

Sunday School Lesson Time!

A Miniature Church - The Altar

The Sunday School children have been soooooo looking forward to this day when they would start the lessons on making a miniature church! using paper origami for all the main parts in a church. Today they are doing the first lesson in which they learn about the purpose of a church and the altar in particular.

See how they get along below.....

The vicar has been VERY kind to the children and allowed them to all come into the sanctuary. The vicar is seen here telling them all about the altar. Alice wants to know WHY there are two candle sticks on the altar. The vicar is able to explain that one candle represents Jesus as a human being and the other as Jesus, the Son of God. Oh dear! Has anybody noticed that there is ONE little boy who looks very bored and naughty? That little boy is young Robert Alexander. You see.....he has even brought his dog and the vicar was good enough to let his dog, Georgie, join him in the sanctuary.

However, even that has not made Robert Alexander a good boy has it? He is STILL pretending to be bored and not at all interested! Poor vicar! At least the other children are looking very much more interested in what he has to tell them.



Priscilla Jane has already been told all about the altar and why churches all have them.

The vicar has asked her to do a VERY special job here. She has got the cardboard box which will be used to put all the miniature paper church furniture in. The problem is.....HOW can we SEE the furniture once it is in the box which represents a church?

Priscilla Jane has had a brainwave! She has decided to cut out one of the sides. Baby Clarissa Elizabeth may be too

young to join in and help but she certainly loved to watch all that goes on from her high chair. She is VERY content because her daddy, the Rev Ken, remembered to bring her little teddy for her to keep her secure.

Well done Priscilla Jane! Look how clever she has been with those pair of scissors?!

She is showing her work off to the vicar and Megan who have come down from the sanctuary to see how she was getting on.

The vicar has done his very best to gather ALL the children together to tell them the bible story that Miss Webb had chosen for this lesson on the church building and, in particular, the altar.

Although most of the children are listening intently to what the vicar has to tell them, there ARE a couple of children who are "doing their own thing". Can you see which two children they are?

As we hope you can see, young Amelia has taken herself to the top of the stairs! She always loves to sit up there during a Sunday School lesson. Although you may think she is NOT listening, she IS because she is a very intellectual child who never misses



anything that is told her in church.

However we are not so sure about young Robert Alexander who is typically sat slouched on the bell tower stairs. He does NOT look as if he is hearing one word of what the vicar is saying does he?

Alice, as the oldest young lady in the Sunday School, has been asked by the vicar to give out the templates of the altar for the children to colour in, cut out and make up.

Look at what a good pet dog, Georgie is to Robert Alexander? She has got his altar template and is just about to give it to him. Isn't she a clever dog?! The vicar has told them that the first child who finishes colouring in and cutting out will have THEIR altar used in the Sunday School miniature church!! We wonder WHO will be that lucky child to have such a wonderful honour?

Amelia does look as if she is doing very well in her work.

Already she has coloured her altar template in with yellows and reds.

She has now begun to cut it out.

Do you think that SHE will be the first to finish her altar?

Look at all the other children here. They are all enjoying colouring their altar templates in with different colours.

Emily loves the colour blue so it is no surprise that her altar will have a lot of blue in it! Some have even started to cut them out but none we see here are finished yet are they?

Look at all the other children here. They are all enjoying colouring their altar templates in with different colours.



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the colour blue so it is no surprise that her altar will have a lot of blue in it! Some have even started to cut them out but none we see here are finished yet are they?

Oh dear! We don't think that Robert Alexander stands much chance of finishing his first do we?

He hasn't even begun! Hurry up Robert Alexander, the other children are already well ahead of you!



Well done Priscilla Jane! She has already finished hers.

It is coloured in and cut out and stuck down. Sepp, Homer's pet rat, is being naughty again and jumped up on to the table to inspect the coloured pencils and crayons.



Alice has put the cardboard box with the side that Priscilla Jane cut out on to the big table. Priscilla Jane has proudly put her altar in the box and Phoebe is having a look at it. She is **MOST** impressed with Priscilla Jane's work and is now inspired to finish her altar too so she can take it home with her. The children have enjoyed this first lesson in the miniature church series **so** much that they are very much looking forward to completing the next lesson.

Sunday School Lessons Time

A Miniature Church – The Font

Find out below how the children enjoyed their second lesson about building a miniature church and finding out about the different furniture inside a church. Today they were going to learn all about the font! However things didn't quite go according to plan.....find out why below.....

This lesson is a very special one because it is the very first lesson that Miss Esther takes as Sunday School teacher.

Emily and Robert Alexander volunteered to arrive early at church on the morning they were having a Sunday School lesson with Miss Esther. Miss Esther had asked them to help her put the tables and chairs out as well as making sure they put the crayons and pencils out too.

