



Sign of the Cross. Let's sing. (See p. 170)



quietly by yourselves

This can be a boring time of year. What makes it boring?
What makes you bored, miserable, fed up, unhappy?
Do you know anyone who cheers you up?



when each child has had time to think

Share stories.

We all feel bored and miserable at times. Probably because we spend too much time thinking about ourselves. If we did something for others we would soon cheer up and cheer others up too.



We hear today how Jesus brings happiness to others at a wedding and for the first time showed a sign of the great things he could do for us.

welcome the Gospel. Sing Alleluia. (See p. 220)



all stand (adapted from John 2:1-12)

Jesus, his mother and their friends were at a wedding when they ran out of wine.

Mary knew the bride and bridegroom would be disappointed.

She told Jesus what had happened.

She trusted him to do whatever was needed.

Later on Jesus told the waiter to fill the great jugs with water.

They did so but when they poured them out, they poured out wine not water.

He let his glory be seen and his friends began to believe.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.



all sit (some suggestions)

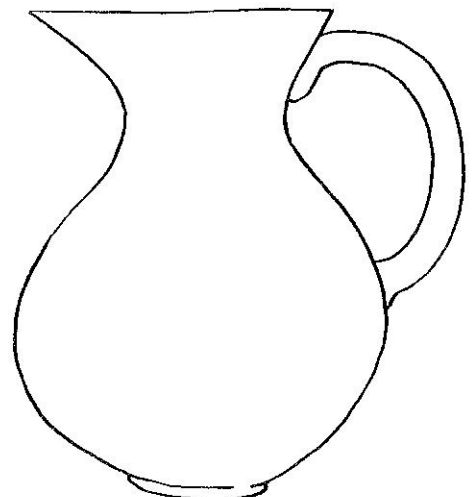
Jesus wasn't just trying to do a clever trick.

He was showing us that he can change miserable times into happy times.

He can bring happiness.

If we put our trust in him like Mary and the waiter, if we do as he says, then we can find happiness.

Let's draw a jug. Fill your jugs with things that will bring happiness.



BELIEVE!

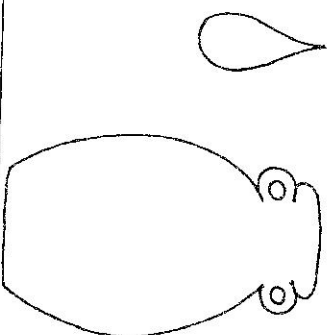
VISUAL AIDS

- > Collection of things associated with weddings, e.g. invitations, decorations, novelties, pictures of weddings.
- > Six empty jars, some red food colouring, and a bucket of water.
- > B E L I E V E in large, individual cut-out letters.
- > Water drop shape cut-outs.
- > Cut-out water jar.

SHARING

Encourage the children to share their experiences of weddings, and wedding receptions.

What would it be like if they ran out of food or drinks at a wedding?



WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing together:

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus let his glory be seen
so that we may believe in him.
Alleluia!**

A reading from the Good News given to us by John.
Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus, his mother Mary and many of his friends were invited to a wedding in a town called Cana. But in the middle of the reception, they ran out of wine! When she heard this Mary said to Jesus 'They have no wine. Jesus answer! Why tell me?'

Mary said to the servants

'Do whatever Jesus tells you to do.'
Nearly there were six stone water jars, which each held about a hundred litres. Jesus said to the servants

'Fill the jars with water.' They filled them to the brim.

'Now draw some out' said Jesus, and take it to the head waiter.' The servants did as Jesus said. The head waiter tasted the water, which had

turned into wine. He didn't know where it had come from, so he said to the bridegroom
'This is wonderful wine. Why didn't you serve this wine to your guests first?'

This was the first sign that Jesus worked so that his glory might be seen, and that people might believe in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

DISCUSSION

Encourage the children to retell the story in their own words.

Remind them of the last part, where we are told this sign was to let Jesus' glory be seen, so that we might believe. Those who believe in Jesus give him glory.
Remember the Gloria sung by the angels at Jesus' birth.

For those who believe, the whole world is full of God's glory.

For those who believe, the little drops of water of everyday life are changed, if we do them for Jesus.

Encourage the children to give examples of 'water drops', e.g. smiles, kindness, sharing.

ACTIVITIES

I have the children act out the Gospel. Make sure that the six jars have a little red food colouring in them beforehand, so that when the water is added it will look like wine!

Give out the cut-out shapes.

I have the children write or draw

on them what they want to change for Jesus in the week ahead.

> Some of the children could decorate the letters of B E L I E V E and fasten them on to the cut-out water jar.

> Collect the water drops and fasten them on to the cut-out water jar.