



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME



## UNIT 3

# God Made Me Special

### AIMS

1. To reflect on our specialness as human beings and that we are created in the Image of God himself.
2. To answer with reverence and gratitude to God the Creator.
3. To consider ways how to give ourselves as gifts to others.

### KEY WORDS

- GIFTS
- IMAGE OF GOD
- HUMAN BEINGS

### RESOURCES

- Gift-box (with a mirror inside)
- Worksheet 3

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Invite children to keep a few moments of silence to thank God for the gift of themselves and to think of the things they can do. Invite them to think about how they are going to use their talents to help others.

Sing the hymn **Thank you**.  
(Hymns can also be used as a reflection by being read before being sung)

### NOTES

OTHER PRAYERS: Remember to use a few minutes (ideally in each session to talk to children about other prayers they should learn such as the OUR FATHER, HAIL MARY etc. See PRAYER BOOK for Children's prayers.

### INTRODUCTION

Invite the children to speak about the work they did the week before in class and at home - God's gifts to us. Collect last session's worksheet and discuss key points. Ask if children took any more notice of any of God's special Gifts.

Say that today you would like to show them another of God's gifts and you could see this wrapped in the gift-box. Open the gift and let the children look inside but not tell anyone the gift they see. The mirror is placed inside the gift box so that when children peep inside they see their own face.

### MAIN

- Ask the children what they saw in the box. Explain that they saw an image of themselves. God made us special — just as he is. He made us an **IMAGE** of himself. Refer to the Bible text shown in Worksheet 3 side B. Invite them to talk about why they are gifts. Also illustrate how we are all different but God loves each of us whatever our strengths and weaknesses are. He made each person **special** and he will always love them and provide for all their needs.
- Invite children to talk about themselves, their name, their age, their hair colour and also to talk about things they are good at. Ask them to show to the group something that they can do — for example, dance; sing; draw; make a handstand etc. These are some of the wonderful things that we can do. These good qualities are God's gifts to us too.
- Is it not wonderful to be a person - a Human Being? Let the children discover how wonderful we are, how wonderful are the things they can do. Talk about the five senses — we can see, hear, feel, smell and taste. Give examples for each of the 5 senses. What do you like to see, smell etc? But we can do more than that. We can do things that other creatures cannot do — We can **think, choose** and **love**. Again this shows we are created in the **IMAGE OF GOD**.
- Unlike other objects Human Beings have feelings too. At times we feel good and happy. Other times we feel sad, upset or cross about something. This too shows how special we are. We are more special than anything else God created.
- We must use all our gifts to help others. God wants us to **share** these gifts with others. Invite children to share examples of how this could be done in their daily life. You could also use the story of Yvonne (see worksheet) and other stories of saints or famous people who made themselves a 'gift' to others.

### ACTIVITY

Children write their name on a class poster Saying — **THIS IS ME - GOD MADE ME SPECIAL**. Another option is for children to use some water based paint to print their thumb or whole hand on the poster and write their name next to it.

Hand out Worksheet 3 and go through the different parts. Remind that it's good to ask for help at home or complete the worksheet and read the stories on side b together with a parent.