GUIDED EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR

CK101 Script #14 - "Little Nellie of Holy God"

EXPOSITION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

As we begin, the prayer leader says:

Boys and girls, please stand when Father/Deacon enters and then kneel when he opens the tabernacle. We will sing, "O Saving Victim," found in your program, when Father exposes Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, placing the Host in the monstrance on the altar.

O Saving Victim, open wide, The gate of Heaven to man below, Our foes press on from every side; Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.

To Thy great Name be endless praise, Immortal Godhead, one in Three! Oh, grant us endless length of day, In our true native land, with Thee! Amen.

GREETING JESUS AND OPENING PRAYERS

(We are still kneeling) After Father/Deacon exits: Jesus, we are so happy to be to be here to make our visit with You. (pause) Thank You, Jesus! Thank You for always being here for us. (long pause)

Lord, we begin by calling upon our Holy Guardian Angel and all the Holy Angels here with us right now. We ask the Holy Angels to help us adore You. Together we pray the first prayer found on the back of our program: "Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day be at my side to light, to guard, to rule and to guide. Amen." (pause)

We also call upon the mighty Prince of the Heavenly Host, Saint Michael. Together we pray: "Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen." (long pause)

Jesus, we know there is nobody who ever loved You more than our beautiful Blessed Mother Mary loved You. We now ask her to help us love You, Jesus! (pause) We entrust ourselves to her by praying together: "Holy Mary, I want to belong to you. I give you my whole self and all the good things I do: at home, at school, at Church and at play. My Mother! I am all yours, and all I do belongs to you to give to Jesus. Amen." (long pause)

Yes, all that we have, all that we are, belongs to You, Jesus. (long pause) We want to tell how much we love You, Jesus, by praying our "100,000 Heartbeats Prayer." Together we pray: "Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, truly present on the altar in the little white Host, I love You! I love You with all my heart and I know You love me with all Your Heart! Jesus, my heart beats around 100,000 times a day. I want each one of my heartbeats to say: Jesus, I love You! Jesus, I love You! Jesus, I love You!" (very long pause)

ROSARY DECADE PREPARATION WITH BIBLE STORY

Jesus, I'm going to invite the boys and girls to sit now, as we prepare our hearts to offer You our Rosary decade by reading a Gospel story in our Bible.

(Be seated) *Boys and girls, open up your Bibles to page 212. Let's take a look at that picture.* (Prayer leader now reads the story from the "New Catholic Picture Bible" by Father Lawrence Lovasik. The only adjustment is the prayer leader will always change the text in the places needed to **address Jesus directly** by talking **to** Him instead of **about** Him.)

Jesus, when the apostles heard that You were dead, they returned one by one to Jerusalem. They gathered at the house where they had eaten the Last Supper with You. They were very sad. They had hoped that You would set up Your great earthly kingdom at this feast. They also hoped to be important in that kingdom. Now that You were dead so were all their hopes.

But on Sunday morning, You rose by Your own divine power, a glorious Victor, as You had promised. The earth quaked as You came forth from the tomb, and the guards trembled with fear. Your body now shone like the sun. The wounds of Your hands and feet sparkled like precious jewels. Death was conquered.

In Your Resurrection Your body was glorified by being united again to Your glorified Soul. Your body took on spiritual qualities: immortality, beauty and glory, freedom and the power to move about with speed and without hindrance. Your Divinity shone forth through Your glorified body, and floods of joy poured into Your Soul and Sacred Heart.

Your Resurrection was the crown of Your life and work as God-Man, because it was the beginning of the glorious life that was due to You as the Son of God. It was also the reward of Your life of suffering.

Jesus, Your Resurrection is the strongest proof of Your Divinity. The whole truth and meaning of our faith rests upon this greatest of all miracles. You are the Son of God, Your teaching must be true, and the Church which You founded is the Church of the living God. Its sacraments give us the means of salvation by imparting divine grace.

Though it is not mentioned in the Gospels, You surely appeared to Your Mother first. You had received from her the life that was now so glorious. Since she shared in all Your sorrows and sufferings, it was fitting that she should share in the joy and glory of Your triumph. (long pause)

Jesus, You died on on the Cross on Good Friday and now on Easter Sunday You rise in triumph from the dead! You are radiant in your glorified body!

