

24rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A – 13th September 2020

Preparation

- If possible arrange candles, a Crucifix and a Gospel or Sunday Missal on a table.

Introduction

Today we are reminded that if we want God to forgive us, then we must forgive others with all our hearts.

Penitential Act

Ask the children to think about how they have behaved in the past week. Ask them if they have always been kind and helpful to others, obedient to their parents, listened to their teachers etc.

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.

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.

Gospel

“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, speak God’s word and keep God’s word in our hearts) **as we say together “Glory to You, O Lord.”**

Matthew 18:21-35

<https://cafod.org.uk>Education.Children'sLiturgy>

Read the Gospel aloud to the children. At the end say: **“The Gospel of the Lord”**.

All reply: **“Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ”**. Ask everyone to be seated.

Lead a Discussion on the Gospel

Can you remember what happened in the Gospel today?

What did Peter ask Jesus? (Peter asked how many times he should forgive someone who hurt him. He asked if he should forgive as much as seven times).

What did Jesus say? (Jesus replied that Peter should not limit his forgiveness to seven times, but rather forgive “seventy times seven!”)

Do you think Jesus wants us to count the exact number of times we forgive? (No -Jesus gave this reply to show that you should not put a limit on your forgiveness as God does not limit His forgiveness).

Do you remember what else happened in today’s Gospel in the story Jesus told His disciples?

What happened to the servant who owed the king a lot of money? What did the King want to do so that he could have his money repaid? (The King said that he would sell the servant and his wife and family as slaves to repay the money owed).

What happened next? (The man fell on his knees and begged the King for mercy and to be patient saying he would repay all he owed).

What did the King do? (The king felt sorry for the man and forgave him, cancelled all his debt, and told him that he did not need to pay anything that he owed).

What happened next? (The servant met another servant who owed him money and instead of forgiving him like the King forgave him, he had him put in prison till he paid all that he owed him).

What happened when the King found out? (That’s right- the king was very angry!)

Why was the King so angry? (The King was angry because he had forgiven the servant, but the servant did not forgive his fellow servant. The servant was shown forgiveness, but would not forgive others. This made the King so angry that he sent the bad servant to prison to be punished).

Today we learned about God's forgiveness and how we must truly forgive those who hurt or offend us if we hope to be forgiven by God. In the words of the prayer the Our Father we pray:

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

So if we want complete forgiveness from God, we need to remember to forgive others completely and from our heart as we would like God to forgive us.

Prayers of the Faithful (optional/ time dependent)

Lord Jesus,

Help us always to show Your forgiveness to others, showing mercy and forgiving others from our hearts.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **"Hear our prayer."**

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for Your love and mercy.

Help us to always come to You and ask for forgiveness when we have hurt You by not behaving as we should. Grant us Your forgiveness and give us the grace to try to be more like You at all times.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **"Hear our prayer."**

Closing Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, help us to always show Your love to others. May we forgive others as we would like to be forgiven.

Amen