

12th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A) – 25th June 2023

Preparation

- If possible arrange candles, crucifix and Gospel/ Sunday Missal on a table.

Introduction

Today we are reminded not to be afraid, but to have courage and proclaim the message of the Gospel.

Make the Sign of the Cross – a sign of the love God has for us. An adult lights the candles.

Penitential Act

Ask the children to think about how they have behaved in the past week. Have you shown patience to those around you? Have you been kind and helpful even when you don't feel like it and it's difficult?

Lead the children in singing the "Sorry Song".

We are sorry,
Truly sorry,
Heal us Lord,
In Your love,
Help us to do better, Help us to be kinder. Forgive us,
Forgive us.

(To the Tune of Frère Jacques)

Gloria (Sung)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of the Father.
Amen

All stand to welcome the Gospel singing the Gospel Acclamation:
(Sing to the tune of 'If You're Happy and You Know It)

Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord,
As we listen to the story,
let us praise him for his glory. Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord (1)

Gospel

Select the correct Gospel from the Children's Lectionary. This week it's on page 91 of "Sunday Book of Readings. The Lectionary Adapted for Children." (Year A)

Matthew 10:26-33

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Explain and demonstrate – make three crosses: one on your forehead, one on your lips and one on your heart. In this way we think God's word, we speak God's word and we keep God's word in our hearts as we say together:

“Glory to You Oh Lord”

Read the Gospel aloud to the children. At the end say:

“The Gospel of The Lord”

All reply : **“Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ”**

Lead a Discussion on the Gospel

In today's Gospel we are reminded not to be afraid of, we have all sorts of emotions. Discuss these with the children (Fear, nervous, butterflies in our tummies).

At times we may have these feelings about things we know we should not be doing, but we can also experience these feelings with things that are good although we they scare us.(Discuss with the children the times they may have experienced these: performing in a school show, maybe a solo talk at school, going to a new place we've never been to before, performing in front of a crowd).

When we have these feelings they usually fade and change to happiness and excitement when the experience that has made us afraid is over. At times we realise it wasn't as bad as we first thought it would be.

When Jesus sent the Apostles out to the world to share his love they travelled to places they had never been before. How do you think they felt? (Scared, nervous, afraid) However, they were very brave and did what Jesus asked them to.

What did Jesus leave them with to prepare them? He left them With the gift of the Holy Spirit. That same spirit is with us also and helps us when we are afraid. We can call on God to come and guide and protect us.

Just as the Apostles were asked to share the message of God's love with others, we too are given the same mission! We do this not only through our words, but also through our actions, wherever we go and towards all those we meet. We are all asked to show the love of Christ.

Prayers of the Faithful

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to guide and protect us. Help us to show your love to all those we meet with the same courage and strength as the Apostles.

Lord in Your Mercy -Hear our Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Help us to love and serve You better in our daily lives, that we may stand up and be witnesses of what we believe.

Lord in Your Mercy -Hear our Prayer

We now pray together saying:

Closing Prayer

Loving God our Father, help us to remember we have no need to be afraid as we walk the path you set out for us.
Amen.

References

1. The Complete Children's Liturgy Book. Katie Thomson, published by Kevin Mayhew. P194.