

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This Sunday's Gospel: Mark 1:40–45 In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus adds to his growing community. By touching and healing a leper, Jesus shows us that God's love is for everyone. People in Jesus' time feared lepers and made them live apart from others. Jesus, reaching out to the leper gives us an example to do the same for people who many consider outcasts and outsiders.

Promise (Grades Pre School and K): Your child learned that Jesus cared for people who are left out. Ask your child to share with the family what he or she learned about caring. The Valentine's Day celebration is a good reminder of how important it is for your family to show love for one another and to all you meet.

Good News (Grades 1, 2 and 3): Your child learned how Jesus reached out to heal people who were sick. The children also learned how they can reach out to people in need. Talk about ways your family can care for the sick or reach out to people who need your help.

Venture (Grades 4–6): The class learned this week that Jesus used his humanity as well as his divinity to bring the Good News to people. The class also learned that understanding can lead to compassion for others. Talk about ways your family can grow in understanding and compassion. Your child learned that Holy Communion is most important in bringing the community together. Talk about your family's attitudes toward going to Mass and receiving Holy Communion.