Each time we pray the Apostles' Creed, we proclaim that we believe in the "resurrection of the body and life everlasting." One day, we too will have a glorified body!

Jesus, we offer our Rosary decade for all those who have broken bodies and are physically handicapped. We pray especially for children who cannot walk or run or move their arms or hands.

Help us all to remember that at the resurrection of the body, those who love You will live forever with glorified bodies that are beautiful and work perfectly - just like Yours!

PRAYING THE ROSARY DECADE

Boys and girls, let's take out our Rosary beads now and kneel down. (kneel) Find the Crucifix on the end of your Rosary beads. Let's give the Crucifix a kiss. (kiss the Cross) Thank You, Jesus, thank You for dying on the Cross for me. Let's make the Sign of the Cross together: "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

Now find the first decade on your Rosary beads. (pause) Jesus, with all the love in our hearts, we offer You the first Glorious mystery, Your Resurrection.

Boys and girls, I'll say the first part of the prayer, you say the second. (pause) (Prayer leader) "Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. They will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. (Boys and girls) Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen." (Prayer leader) "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. (Boys and girls) Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen." (9 times)

Boys and girls, we come now to our last "Hail Mary." We pause and call this one our "Golden Hail Mary." What special intentions do you need to bring to Jesus? Are you worried about something to do with school? Is there someone in your family who needs prayers? If it is important to you, it is important to Jesus because you are so important to Him! Tell Jesus everything. He is listening. (Very long pause) Jesus, we gather up all our special intentions and lay them before Your throne as together we pray: Hail Mary...

Boys and girls, let's bow our heads down low and adore the most Holy Trinity. (Very long pause of adoration silence.) Together we pray: "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."

Let's come back up slowly now and look right at Jesus on the altar. (pause). This next prayer is one that Blessed Mother taught the three children at Fatima. Our Lady asked that this be prayed at the end of each Rosary decade. (pause) Jesus, we know this must be very important. (pause) Boys and girls, let's hold out our hand towards Jesus (extend your hand) Together we pray: "O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy. Amen." (pause) Let's find the Crucifix again at the end of our Rosary beads and give the Cross a kiss. (kiss the Cross) Together we make the Sign of the Cross: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Boys and girls, have a seat. (very long pause)

SAINT OR STORY MEDITATION

Jesus, our meditation story is about a little girl who loved You very much! I am going to invite the boys and girls to listen carefully to her story and then during our quiet prayer time, they can speak with You about what inspired them the most about her life. (pause)

Ellen Organ was born in Waterford City, Ireland on August 24, 1903. She was the youngest of four children. Her nickname was Nellie.

Nellie had a serious fall as a baby when she was accidentally dropped. The fall caused her hips to be out of joint and her spine became crooked as she grew. This caused her much pain.

When Nellie turned four years old, her mother died. Her father was unable to take care of all his children by himself so Nellie was sent to a home run by the Good Shepherd Sisters. Nellie was happy there and loved the sisters who took care of her very much.

There was a chapel where Nellie now lived and the very first time she saw the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the monstrance she cried, "There He is! There is Holy God now!" She loved to go to the chapel often which she called, "the House of Holy God."

Contacting the local bishop, the sisters asked permission for Nellie to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation because of her very poor health. Bishop Thomas O'Callaghan agreed to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on October 8, 1907. Nellie took this very seriously and exclaimed, "I am now a soldier of Holy God!" This was the turning point in her life. Mother Mary Francis stated that never again did she display signs of impatience.

After this, Nellie began asking if she could receive You, Jesus, in Holy Communion. The sisters tried to explain to her that children who received their First Holy Communion had to be twelve years old but Nellie insisted. The sisters had a priest come visit her and he asked, "Tell me Nellie, what is Holy Communion?" Nellie replied, "It is Holy God. It is He who makes the Nuns and everyone else so happy!"

The bishop then gave special permission for Nellie to receive her First Holy Communion at the age of four. Upon hearing the happy news Nellie kept repeating, "Oh! I will have Holy God in my heart! I will have Holy God in my heart!"

Nellie received Holy Communion thirty-two times before she died. Her preparation was only outdone by the time she spent in thanksgiving afterwards. Once Nellie remained in her prayer of thanksgiving the entire day until five o'clock in the evening. On that occasion Mother Mary Francis quietly approached her to see if she was alright. As if awakened from a dream, Nellie turned toward the Mother Superior with a radiant face and said, "Oh Mother, I am so happy! I have been talking to Holy God."

