

# THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2024

Vestment Colour: Green

## PREPARATION

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

## INTRODUCTION

Today we hear Jesus explain what the most important commandment is. We must love God and love one another.

**Make the sign of the cross-** a sign of the love God has for us

**Light the candles-** an adult should do this

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Adults and children ...think about how you have behaved in the past week. Have you shown patience to those around you? Have you been kind and helpful? Have your words been fair and kind?

Lead the children in the “sorry song”- sung to the tune of Frere Jacques

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

# GLORIA

*You may choose to say or sing an appropriate adaptation of the Gloria from any children's liturgy resource. (Not recited during Advent or Lent).*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you; we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you.

We give you thanks for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King,

O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
only begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

Son of the Father,  
You take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us;

You take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
have mercy on us.

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**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All stand to welcome the Gospel (sing to the tune of “if your 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.

*Alternatively say*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Your words are spirit Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life.

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL (MARK 12:28-34)

Select the appropriate Gospel verses from the children's lectionary.

**“A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Mark”**

**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, 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”**

## LEAD A DISCUSSION ON THE GOSPEL

Use open questions to encourage discussion and allow the children to say what they have understood from the Word of God. Use what, where how and why?

**What** do you remember about today's reading?

**What question did the scribe ask Jesus?** (he asked what was the greatest of the commandments)

**Does anyone know what a 'scribe' was?** (a scribe was a person who studied the scriptures including the law).

**What was Jesus' reply to the question?** (To love God with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your mind and all your strength and to love others as much as you love yourself).

**Is it easy to love everyone?** (To follow Jesus is not always easy for us but we must always try our best to follow Jesus' example).

**I wonder what the scribe felt on hearing the response.** (He was pleased and confirmed his belief that there is one God and that we should love our neighbour as ourselves. This is more important than sacrifices).

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

This is optional depending on time constraints. You can use bidding prayers prepared by the leaders or ask the children who or what they would like to pray for. Some suggestions are below:

**We thank God for His love for us:** may we spread God's love to all.

**We pray for peace in our world especially in the Middle East and Ukraine:** that we find peace through our love of God and neighbour.

**Lord in your mercy....**

**We pray for all those in need:** that they experience healing through the love of Jesus.

**Lord in your mercy....**

**We pray for our parish:** that our love for our neighbour reflects our true and active love of God and His love for all.

**Lord in your mercy....**

The prayer ends with “ **Lord, in your mercy**” – all respond – “**Hear our prayer**”.

## ACTIVITY

If there is time, use resources to complete an activity with the children. Possible resources are listed at the end.

## CLOSING PRAYER

Dear Father

May we follow the example of the life of Jesus Your Son in loving you above all and loving our neighbours as ourselves. May our love for others bring an understanding of Your love for them.

End with **Amen**

Select volunteers for the Offertory Procession. Those not involved in the procession should quietly return to sit with their family or guardian.

### **Useful resources**

CAFOD at <https://cafod.org.uk/Children-s-Liturgy>

Children's Liturgy with Emily: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwnLJNMXemY>

Archdiocese of Dunkeld: <https://www.dunkelldiocese.co.uk/resources-for-children-liturgy/>

Search for page entitled 'Resources for Children's Liturgy'

The Liturgy of the Word with Children by Katie Thompson, publisher Kevin Mayhew