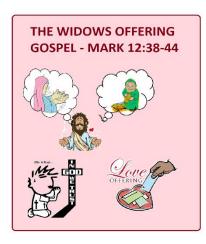
## "The Widows Offering" Children's Liturgy Activity November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021



The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.
- Psalms 146:8

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

In today's gospel, we see Jesus' teaching about scribes. Jesus said 'beware of scribes' who does everything for a show off and who prefers to get recognized in honorable positions. They offer lengthy prayers to show off. It is such of these who squander the poor and the widows.

Jesus and his disciples then watched people putting offerings in the treasury. Rich men who had lot of wealth put lot of money in the treasury out of their excess. A widow came to the treasury and put two small coins. Then Jesus called his disciples and said, 'this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury'. The reason that Jesus gave was, for all the rich men put money from their abundance, but the widow offered it from the little she had, and has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.

An offering that is done out of pain and of sincere love is always valued more than the actual physical value of the offerings. God looks at a person's heart during the offerings. The widow offered out of love towards God with a sincere heart. She took pain to offer the only little she had for God.

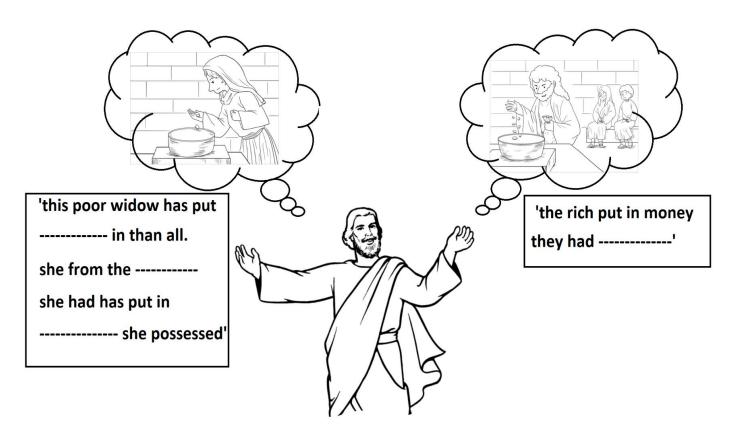
Let us examine our offerings. Are we offering with a sincere heart and in happiness? Are our offerings out of pure intention of love to God? Are we offering to show off? Do we often complain to offer? Are we offering from what we are having in excess or Are we offering everything in trust by completely surrendering to God?

The greatest offering is that of Jesus'. Jesus gave himself for saving the whole world. He offered himself in love, obedience and trust in Father. He offered himself out of love for each of us. He did not spare anything for his own comforts, but emptied himself out of love for each of us. He said "not my, but let thy will be done"

What are our offerings to God? Have you noticed the time of Offertory during the Holy Mass? During this time, the bread and wine is offered to the Altar. Also, money collected from the people or other gifts for donating to poor or for the church is also collected and placed below the altar. Not only that, but also, we have to offer ourselves, our family, our prayers, our needs to the lord. Offerings are a sign of our trust, thankfulness and praise to God. It comes from a heart of love and worship to our lord. It acknowledges that everything we have belongs to the Lord. What else can we offer to our lord? We can give our time to our lord; listening to him or by listening to the one who is needy. We can give our talents to lord for Him to use it for his purposes. We can give our food, or clothes or any help for the poor and needy.

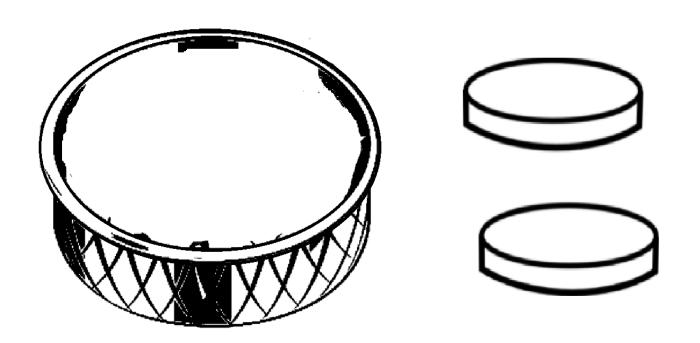
God loves a cheerful giver. No matter how little we have, let us offer to God sincerely out love towards him. Let us offer with a thankful heart. Let us offer in trust and obedience for all his purposes. Let us offer in humility. As we offer, the lord will bless it and use it for the good of many.

## Can you fill in the blanks with what Jesus said to the disciples in today's Gospel? Colour the picture too.



Cut out the basket template, colour it and stick it on a lollistick side in its base on the reverse. Cut out the coins and write down 'what you like to offer for the lord to be blessed by him and to be used for the good of many?' Remember to offer it in love and sincerity.

Finally Colour the coins and stick it in the basket.



## MATCH CORRECTLY THE BELOW OFFERING INCIDENTS FROM THE BIBLE.

| -                            |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| clue:Genesis 4:1-7           | GOD GAVE HIS ONLY SON TO SAVE THE WORLD. |
| clue: Genesis 22             | OFFERING OF THE LITTLE BOY.              |
| clue:Acts of Apostles 5:1-11 | OFFERING OF CAIN AND ABEL.               |
| clue: John 6:1-14            | HANNAH OFFERING SAMUEL.                  |
| clue:1 samuel 1:20-28        | ABRAHAM OFFERING ISAAC TO THE LORD.      |
| clue:John 3:16               | OFFERING OF ANNANIAS AND ZAFIRA.         |

## WORDSEARCH

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Let us pray,

Dear Lord, we thank you for blessing us with eternal life by offering your only son Jesus and giving us the gift of Holy Spirit to walk in the way towards eternity. Give us grace to understand the treasures that you have deposited in us and to be faithful. No matter how little we feel we have, help us to value it in thanksgiving and offer it to you out of love with a whole heart as a pleasing offering to you. Jesus, we trust in you, and we offer everything to you. No matter how little, accept our offerings, bless it and use it for the glory of God and for the good of many. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.