
NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

9th August 2026

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, in the Gospel today we learn that if we put our trust in Jesus all things are possible. When we are afraid, like Peter in today's Gospel, we just need to ask Jesus, and he will rescue us too.

Make the Sign of the Cross together.

Light the candles on the table next to the Lectionary.

The Collect:

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, whom, taught by the Holy Spirit, we dare to call our Father, bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters, that we may merit to enter into the inheritance which you have promised. 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 long for you, O Lord, my soul longs for his word.

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 14: 22-33

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 happened in the Gospel today? Where were the disciples and why were they afraid? (The disciples were in their boat in the middle of the night when a storm took place and the boat was being tossed on the water).

Who did they see coming towards the boat and why did they scream? (They saw Jesus coming towards them, but they were terrified as He was walking on the water and they thought that they were seeing a ghost).

What happened next? (Jesus said “Don’t be afraid. It is I”)

Then what happened? (Peter said to Jesus “Lord if it is really You, tell me to walk to You across the water.” Jesus then tells Peter to walk to Him across the water).

What happens next? (Peter became afraid and started to lose faith in Jesus and started to sink into the water).

What did Peter do next? He called out to Jesus pleading “Lord save me” and Jesus reached out and took Peter’s hand rescuing him.

What does Jesus say to Peter? (Jesus asks Peter why he did not have faith and believe in Him).

What can we learn from this Gospel? (To trust in Jesus, to remember that Jesus wants us to ask Him for help and that He will always help us. Jesus shows us that even in difficult situations or when we are afraid, he is always by our side looking after us especially when we believe and call on His name. Just as Jesus calmed the storm and walked on water, nothing is impossible for God.

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

Leader: Lord, we pray that we will always have faith in You and that when we call on Your name that You will always reach out to us and help us.

Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, we pray that we may truly listen to your word and hear what we should do to follow you.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Closing Prayer:

Pray together the “Our Father”

All: Amen.