

**Sample #4**  
**Guided Holy Hour for Children**  
**Script for the Prayer Leader**

**THE HOLY HOUR BEGINS**

As we begin, the prayer leader says:

*Boys and girls, please stand when Father 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.*

(See program example for the Eucharistic hymns)

Following Exposition, Father offers several vocal prayers (Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be). He then exits back to the sacristy.

**THE PRAYER LEADER CONTINUES**

(We are still kneeling) When Father is no longer seen: *Jesus, we are so happy to be with You this evening to make our visit with You. We would like to continue the vocal prayers that Father has begun.*

*First, we call upon our Guardian Angel and all the Holy Angels present with us to help us **adore** You, Lord. Together we pray: "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."*

*Next, we call upon St. Michael, the "Prince of the Heavenly Host," and ask St. Michael to help keep us **from being distracted** so we can keep our focus on You, Jesus, during our Holy Hour. Together we pray: "St. 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."*

*Finally, we ask our beautiful Blessed Mother Mary to help us **love** You, Jesus. We know there is nobody who ever lived on this earth who loved you more than she did. 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."*

## PREPARING FOR OUR ROSARY DECADE

*Jesus, You know each week we love to offer You our Rosary decades and this week will be no different. We would like to offer You the first Sorrowful Mystery, Your “Agony in the Garden.”*  
**(Pause)** *I’m going to invite the boys and girls to have a seat now as we prepare our hearts to offer You this Rosary decade by reading the story in our Bible about this Sorrowful Mystery.*

**(Be seated)** *Boys and girls, open up your Bibles to page 196. Let’s take a look at that picture.*

**(Prayer leader reads the story from the “New Catholic Picture Bible” by Father Lawrence Lovasik. Bibles for the children can be purchased through the Catholic Book Publishing Company.)**

*Jesus, You took Peter, James and John, and went into the garden of Gethsemane. You said, “My soul is sad, even unto death. Wait here and watch with Me.”*

*You went a little farther among the trees and fell down upon the ground and cried out, “Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.”*

*Large drops of sweat like blood, caused by Your suffering, fell from Your face. Then You went to Your apostles and found them asleep. Waking them, You said, “Could you not watch one hour with Me? Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation.”*

*Jesus, You went a second time into the orchard, and You fell on Your knees and prayed again, saying, “My Father, if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done.”*

*Again, You found the apostles sleeping. You went back and prayed a third time. And an angel came and gave You strength. **(Pause)***

*Jesus, we would like to offer this decade for people who are losing hope. Let them know that they are not alone. Let them know and help us to remember that You are always here to help.*

## PRAYING OUR ROSARY DECADE

*Boys and girls, it’s time to kneel and offer our decade. **(Kneel)***

*Find the Crucifix on the end of your Rosary beads. Let’s give the Crucifix a kiss. **(Kiss the Cross)**  
Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the Cross for me. We make the Sign of the Cross together: “In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”*

*Now let’s find the first decade on our Rosary beads.*

*Jesus, we offer You the first Sorrowful Mystery, Your “Agony in the Garden.”*

*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.” (10 times)*

*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.”*

*Boys and girls, come back up now and look at Jesus on the altar. (Pause) Let’s hold out our hand towards Him and offer this very special prayer. This is a prayer that our Blessed Mother taught the three children at Fatima. She asked us to pray this prayer at the end of each Rosary decade. Jesus, we know this must be very important since You sent our beautiful Mother Mary from Heaven to teach us this prayer. 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.”*

*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.*

*(Long pause)*

## **SAINT STORY FOR CHILDREN**

*Jesus, I was thinking about our Rosary Mystery tonight and it reminded me of one of Your Saints. What I’m about to share with the boys and girls is taken from Catholic Kids 101 and it comes from one of the “CK101 Kids” named Leo. Leo tells us about one of his very favorite Saints.*

*(Pause)*

*Leo writes this:*

*This true story begins with a queen. Her name was Queen Elizabeth and she ruled the country of England about 500 years ago. Back then, Kings and Queens were very powerful. They ruled their people and the people were to be obedient to what their King or Queen said.*

*Queen Elizabeth was the daughter of King Henry VIII. King Henry was born and raised Catholic. However, it was King Henry who left the Catholic Church by protesting the Pope when the Pope didn't do what he wanted. He wanted the Pope to say it was okay for him not to be married to his wife anymore. So, King Henry VIII started his own church called the Church of England. He made himself the head of this church. This caused much confusion and suffering! One of the saddest things of all was that many people would not be receiving Jesus in the Holy Eucharist anymore because of what King Henry did.*

