

Seventh Sunday of Easter Year B – 16th May 2021

Preparation

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

Introduction

Today is the Seventh Sunday in the Easter Season. In today's Gospel, Jesus prays to God His Father. What do we learn from Jesus' prayer for His disciples?

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".

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.

(To the Tune of Frère Jacques)

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 (John 17:11-19)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John

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 do you remember about today's Gospel? What did Jesus do?

Jesus prayed to God His Father.

What did Jesus ask God to do?

Jesus prayed to His Heavenly Father asking Him to look after the disciples and to keep them safe from all evil and all harm.

Why did Jesus do this?

Jesus did this because He loved the disciples, and He had to leave them and go and join His Father in Heaven. He knew that things would be difficult for the disciples.

What special task did Jesus ask the disciples to do once He had returned to His Father in Heaven?

Jesus asked the disciples to spread the good news that He taught them, to believe Jesus is God and that He loves us and died so that we might be with Him in Heaven. He asked them to teach others how to love one another and live good lives and follow the teachings of Jesus.

How do you pray? What kinds of things do you say to God when you pray?

Discuss with the children the four basic kinds of prayer:

Adoration – Tell God how much you love Him

**Thanksgiving- Thank God for all the good things in your life-
family, friends, good health, the food we eat...**

**Contrition – Say sorry to God for the times when you have not.
loved as He loves you and have not treated others well**

**Petition – Ask for God’s help to be good, or to make someone well,
or for other things we need or would like for others or
ourselves.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Lord Jesus,
You are the best friend anyone could have. Help us to follow Your
commandment and love others as You love us.

Lord in Your Mercy -Hear our Prayer

Lord Jesus,
Help us to follow where You lead and in doing so lead others to follow
You.

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. P349.