

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C –24th Feb. 2019

Introduction

Today we hear how it's important to show kindness to others, even when people are unkind to us. We should forgive others as our Father forgives us.

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 Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia

Jesus says

Live this way:

Be kind to other people, (same tune as above)

Even when they're not kind

Forgive them,

Show God's love

Gospel

Select the correct Gospel from the Children's Lectionary. This week it's on page 77 of "Sunday. Book of Readings. The Lectionary Adapted for Children." (Year C)

Luke 6:27-36

"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 is the message that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel?
(He asks us to show kindness to everyone, even those who are unkind to us)

Ask the children about a time they were not treated kindly and how they handled this. Discuss with them the temptation that can be there to act in a way that is unkind back to those who hurt us.

Ask the children what it means to love your enemies?

(It means be kind to those we don't get on with and to show Jesus' love to them)

Jesus asks us to treat everyone as they we want to be treated. We should not judge others and we should forgive others who do things that are wrong towards us.

Ask the children what they can do if they are struggling with forgiveness.

(They can put themselves in the position of the other person and they can pray to God asking for help to forgive)

Reference may be made to the Our Father, specifically;

“Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...”

Prayers of the Faithful (optional/ time dependent)

Lord Jesus, help us to show love and forgiveness to those who hurt us. Let others see Jesus' love through the kindness we show to one another.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **“Hear our prayer.”**

Lord Jesus, fill us with your gifts of peace, hope and love. Help us to share our gifts with everybody we meet.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **“Hear our prayer”**

Closing Prayer

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

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