

## **Twenty Fourth Sunday of Year C – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

### **Introduction**

Today we are reminded of God's continued love for us. If we lose our way He will always welcome us back because we are His children and have been called to follow Him.

**Make the Sign of the Cross** – a sign of the love God has for us. (This is optional, as we have already done this at the start of Holy Mass, but for young children it helps to demonstrate and practice how to do this correctly.)

Light the candles on the table next to the Lectionary. An adult lights the candles).

### **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.

(sung to tune of Frere Jacques)

### **Gloria (sung)**

Choose a children's version of the Gloria from one of our listed Children's Liturgy Resource books, or you may have another CL resource. You will probably want to practice your chosen Gloria and use it every week so that everyone becomes familiar with it.

All stand to welcome the Gospel singing the **Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia.  
As on earth  
When lost is found  
All are very happy  
Just as God in Heaven is happy,  
When sinners turn,  
Back to Him.                   (same tune as above)

### **Gospel**

Select the correct Gospel from the Children's Lectionary. This week it's on page 117 of Sunday Book of Readings. The Lectionary Adapted for Children." (Year C)

Luke 15: 1-10

"A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke".

**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."**

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**

In today's Gospel, we hear how Jesus told a parable. Ask the children to explain what a parable is then discuss with them what happened in the parable. (Jesus spoke about a woman who had

10 silver coins and lost one. She searched and searched until she found it)

Ask the children if they have ever lost anything and how this made them feel? Discuss with them what they did.

Then ask them how they feel when they find something that was lost. (Joy, happiness, excitement, relief)

The woman in the story was very poor and would struggle without her lost coin.

Remind the children that we are all very precious to Jesus. He cares for every single one of us and would be very sad if we wandered from Him. As in the other parable where Jesus speaks about how if a person had a hundred sheep they would leave the 99 sheep that were safe and search until they found the one that was lost, celebrating when it was found and carrying it safely home, Jesus cares for each one of us.

Just like the woman in the parable Jesus will search for each one of us and help guide us back to Him. Just as you rejoice when you find something you had lost, He too will rejoice when we return to Him.

We return to Him when we come to Church, when we pray and when we live our lives in the way He asks us to.

Ask the children some of the things they can do to show they are followers of Jesus. No matter what we do, we can always return to Him.

### **Prayers of the Faithful ( optional/ time dependent)**

You may wish to prepare some of these yourselves or ask the children for their prayers. Here are some suggestions for today:

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for your unending love. May we live our lives as Your true followers and through our faithful witness lead others back to You.

**Lord, in Your mercy.**

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

**Closing Prayer**

Let us pray as Jesus taught us to pray as we say together the "Our Father".

"Our Father, who art in Heaven ....

Now ask for volunteers for the Offertory Procession. After the procession, children return quietly to sit with their families in church.