



Praise and Adoration Activity

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1. Below you will find the story of St. Anthony and donkey that the children heard in Adoration. After talking about the story, the children can put on a play acting out the parts of St. Anthony, the rich man, the donkey and the crowd of people. For younger children, you can assign roles and then reread the story, prompting the children as to what to say and do.
2. There is a color sheet of the Eucharistic Miracle after the story for the children.
3. You will also find an activity sheet with the Praises we used during Adoration. The children draw a picture of themselves praising Jesus in the outline of Jesus.

St Anthony and the Adoring Donkey Eucharistic Miracle Story

Our opening song said, "*Blest be God by all creation.*" That means **all** creation: us, all people, the saints, angels, and all animals. Listen now to the story of St. Anthony and a donkey.

There was a wealthy man who did not believe that the Eucharist is truly Jesus like we do. One day he approached St. Anthony publicly and after saying all of his reasons for not believing in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, he challenged Anthony to a contest. He bet that the Real Presence was a lie, and he suggested that he not give his donkey any food for three days so that it would be very, very hungry. Then they could see if the donkey would choose to eat hay or go to the Eucharist. St. Anthony accepted the challenge.

The man brought out his donkey and tied it to a post in town where the donkey could be seen by everyone. The man then did not feed his donkey for three days. At the same time, St. Anthony fasted for three days which means he ate no food. Of course, he also prayed.

On the day of the contest, St. Anthony went to the Church where he took the Eucharist and returned to the spot where the donkey was tied and a large crowd had gathered. Meanwhile, the wealthy man had placed a large pile of hay about 20 ft. away from the donkey. St. Anthony took out the Eucharist and the rich man untied the donkey. St. Anthony held up high the Eucharist in a monstrance and called out in a loud voice: "Mule, in the Name of the Lord Our God, I command you to come here and adore your Creator!"

The donkey ran to where St. Anthony was holding the Blessed Host in the monstrance, dropped his front legs to the ground, kept his back legs standing, and put his head to the ground. He was bowing before Jesus who is really present in the Blessed Eucharist which St. Anthony continued to hold high. The donkey was adoring Jesus because Jesus is God!

The rich man was so surprised by what happened and amazed that he begged St. Anthony's forgiveness for not believing, became a believer in the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist right then and there in front of all the town people, and gave money to build a new Catholic Church.

Blest be God by all creation!

St. Anthony and the adoring donkey.



Praise You Jesus, You are holy, Lord, the only
God, and Your deeds are wonderful. Praise You
Jesus, You are strong. Praise You Jesus, You are
great. Praise You Jesus, You are the Most High.
Praise You Jesus, You are mighty. Praise You
Jesus, You, are Lord of heaven and earth. Praise
You Jesus, You are merciful. Praise You Jesus, You
are wise. Praise You Jesus, You are just. Praise
You Jesus, You are a Father. Praise You Jesus, You
are joy and gladness. Praise You Jesus, You are
beauty. Praise You Jesus, You are gentleness.
Praise You Jesus, You are our protector. Praise
You Jesus, You are our Father and defender.
Praise You Jesus, You are our courage. Praise
You Jesus, You are our hope. Praise
You Jesus, You are our life, Great and
Wonderful Lord, God Almighty, Merciful Savior.

Draw a Picture of Yourself Praising Jesus