

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr C) 3rdNovember2019

Introduction

Today Jesus, was in a city called Jericho where crowds of people had come out to see Him including a wealthy tax collector called Zacchaeus.

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
To Zacchaeus
Jesus said.
“Come down and hurry! (same tune as above)
Today I’ll stay at your house.”
Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel

Select the Gospel from the Children’s Lectionary. This week it’s on page 133 of “Sunday. Book of Readings. The Lectionary Adapted for Children.” (Year C)

Luke 19: 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

What was the name of the man Jesus shouted to? (Zacchaeus)

Where was Zacchaeus and why? (He had climbed up up a Sycamore tree as he was too small to see Jesus because he was surrounded by a crowd of taller people)

What did Jesus say to Zacchaeus? (He told him to come down from the tree and to hurry as He wanted to go and stay at his house).

Were the crowd pleased that Jesus chose to stay with Zacchaeus?

(No, the crowd were not pleased at all).

Why did the crowd not like Zacchaeus?

(He was the chief tax collector in Jericho and was known to be dishonest and had cheated people taking too much money from them).

What did Zacchaeus promise Jesus?

(He said that he would give half of his money to the poor and repay everyone he had cheated four times the amount that he had cheated them).

What did Jesus do?

(Jesus forgave Zacchaeus and told him that he had “been saved”).

How do you think that Zacchaeus felt? (Happy, excited, relieved..)

(Discuss with the children how they feel when they say sorry for doing something wrong and they are forgiven and given another chance to be good).

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, Forgive us when we do not live in a way that pleases You. Give us the grace we need to change our lives and stay close to You always.

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

Lord Jesus, help us always to forgive others as You forgive us.

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

Closing Prayer

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

Amen.

Offertory Procession

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