reduce the noise until the storm is gone.

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

Gospel: John (3:14–21)
‘Those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.’
Theme: Love & Light & Mother’s Day

Ask the children
1. Are there times when your mum has helped you?
2. How does your mum show her love to you?
3. How do you show your love to your mum?

Group Activity
Make a Mother’s Day card to tell your mum how much you love her and are thankful for her.

FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

Gospel: John (1:13–25)
‘Whoever serves me must follow me’
Theme: Love & Service

Ask the children
1. In today’s gospel, God calls us to serve. What does God mean?
2. How do you serve others?
3. Do you know someone who serves others in your community?

Group Activity
Make a badge of service for a person in your community who serves others.