Look at what has happened?! Instead of arriving early at church Emily and Robert Alexander spent time at the nearby pond instead. Georgie, Robert Alexander's dog, had chased some of the frogs out of the pond and even brought one into church in his mouth. If you look carefully you can Emily has not been a good girl either. She had been asked to bring a jam jar to put some of the crayons in. Instead she couldn't resist catching some tadpoles that she saw in the pond. see THREE frogs in the church.



Look at Georgie. She looks SO pleased with herself having caught this frog in her mouth. She is showing off to Emily how clever she was to catch it!

The two other frogs are enjoying jumping around the bell tower floor!

It is no surprise is it that crayons have fallen on the floor here! In fact the two children have not done a good job at all in putting out all the things for the lesson. They have enjoyed chasing the frogs and Georgie around the church instead!



Can you see where two of the frogs have gone? The children have been VERY naughty and put them on the font.

Emily and Robert Alexander remembered that when baby Clarissa was baptised the vicar put some water in the font. That made them think that it would be a REALLY great idea if the tadpoles made the font their new home along with the frogs!!! Emily was looking forward to tipping her tadpoles and water out of her jam jar into the font and watching them swimming around in it.

It is fortunate that Miss Esther, and Alice, who helps her with the children, have both found out in time isn't it? They both look really cross to find the frogs here!

Miss Esther has made the children pick up the two naughty frogs off the font and has told them that they must take them AND the tadpoles back to the pond.

She explained that the font was not a good place for tadpoles and frogs to live even though the vicar does put water in it when he is going to baptise someone!



All the Sunday School children have now arrived for the lesson on the font! Everything is lovely and tidy now because Alice and Miss Esther had cleared up the mess that Emily and Robert Alexander had left when they took the frogs and tadpoles back to their proper home, the pond.

Miss Esther was able to use the fact that the two children had brought the tadpoles and frogs into church to help further explain what baptism is to the children. She went on to explain that when we are baptised we become a "new" person, made perfect in the sight of God.

That's just like the tadpoles become "new" creatures (frogs) when they finally come up out of the water!



A Pentecost Sunday School Lesson

The vicar has decided that the children would enjoy doing Miss Webb's Pentecost lesson for Pentecost Sunday. See how they got along with it below.....

Adele has been asked to bring the jar of coloured crayons and pencils along so this lesson MUST be very exciting!

Priscilla Jane has also been asked to bring a headband, which is part of the lesson plan.

Even Magnifi-Cat the church cat, Sepp the rat, Syd the pigeon, Nunc Dimittis, the mouse, and his white mouse friend have decided to join them after hearing all about this exciting lesson.



The vicar has gathered the children all together to talk to them about the meaning of Pentecost. Have you noticed that even Homer has joined them!

The vicar tells them all about the Holy Spirit who descended upon all of Jesus' disciples at Pentecost like tongues of fire.

The children are fascinated to hear that the Holy Spirit made it possible for the disciples to speak in languages they had NEVER learnt!

The children had great fun learning how to say "Good day" in lots of different languages. Homer was even able to teach them how to say it in German - "Guten Tag" (*pronounced GOOT-en Tahk*)



The vicar comes from Australia so he was able to tell them how to say Good Day in Australian - which is....." **G'Day**"! They loved to imitate him when he said that.

The children enjoyed colouring in a headband which had all the words of the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

The fruit include "love", "joy" and "peace" and other good things. The headbands have got some of these words on to remind the children all about them.

The Holy Spirit is often represented as a flame so the children are encouraged to colour in the flame with reds, oranges and yellows.

Oh dear! What have we got here? Emily has spent all of HER time drinking her soda pop and obviously has not been listening to the vicar. Can you see what colour she is using that is NOT one the children were told to use!!!!



Fortunately both Tom and Priscilla Jane HAVE been very observant! As you can see they have got a ready-made headband that HAS got the right colours on the flame! They cannot make the same mistake as Emily CAN they? Alice is helping the vicar by making sure the children know what they are doing.

Amelia is a clever girl! She needs NO reminding what colours to use!

She loves to "escape" to the top of the stairs so that she can finish her work without ANY interruption!

Phoebe is deep in thought. She is pondering about what the vicar was talking about.

She is imagining how wonderful it must have been for the disciples to suddenly find they can speak loads and loads of

languages they have NEVER learnt!

The children have finished their Holy Spirit headbands and have moved into the church.



Alice and Megan have enjoyed making the sanctuary flower arrangement.

They were VERY careful to only pick flowers that were the same as those on the headband flame.

Some white flowers are in this floral arrangement too. This is because a white dove also represents the Holy Spirit.



