

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A – 27th September 2020

Preparation

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

Introduction

Today we are reminded that God is always ready to forgive us. When we tell God that we are sorry, and change our lives and do what is right God forgives us and helps us to make the right choices in life.

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 21:28-32

<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?

Jesus told a story about a man who had two sons. This man asked both sons to go and work in his vineyard for the day.

What did the first son say to his father? What did the first son do?

The first son said that he would not go and work in the vineyard, but later had a change of heart and went and did as his father had asked.

What did the second son say to his father? What did he do?

The second son said that he would go and do the work that his father had asked him to do. However, he didn't do this.

Sometimes it's difficult to make the right choice and do the right thing. Who made the right choice in the story?

(That's right, the first son, in the end, made the right choice. He at first said that he would not do what his father asked. He knew this was wrong. Afterwards he was sorry and had a change of heart. He made the right choice and went and did what his father asked).

What about the second son?

He agreed to do what his father asked, but then decided not to do as he was told. He chose to disobey his father knowing that this was wrong.

What is the message in this story?

Every day we have to make lots of choices in our lives. We don't always make the right choice or do the right thing. Sometimes we are like the first son and other times we are like the second son. Jesus tells the story so that we know that even if we make a bad choice, God is always ready to forgive us when we have a change of heart and say sorry and try and do the right thing.

Prayers of the Faithful (optional/ time dependent)

Lord Jesus,

Help us when we are tempted to make a bad choice, to be like the first son in the Gospel, and to have a change of heart and do the right thing.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **“Hear our prayer.”**

Lord Jesus,

Show us Your love, grant us Your forgiveness and give us the grace to change when we struggle to make the right choice.

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 always be generous, kind and caring especially to those who are in need.

Amen