Becoming a Butterfly

A Narrative Pantomime

When good spirits have been prepared for heaven, they are given new clothing and become angels. They are like caterpillars which complete their humble state, then are changed into pupae and then butterflies with wings of blue, yellow, silver, or gold.

(see Arcana Coelestia 8848)

Optional Props:

1 large blanket or piece of fabric to simulate the cocoon

1 brightly colored blanket, silk scarf, etc. to simulate butterfly wings

1 branch with leaves



A Narrative Pantomime:

Caterpillar (Larva)

"You are a caterpillar. You can move around on the ground. And you can climb onto plants. You like to eat leaves. Take a bite from a nearby leaf. Keep eating! You need lots of food to grow. You are growing larger and larger. You get so big that you need to crawl out of your skin. Then eat some more!" [Crawl around on the ground, pretending to eat, etc.]

Chrysalis (Pupa)

"Now you are ready to make a cocoon. Can you find a good tree branch to hold you? Now you get very still. You are becoming a chrysalis. [If you are using props, it is time to roll up in the dark blanket or fabric.] Quiet now! Time to rest in your cocoon."

Butterfly

"You have been in your cocoon for a long time. Now it is time for you to come out. Slowly open your chrysalis and push your wings out. [If you are using props, open the dark blanket and slowly spread your arms, holding the bright fabric.] Move your wings to dry them. You are a butterfly! Practice using your beautiful wings. Fly to a flower to drink its sweet nectar.