Emily has still NOT noticed that she has used one wrong colour in her headband.

Adele and Tom noticed that she had got it wrong and have made her one with the RIGHT colours in.

Emily is pleased to have such kind and considerate friends.

Tom and Adele really ARE showing that they have the fruit of the Holy Spirit by being so helpful and kind towards all of their Sunday School friends.



Priscilla Jane felt moved to pray to God for HIM to give her all of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. The words on her headband help to remind her to ask God for all of the right things.



Advent

The children enjoy their Advent lessons at Sunday School!

The children are excited to be involved in doing the new Advent Lessons Miss Webb has prepared! See how they do as the vicar and the Sunday school teacher, Miss Esther, and her assistant, Alice, together with the vicar, help the children learn more about Christmas colours and their special meanings.....

Miss Esther and Alice have been VERY busy preparing for this Advent lesson for the Sunday School children!

Alice has had Miss Webb's "Colours of Christmas" poem printed out very large in order to pin it to the blackboard. She has also printed out two of the Christmas tree templates for the children to colour in after the vicar has given them a talk about the significance of the colours purple and blue. Oh dear though.....who HAVE we here sat on the bottom of the stairs clutching a purple cabbage?.....



.....it is none other than young Robert Alexander! He was very proud of himself as he was the first child to arrive at church! You see, the week before Miss Esther was asking all the children, by way of preparation for this lesson, to find out something about the colours purple and blue. Robert Alexander thought he was SO clever because he had noticed these purple cabbages on one of the market stalls when he and his mother were out shopping. He HAD to bring it along to the Sunday School for this lesson on Advent and the colours blue and purple!

And.....would you believe it but he has even given his cabbage a name.....Charles! What a royal name for a purple cabbage! We are not sure what our Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, would think though.....if only he knew?!

How many animals and birds can you count here? All the church pets and wildlife were al SO excited about this lesson that they HAD to attend too!

Esme, the local Mallard duck, was keen to see better so she decided to perch on the kneeler.

Tinker is trying to catch Emily's attention but Emily is too interested in what the vicar has to say to take any notice of her.

The vicar started to explain about the colour purple and how it is a royal colour to denote that Jesus was a King even though he was born to a poor family and in a stable with animals and hay. The vicar also explained that the colour blue is sometimes used in some churches during Advent as it denotes the sky and how the three kings, or wise men, were guided by the star that led them to Jesus born in Bethlehem.

Oh dear.....WHAT has happened to poor Esme, the duck? Naughty Robert Alexander has still managed to come into the church late for the vicar's teaching on the colours blue and purple. He has also ousted poor Esme off her perch too.....and has the cheek to doze off whilst resting on the altar.

He is still clutching his "royal" cabbage now he has heard that purple also means "royal"!!!



Adele was really keen to see the vicar's purple silk stole so he was kind enough to take it off and let her hold it.

She was interested to know now why he wore a purple one during Advent. Tinker is still trying to catch the children's attention!

Priscilla Jane and Tom have been allowed into the sanctuary because they promised to be really good!

They wanted to look at the embroidered purple hardanger cross on the altar cloth.



The children are all seated now as Miss Esther draws their attention to the Christmas Colours poem that Alice has pinned up on the blackboard.

Ben is most particularly interested to read it as it explains what the colours mean as they prepare for Christmas.

Oh dear.....Charles the royal named cabbage has appeared again.....it seems that Robert Alexander is not going anywhere without "him"!!

Tom has been asked to give out the Christmas tree templates with stars on.

These are for those of the Sunday School who want to represent the colour blue. The stars appear in the blue sky!

Adele is giving out the Christmas tree template with crowns on to represent the colour purple and royalty. Bardsley and Georgie are most interested to watch all that is going on as you can all see.



Something is NOT quite right here? Can anyone see what it is?

Oh dear.....again...Robert Alexander has decided to do his own thing. Can you see what he is drawing? He has been VERY naughty and turned the paper over which Tom so carefully gave out to him with a Christmas tree template and drawn his cabbage instead! Ummmmm.....WHAT will the vicar be saying to him when he sees what he has done?



Well done Amelia! Amelia is one of the most intellectual of the children in the Sunday School and she prides herself on being able to get everything right!

Here you can see she has already coloured in her Christmas tree with crowns on and it busy carefully cutting it out!

Georgie is most interested to watch. Robert Alexander must be SO jealous that his dog, Georgie, is not interested in HIS wonderful drawing of a purple cabbage called Charles!

Amelia may have nearly finished her Christmas tree but the other children are just enjoying a relaxing time colouring in and chatting to Miss Esther and Alice about Advent and the soon to arrive, Christmas Day!