Nellie had the same sickness that had taken her dear mother. It was a disease called tuberculosis. Nellie would look at the little Crucifix that she held tightly in her hand and the sisters often heard her whisper, "Holy God. Holy God." When the pain became too much she would cry out, "Holy God suffered far more on the Cross for me!"

Sunday, February 2, 1908, the Feast of the Purification of Our Lady, was the day that Nellie died. She was wearing her First Communion dress. At three in the afternoon, she became very calm and looked intently at "something" at the foot of her bed. She made an attempt to raise herself in that direction but was too weak. However, her gaze did not leave that spot. The look on her face was not one of someone dying. Her eyes were filled with tears of joy as she appeared to be speaking to someone. Slowly her eyes moved upward, as if following that "something" over her bed. Moments later, with a beautiful smile, she breathed her last. Nellie was four years, five months and eight days old.

Nellie was first buried in the town cemetery but the sisters who had cared for her lamented the loss of such a special child and requested her reburial in the convent cemetery. To the astonishment of those present at her exhumation a year later, Nellie's body was not only found to be totally incorrupt (how she looked when she was alive) but her clothes were in exactly the same condition as the day she was originally buried. Even the holy medal which hung around her neck was still shining.

The story of Nellie reached the pope at the time who was Pope St. Pius X. He was considering lowering the age of receiving First Holy Communion. It is reported that when he heard about "Little Nellie of Holy God," as she was now called, he exclaimed, "This is the sign I have been waiting for!" His decree "Quam singulari" officially lowered the age from twelve years old to seven years old for children receiving First Holy Communion.

Some time later when Pope St. Pius X was presented with a book about "Little Nellie of Holy God," he said, "She was a little angel. Her patience was admirable, her resignation in suffering perfect. Moreover, she showed a superior intelligence in supernatural matters. As for her innocence, it is beyond doubt." As he leafed through the book, he came to a picture of Nellie and exclaimed, "Ah, there she is!" and gazed at it admiringly. (pause)

QUIET PRAYER TIME

Boys and girls, let's have some quiet prayer time now, and talk with Jesus, Heart-to-heart. You can tell Him what you liked best about the story of "Little Nellie of Holy God."

One minute before Father/Deacon and the altar servers enter for Benediction:

Jesus, in a moment, Father/Deacon is going to come and lift You high in Benediction. I know that You want to pour out many graces upon the children, upon their families and upon our entire world! Boys and girls, open your hearts wide to receive all that Jesus wants to give you today!

BENEDICTION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

Let's take out our program now and find the Benediction Hymn. We will sing together when Father/Deacon and the servers enter.

Down in adoration falling
Lo! The Sacred Host we hail;
Lo! o'er ancient forms departing,
Newer rites of grace prevail;
Faith for all defects supplying
Where the feeble senses fail.

To the everlasting Father, And the Son who reigns on high, With the Holy Ghost proceeding Forth from each eternally, By salvation, honor, blessing, Might and endless majesty. Amen.

Priest/Deacon: You have given them Bread from Heaven.

All: Having within It all sweetness.

Priest/Deacon: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of Your suffering and death. May our worship of this Sacrament of Your Body and Blood help us to experience the salvation You won for us, and the peace of the kingdom; where You live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

Blessed be God,

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary, most holy.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

When Father/Deacon puts the Blessed Sacrament back into the tabernacle and closes the tabernacle doors, say: *Boys and girls, let's stand and sing "Immaculate Mary."*

As Father/Deacon and the altar servers start to exit, sing:

Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing; You reign now in splendor with Jesus, our King. Ave, ave, ave Maria! Ave, ave, Maria!

After Father/Deacon and the altar servers have left the Church, turn towards the children and say: Jesus is so happy that you came to make a visit with Him. Remember, He's always here in the tabernacle for you to come and make your visits with Him. Have a great week and we'll see you at our next Guided Eucharistic Holy Hour.

If you have not read the booklet, "VISITING JESUS – A Simple Plan to Begin Guided Eucharistic Holy Hours for Children," please go online to *Catholic Kids 101* for your free download. Questions? Go to *Catholic Kids 101* and click the "Contact Us" page.

