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## **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A**

**5<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

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Vestment Colour: Green

The Archdiocese of St Andrew's & Edinburgh has a website that contains further resources, information and plans for Children's Liturgy for use by Children's Liturgy Leaders. A full template is available on the website.

**Health & Safety:** *Once you are all assembled, take a head count in case of the need to evacuate (if possible, roster of names). Candles are permitted if they are included in your risk assessment.*

### **Introduction:**

**Leader:** Today, is the fourteenth Sunday in ordinary time. In the Gospel today we hear that Jesus will always be here to help.

Make the Sign of the Cross together.

Light the candles on the table next to the Lectionary.

### **The Collect:**

**Leader:** O God, who in the abasement of your Son have raised up a fallen world. Fill your faithful with holy joy, for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin you bestow eternal gladness.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

**All: Amen**

**The Gospel Acclamation:** All stand to welcome the Gospel. (*You can encourage the children to sing the Alleluia*).

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

**Alleluia.**

Alternatively, you can use the following (*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:** Select the correct Gospel from the Children's Lectionary (Year A). Alternatively use an approved translation of the Bible (the ESV-CE version or Good News Bible for Children). *Do not paraphrase the Gospel; however, you may need to explain unusual or difficult words and names to the children.*

**Matthew 11:25-30**

**Leader:** "A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew".

**All:** "Glory to You, O Lord."

Read the Gospel aloud to the children. At the end say:

**Leader:** "The Gospel of the Lord".

**All reply:** "Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ". Ask everyone to be seated.

**Gospel Reflection:** *the following are some suggestions to help with a discussion around the Gospel.*

**What did you hear in the Gospel today?** Acknowledge and encourage them.

**Why do you think that Jesus says people who are like children can understand God's ways better than people who are cleverer?** Jesus is referring to the qualities that children have which enable them to accept God. They are trusting, more innocent and often more honest about themselves and what they see and experience.

**Jesus said "Come to me all who labour and are heavy burdened"** - Explain that God is here to help us with our worries and problems. If we trust in God, our worries and problems become easier to bear. Perhaps give examples where we find help every day. Help from a friend or a teacher. A nurse helping a patient. A friend comforting you if you are sad or worried. If you are to carry to very heavy box, is it easier to this own your own or with a friend?

**What did Jesus say at the end of this week's Gospel?** If we trust in Him He would not give us anything that is too hard. He will help us do them.

### **Prayers of the Faithful:**

You may wish to prepare some of these yourselves or ask the children for their prayers. Here are some suggestions for today:

We now ask Our Lord to hear our prayer

#### **Dear Jesus**

We pray for all those who love Jesus with the gentleness and trust of children.

**Leader:** Lord, in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer**

#### **Dear Jesus**

We pray for all those who help others, that they will feel God's love and joy.

**Leader:** Lord, in Your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

### **Closing Prayer:**

God, thank you for all of you help with my worries. Please always stay close to me and walk with me like a friend. **All: Amen.**