

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr B) – 31st October 2021

Preparation

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

Introduction

Today we hear how Jesus is asked which commandment is the most important. Listen to His answer and let's understand what Jesus is saying to all of us!

As we gather at home today, we thank God for our families and for this time we spend together in prayer. We do this today, knowing that God is with us, helping us always especially when times are difficult.

Make the Sign of the Cross – a sign of the love God has for us. An adult lights the candles.

Penitential Act

Adults and children think about how you have behaved in the past week. Especially when our daily routines are different just now. Have you shown patience to those around you? Have you been kind and helpful even when you don't feel like it and it's difficult?

Lead the children in singing the "Sorry Song" – to the tune of Frère Jacques

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 (1)

Gospel of Mark 12:28-34

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 Oh Lord”

Use this link to read the Gospel if you don't have a Sunday Missal

<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”**

Lead a discussion on the Gospel

What happened in the Gospel today?

Jesus was asked which of the commandments is the most important. What did Jesus say?

Jesus said that the most important commandment is “ to love God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.”

Jesus also said that the second most important commandment is “ You must love your neighbour as yourself.”

Discuss with the children what Jesus means:

First let’s think about what the world would be like if everyone really truly loves God above all else? How would everyone behave?

(Discuss with the children- Everyone would be humble, kind and helpful, caring, unselfish, truthful, gentle, obedient, hardworking, we would all share, no-one would be greedy or think the self more important than others.....)

Also discuss –“You must love your neighbour as yourself.”

(Discuss with the children the importance of treating others in the way that you would like to be treated. Also explain that by “neighbour” Jesus is not only meaning the person next door, but that He means everybody! Again – imagine how different the world would be if we all did this!)

How will you love God and your neighbour this week?

Prayers of the Faithful

Lord Jesus,

Help me build the kingdom of Heaven by working together with others to share your love in friendship and harmony with others- just as you taught us to.

Lord in Your Mercy -Hear our Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Help me always to have faith in You. Help me to truly love You above all else and to love my neighbour as myself.

Lord in Your Mercy -Hear our Prayer

We now pray together saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name:
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into
temptation,
But deliver us from evil.

Amen.

We can also say the following prayer as a Spiritual Communion: Spiritual Communion (Prayer of St. Alphonsus Liguori)

My Jesus,
I believe You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You Sacramentally,
Come at least spiritually into my soul,
I embrace You as if You were already come,
and I unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, Help us to love You as we should and to show Your love to others- especially to those who are poor or sick or lonely. Amen.

References

1. The Complete Children's Liturgy Book. Katie Thomson, published by Kevin Mayhew. P196.