

One Body, Many Parts – 3rd Sunday (Year C)

Luke 1:1-4. 4:14-21 and 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Sometimes the Church does not reflect what is written in 1 Corinthians 12 but it is God's intention that Church (Body of Christ) serves as a unified institution, working together to worship God and to serve others. Individuals have different gifts but they have them because God has given them to be used for the purpose of unifying the Church. The passage of Scripture in 1 Corinthians 12 is a little tricky in its language but the message is relatively simple – God wants us all to work together as one to fulfil His will and we have Christ as our head to guide us.

Sharing Scripture

Explain to the children that St Paul, when he writes his letter to the Church in Corinth, talks about the Church as a 'body'. A body has many parts (fingers, legs, heart, arms etc.) performing different functions, all playing an important role to the whole. If one part hurts, the whole body knows about it.

Tell the children that St Paul talks about the Church like a body because we all have a part to play in the Church that we belong to, as well as the global Church. Ask a child to read out 1 Corinthians 12:27. As members of the Church and we can and should contribute to its works. We do this with our gifts and talents.

Follow the instructions on the pdf 'One Body craft'. As you do the craft with the children, remind them that we look to Jesus as the head (our guide). There are then many people and things that we do as a Church to help us be the Church that God wants us to be. Prayer, worship, the Eucharist, fun and Scripture could all be used to complete the craft.

SCIAF

There are many great things that you will do as a Church within the local community so make sure you let the children know about those ministries and activities. There is also lots that you will do globally, so help the children understand that when they raise money and pray for SCIAF, they contribute to some amazing achievements. SCIAF is part of the Catholic Church in Scotland. Many parishes and individuals support us, but we are all one Church. Using the 'SCIAF's History' pdf, read out some of, or all the facts and stats that SCIAF have achieved because of the 'many parts' becoming 'one body'.

Respond

Ask the children to take their 'body' crafts home and to pray each day for their Church locally and globally.