



Sign of the Cross.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, Amen.



quietly by yourselves

Have you noticed that it gets dark earlier?
Do you like the dark?

when each child has had time to think



What do you like/dislike about the dark?

What difference do the darker nights make?

Close your eyes, not too tight, so that you can keep them closed for a couple of minutes.

Promise?



Instead of a child a catechist lights the candle. Describe to the children what you are doing.

Jesus his friends and a crowd of people were walking down the road when they heard someone shouting for help. It was a blind beggar called Bartimaeus. He kept shouting and some people told him to shut up.

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



all stand (adapted from Mark 10:49–52)

Jesus said, "Tell him to come here."

He jumped up, threw off his coat
and ran to Jesus.

Jesus said, "What can I do to help you?"

Bartimaeus said, "Let me see."

Jesus said, "You have trusted me, now you can see."

Bartimaeus could see

and he followed Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.



all sit (some suggestions)

Open your eyes. Who kept their eyes closed all the time?

What was it like not being able to see? What do you think Bartimaeus wanted to see, to look at again?

Bartimaeus put his trust in Jesus. Can you see Jesus? Can you put your trust in him?

JESUS, THE LIGHT WITHIN US

VISUAL AIDS

- > Pictures of happy people, lights at night, e.g. candles, torches, lanterns, fairy lights, etc.
- > A candle or bright light.
- > Candle, or lamp, or lantern shape cut-outs.

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing together:

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus is the light of the world.
Let us follow him.
Alleluia!**

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

Jesus was on his way out of Jericho with a large crowd of people. A blind man, called Bartimaeus, sat at the roadside, as he always did, begging. When he heard that Jesus was passing, he began shouting 'Jesus, Son of David! Have mercy on me!' The people around him tried to

DISCUSSION

- Who was Bartimaeus? And how did he usually spend his days?
- What did he want? What did he do?
- What did the people think of this? What did Jesus think?
- What did Jesus do for him?
- What did Jesus say saved Bartimaeus?
- What did Bartimaeus do after he could see again?

SHARING

Show the children the pictures and encourage the children to say what makes them happy.
What fills their lives with brightness and light?
How do they bring brightness into the lives of others?
Light the candle or switch on the light.

In today's Gospel we hear about a man who could not see the light.

shush him, but he shouted even louder
'Jesus, Son of David! Have pity on me!'
Jesus stopped and said,
'Bring him here.' To the blind man he said
'Don't worry, it's me, Jesus, calling you.' Bartimaeus jumped up immediately and went to Jesus.
'What do you want from me?' asked Jesus.

'Master, let me see again.'
'Go', said Jesus, your faith has saved you.'
Immediately, Bartimaeus could see again, and he followed Jesus along the road.

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

ACTIVITIES

- > Have the children act out the Gospel story.
- > Give out the cut-out shapes.
- > Have the children write or draw on them how they will let the light of faith shine in their lives in the coming week.

