

HELP CHEEKY PANDAS Help, Spider Madness

Key Learning: We learn about the armour of God and how it helps us be brave.

'Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So, likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy."

Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Luke 10:30-37

Saint of the Day

St Jude Thaddeus was one of the apostles. He is the patron saint of 'hopeless causes' because people who go to his graveside asking for help with really difficult situations have had their prayers answered.

Some think that he understands difficult situations because people might have confused him with Judas, who betrayed Jesus.

Session Outline

1. Informal welcome as families arrive

2. Official welcome

Introduce the title, theme, and all members of your team to all present, including the person to contact if they have technical issues, questions or concerns.
Outline what will happen during this session, how long it will take, and the key learning for today's session.
Ensure they have any resources needed for the activity in the video.

You will need...

- Video
- Something you use to protect yourself e.g. an umbrella, sun cream
- Presentation for Prayer



3. Opening prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for each person who has come to the session today. Help us to realise that we are precious in your eyes and that you help us to be strong when we face difficulties. Please help us to trust in you more and more each day.

We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

4. Warm-up activity

Invite the children to tell you of things that we might need protection from in nature. If they have brought something to show, ask them to hold it up to the camera and tell you how it protects them. Encourage them to see that in one way or another these things help us to stay safe.

5. Saint of the day

Today our saint is St Jude Thaddeus, one of the Apostles. His name is very similar to a follower of Jesus who betrayed him, can they guess who it might be? St Jude is mentioned in the Bible, when he asks Jesus a question and the writer makes a point of letting us know that it is not Judas Iscariot. Perhaps this was a difficulty St Jude had to overcome, being mistaken for someone who betrayed Jesus. With the help of God, St Jude became the patron saint of hopeless causes because people who ask for his prayers often get a positive response, even if the situation seems hopeless. In the Gospel of John, St Jude asks:

'But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?'

John 14:22

6. Watch video

Something has given the Pandas a fright. Let's see what happens today.

7. Group discussion

After the video, help the children explore the theme through using the following questions:

- What scared the Pandas in the video?
- What did they do about it on their own?
- What difference did it make when they asked God for help?
- What has happened when you have asked God for help?
- If you haven't, what stops you from asking?

If you have enough facilitators this can be done in smaller groups, using multiple rooms. However, if this is not possible, you can also ask people to respond via the chat and then ask them to tell you a little more.



8. Family challenge

Encourage the families present to talk about today's session using the following questions:

- What did you learn from today?
- What questions do you have?
- What part of the armour of God did you like?

If you will send the questions via email, mention it here so people can subscribe to your email list.

9. Parish announcements

We would love to see you at the following events/ services:

Sunday Mass at ____ am/pm or online via: _____
Next week our session is called The Wrong Box, where we will find out about finding the best treasure ever.
We would love to see something small that you treasure, so please bring it with you to the next session.

10. Closing prayer

Begin with the Sign of the Cross
Prayer Intention: We pray for people who are frightened or experiencing difficulties. May they know how God wants to help them and have the courage to trust in him

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be
Leader: St Jude the Apostle,

All: Pray for us.

Leader: Mary, help of Christians,

All: Pray for us.

Finish with the Sign of the Cross