

## **Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C –27<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

### **Introduction**

Today Jesus tells us about two different people. One is proud and boastful about how good he is. He thinks he is better than other people. Another is quiet and humble and wants to be a better person.

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, (sung to tune of Frere Jacques)  
Help us to be kinder.  
Forgive us,  
Forgive us.

### **Gloria**

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  
Humble souls  
God will bless  
And God will reward you (same tune as above)  
Yes God will reward you  
Alleluia, Alleluia.

## **Gospel**

Select the Gospel from the Children's Lectionary. This week it's on page 131 of "Sunday. Book of Readings. The Lectionary Adapted for Children." (Year C)

Luke 18: 9-14

"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**

Who were the two people that went into the temple?

Pharisee and Tax Collector. Ensure that the children understand the meaning of Pharisee and Tax Collector. In Jesus's time the Pharisee was considered to be a law abiding citizen who loved Jesus. The tax collector gathered money from the people.

Which person did Jesus say was right with God?

The tax collector because he was honest with God and admitted he was a sinner. In Jesus's time these people were often dishonest. They would sometimes charge the poor more than they

owed and keep money for themselves. God is there to help us, if we are open to accept his help.

Which person did Jesus think needed to change to be right with God?

The Pharisee. He was not humble. He boasted about how good he was and how he honoured God. He thought he was perfect and did not need God's help.

How did God want the Pharisee to change?

He wanted him to continue doing what he did - not steal, be fair, fast and give money to the church. In addition, he wanted him not to brag about it. Also, instead of saying that the tax collector was sinful, Jesus wanted him to help the tax collector be a better person. God was pleased with what the Pharisee was doing but he wanted him to change his "attitude" and not brag about what he did.

Let's think about that word "attitude".

Has anyone ever told you to "Lose the attitude."? Give examples and ask for examples to explain attitude. For example, if you are doing something that you enjoy like playing a game, reading or watching TV and someone asks you to close the door. You reluctantly get up and slam the door instead of closing it quietly. You do what you are asked but not in a polite way.

Do you know of anyone who says things like 'I am really great at gymnastics and I am fabulous at dancing. I am better than you.' How would that person make you feel? That bragging and boastful attitude is not pleasing to Jesus. What could that person do to make you feel better? (They could encourage you and help you to be better at gymnastics and dancing.) Is this person like the Pharisee or tax collector?

Have you ever met someone who did something wrong and said, 'I am so sorry. Will you help me do better in the future?' How does that person make you feel? This is the attitude that Jesus loves. He wants to admit our mistakes and try to be better people. Is this person like the Pharisee or tax collector?

If time and resources permit you may want to fill a jar with stones, pebbles, etc. and tell the children that this is like the Pharisee's heart. It is full of his own importance. Is there room for anything else? No. Show a stone, pebble, etc. with the word 'God' written on it. Can this stone, pebble, etc. representing God fit in the Pharisee's heart? No, it is already full.

Empty the jar. Put the 'God' stone, pebble, etc. in first. This is like the tax collector's heart which is still able to accept other stones, pebbles, etc. Remind the children that the Pharisee who is still loved by God, doesn't seem open to accept God's love. If appropriate each child can choose a stone, pebble, etc. to take home to remember to put God first in their hearts and lives.

### **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:

Lord Jesus, we want to act with a good attitude each day at home and at school.

**Lord, in Your mercy,  
All: "Hear our prayer."**

Lord Jesus, help us to fill our hearts with God's love and help.

**Lord, in Your mercy,  
All: "Hear our prayer."**

We pray for anybody feeling sorry about something they have done. God loves them.

**Lord in your mercy,  
All: "Hear our prayer."**

As the it gets colder outside, we pray for anyone who does not have a warm home to live in.

**Lord in your mercy,  
All: "Hear our prayer."**

Lord, help us to remember that we are your children and you are our God, looking out for us.

**We make all our prayers through Christ our Lord.**

**All: “Hear our prayer.”**

### **Closing Prayer**

Lord, help us to have a kind attitude, admit when we do wrong and ask you for love and forgiveness. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

### **Offertory Procession**

Now ask for 4 volunteers for the Offertory Procession. After the procession, children return quietly to sit with their families in church.