*When his daughter, Elizabeth, first became the Queen of England, she was not Catholic but she was tolerant, meaning okay with Catholics who practiced their faith. However, over time this changed when things unfolded that led to her to decide that no subjects in her kingdom could practice their Catholic faith at all.*

*During her reign, the government passed an act that made it high treason to question the Queen's title as the head of the Church of England. In other words, it made Catholics who practiced their faith guilty of high treason! (a very serious crime)*

*Queen Elizabeth became so opposed to Catholics practicing their faith that she would have priests in England arrested and thrown into prison simply because they were priests. And if she told them they couldn't offer Mass anymore and they refused to obey, she would often have them tortured and even killed! You probably know the name given to a person who is killed because of their witness for Jesus. That person is called a "martyr." The word "martyr" actually means "witness." There were many brave English martyrs during the time of Queen Elizabeth's reign.*

*Not only were many of the English priests very brave, they were also very clever! They wouldn't wear anything that would identify them as Catholic priests. They did this because they didn't want those who served Queen Elizabeth to recognize them. They didn't want to be arrested because they wanted to keep serving the Catholics in England by administering the Sacraments to them. They did all this in secret so the Queen would never find out.*

*One of these brave English priests was named Father Edmund Campion. Queen Elizabeth especially wanted Father Campion captured because he was helping so many English Catholics stay loyal and true to Jesus and His Church!*

*One time Father Campion secretly went to a lovely large Catholic home that was surrounded by a beautiful park. A man named Richard of Blainscow lived in this wonderful house with his family. Richard and his wife had twelve sons.*

*The faithful Catholics in the area began to secretly come to the house when the word was sent to them that a priest had arrived!*

*Father Campion heard their Confessions and absolved them from their sins. Some of them were so happy that they actually cried for joy! Then Father Campion offered Mass. After Mass, the people begged Father Campion to stay with them for as long as it was possible and he agreed.*

*Now the very youngest of Richard of Blainscow's twelve sons was named John. He was nine years old and was Father Campion's altar server. On one of days Father Campion offered Mass, he talked about how Catholics are soldiers for Christ. John sat on the edge of his seat and listened carefully to what Father was saying. He didn't want to miss a single word. This is what Father said:*

*"A soldier is loyal and true," explained Father Campion. "Each day of your life you must decide to be loyal and true to Jesus and the Church He founded. It will be hard at times. But one of the greatest gifts that God could ever give you is to let you do something difficult for Him."*

*When John heard these words, he decided right then and there, no matter how difficult it would be, that he would ask Jesus if he could be a priest someday. John prayed in his heart, "I want to be loyal and true and brave for You, dear Jesus! I want to be a priest just like Father Campion!"*

*Father continued, "Someday, very soon, the Queen's soldiers could come to your door and tell you to your face that it is against the law to be a Catholic. They will try and force you to abandon Jesus and the Church He founded. They will threaten to take away your property. They will make your life very difficult if you do not do what they say. We must all pray, each day, for the grace to never, no matter what, abandon our dear Savior and His Church!"*

*Father Campion paused and looked around the room at all the faces looking intently at his. His voice became softer as he continued.*

*"I believe, with the grace that God will give, that if you are mocked and thrown into prison where it is cold and dark, you would be true to Him. If they did not give you enough food to eat or if they put chains on you like a criminal, you would be true to Him. Even if they beat you and threatened to kill you, I know you would be true to Him."*

*The people could see tears welling up in Father Campion's eyes. He paused once again and then continued, "I know you would think about how the Roman soldiers mocked Our Lord. You would think about how they put nails in His hands and feet and pierced His Sacred Heart with a lance. You would remember how much Jesus loves you and suffered for you. You would think of all these things and I know you would be brave and true to Him to the very end."*

*Afterwards, Father Campion said to John's father, Richard, "It is time for me to move on. There are other places where faithful Catholics are waiting for me. I must go and help them now. I thank you and your family for your kindness to me. I will remember all of you in my prayers,*

*especially when I offer Mass. Please pray for me. Pray that I will be faithful to Christ to the very end."*

*Everyone was so grateful for the time Father Campion had spent with them. They begged Father for his priestly blessing which he gladly gave. There was just one more person Father spoke with before he departed.*

*"John," said Father Campion, "there is a good chance that the next time we see each other, it will be in Heaven."*

*John nodded.*

*"Until then, I will remember you when I offer Mass. I will ask Jesus to help you always be a brave and loyal soldier for Him."*

*Father paused and smiled.*

*"Jesus heard your prayer. I believe that He will be calling you to be a priest."*

