

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A – 6th September 2020

Preparation

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

Introduction

Today we are reminded how powerful prayer is, especially when we pray with others.

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 18:15-20

<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

Today we are reminded how important it is to pray to God. If you have a relationship with somebody you must spend time with that person, both listening and talking.

When we gather together to pray, the Holy Spirit is with us. Ask the children about times when they pray with more than one other person. They may say they do this at:

- Holy Mass
- School
- With Family
- Meal Times

This is a very special time and it pleases God to see us gathered in prayer. God listens to all our prayers. We should pray with others when we can and ask others what their special intentions are, and if there is anything they would like us to pray for.

Remind the children that they can pray anywhere at any time, and it can be spoken or silent. Sometimes we don't know what to say and if this happens we can ask God to help us and sit in silence with Him. When we sing hymns we are also praying.

We can share all our thoughts and feelings with Jesus and know that He hears them all. Sometimes we don't get the answers we were hoping for but we trust in the plans God has for us.

We must also remember to thank God for all our blessings. We go to Him with petitions and when we need help and we must remember to go to Him in thanksgiving too.

Prayers of the Faithful (optional/ time dependent)

Lord Jesus,

Our ways are not always the same as Yours. Help us to always trust in You and follow the path You have set out for us.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **"Hear our prayer."**

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for Your love and mercy.
Help us to always come to You when we are in need and remember to
give thanksgiving for all our blessings.

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 remember that when two or more of us are gathered together
you send your Holy Spirit to be with us.

Amen