

*"Somehow when we love and respect others,
we reveal to them not only their significance,
but liberate them to emerge from
behind the barriers that restrain them."*

Anonymous

1 Questions to consider

- 1) How would you describe a community?
- 2) What are the joys of belonging to a community?
- 3) How do different individuals enrich our communities?
- 4) How do we learn from each other and show an understanding of the different roles and responsibilities people have in their communities?
Look at some key figures that children will be able to make connections with e.g. Teachers, police, swimming instructors, sports coaches etc
- 5) What do you bring to the communities you belong to? (Respect, love, care generosity of spirit, loyalty and forgiveness).

2 Possible activities

- 1) Create an acrostic poem or poster using the words: Respect, Community, Diversity, and Friendship.
- 2) Write a letter describing how you would welcome a new person to your home, school, parish or club.
- 3) Write a list of behaviours you could display that would have an impact on the community you belong to e.g. Greet everyone with a smile; respect everyone; treat everyone equally; reduce the use of plastic; pick up rubbish; take care of the elderly etc.

3 Pause and reflect

Reflective music

The Trinity is the core of our faith and so we begin,
"In the name of the Father,
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen"

We light a candle to welcome Jesus
among us.

Questions to ponder

- 1) Why is my community good for me?
Home, school, parish etc.
- 2) What do I bring to my community and what do I receive in return?
- 3) What joys do I experience in my community?

4 Scripture reading

Philippians 2:1, 2, 3

Your life in Christ, makes you strong and his love comforts you. I urge you, then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind.

Look out for one another's interests and not your own.

5 Sing

'Lay your hands gently upon us.'

[Celebration Hymnal for Everyone, No. 347]