*John suddenly felt his heart beating very fast.*

*"Will you promise to pray a Hail Mary for me every day?"*

*"I'll pray a whole Rosary for you, Father!" exclaimed John.*

*"Thank you," said Father with a smile.*

*Then Father Campion's face became very serious. John knew that Father was about to tell him something very important.*

*"Listen carefully, son," began Father. "I believe the time is coming when you will hear that I have been captured by the Queen's soldiers and killed. If this happens, I do not want you to be sad. I want you to know that this is my greatest desire. To lay down my life for the love of Jesus is my greatest desire. Do you understand?"*

*John nodded his head and whispered, "Yes, Father, I understand."*

*Then Father Campion reached into his leather bag and pulled out a book.*

*"I want you to have this, John. It is a very special book. It will help you learn all about the Mass. I want you to study very hard. Not only do you need to be a brave and loyal soldier for Christ, you need to be a smart one too."*

*John saw tears in Father Campion's eyes as he handed him the precious book.*

*How absolutely wonderful it was! It had a beautiful leather cover. John slowly opened it and began to look at some of the pictures inside.*

*“Oh! Father! Thank you!” exclaimed John. “Thank you! How can I ever thank you enough?”*

*But there was no answer. Father Campion was gone.*

**(Pause)**

*It was the month of May when John and his family said goodbye to Father Campion. The days of summer and then autumn came and went and there was still no word about Father. Finally, on a cold and rainy winter day, a friend of Father Campion’s came to visit Richard of Blainscow and his family. He told them many things. Here are some of the important things he said:*

*The Queen’s soldiers finally captured Father Campion. They put him in a prison in a place called: The Tower of London. They said to him many times: “If you will promise to stop offering Mass, we will let you go immediately. Will you promise?”*

*And each time Father Campion would answer: “No, I will not promise.”*

*Then they said: “If you promise to stop hearing Confessions and preaching, we will set you free and never bother you again. Will you do as we say?”*

*And, again, Father Campion answered: “I will not do as you say.”*

*Then Queen Elizabeth herself sent for Father Campion!*

*The Queen said: “You must stop all this foolishness. Simply stop doing these things I tell you not to do and I will let you go free. It’s as simple as that. Otherwise, you will die.”*

*Father Campion said to Queen: “I cannot do as you ask.”*

*Queen Elizabeth became angry and said: “Then you will die!”*

*Jesus was going to let Father lay down his life for Him.*

*Father prayed: “O God, I thank You.”*

*While Father was in the Tower of London, he thought of Richard of Blainscow and his family. He told one of his friends to get this message to Richard and his family: “When I am in Heaven, I will still pray for you.”*

*Then the day came when Father Edmund Campion was to lay down his life for Jesus Christ and His Church. The Queen's soldiers tied him on the back of a cart and drove him through the streets of London. The Holy Spirit was making him strong! Father looked fearlessly at the gallows, the sharp knives and black bubbling pitch beneath a nearby tree. He prayed, just like Jesus did, that God would forgive his enemies. Then he let the Queen's soldiers carry out her cruel orders. The Holy Angels were there to lead his soul straight to Heaven!*

*John remembered what Father Campion had told him. He tried not to be sad. He knew that Father was safe in Heaven with Jesus and that he was still praying for him and his family.*

**(Pause)**

*Would you like to know what happened to John when he grew up? When John was a young man, his uncle came from the country of France and took John back with him to study. After many trials and hardships, John was ordained a Catholic priest! He offered Mass every day and heard many Confessions. He preached to thousands of people about Jesus. Eventually, he was able to go back to England where he worked among the poor.*

*Father John never forgot a thing that Father Campion had taught him. Everyday this courageous and wise priest prayed a simple prayer. It is a prayer that Saint Edmund Campion had inspired him to pray. It's the prayer that every single kid can pray each day too! It goes like this:*

*"Saint Edmund Campion, pray for us! Help me to be a loyal and smart soldier for Jesus just like you."*

**(Long pause)**

## **QUIET PRAYER TIME**

*Boys and girls, it's time for our quiet time. Let's talk with Jesus, Heart-to-heart about this story or anything else you would like to talk with Him about now.*

## **PREPARING FOR BENEDICTION**

**(We are kneeling) One minute before Father and the altar servers enter for Benediction:**  
*"O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine. O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine. O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine."*



## **BENEDICTION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT**

*Boys and girls, I see Father and the altar servers are ready now for Benediction, so let's look in our program and together sing: "Down In Adoration Falling."*

*(See program example for the Eucharistic hymns and "The Divine Praises")*

*When Father 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 and the altar servers start to exit, we 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 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 Holy Hour!*

***Questions? Please contact us through [CatholicKids101.com](http://CatholicKids101.com)***

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*"We are kids telling kids about Jesus!"*

## NOTES