

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

20th July 2025

SECTION	INFORMATION	ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE
Preparation	The Leader and/or Reader should prepare resources ahead of the Sunday. Arrange room/area before the session begins. You will need a crucifix, candles, a place for the Lectionary The session should reflect that of the structure of the Mass. If you plan to use an activity the materials should be ready for use before the session begins.	<i>If possible, a cloth of the colour of the vestment for that service could be used. A stand or pillow should be available to rest the Lectionary on. Thus, giving the Word of God due reverence.</i>
Health & Safety	Once you are all assembled take a head count.	<i>This is in case of the need to evacuate.</i>
Introduction	Begin with making the sign of cross. Leader: Today we learn that we should give time to God; to listen, to hear and to learn from God.	<i>This is not needed as the children will have completed this before leaving the congregation, but it is often good to do this again to give children the opportunity to practice.</i>
Introductory Rites	<i>The introductory rites can be reduced in number dependant on the time for the session.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Penitential Rite <i>this can be optional dependant on time</i> The children could be taught how to sing the Kyrie Eleison, alternatively you can say Leader: Lord Jesus, give us your peace, Lord have mercy All: Lord, have mercy Leader: Lord Jesus you are our light and our guide, Christ have mercy All: Christ have mercy Leader: Lord Jesus, your care for us is never ending, Lord have mercy All: Lord have mercy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloria (sung/said outside of Lent) <i>this can be optional dependant on time</i> 	<i>Please note the instruction regarding the introductory rite from The Directory for Masses with Children (DMC) 40: It is permissible to omit one or other element of the introductory rite or perhaps expand another element, which is completed by the opening prayer. In choosing individual elements, care should be taken that each one be used from time to time and</i>

	<p>Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.</p> <p>We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,</p> <p>Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.</p> <p>Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.</p> <p>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 God the Father. Amen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Collect: <i>must be read</i> if the children leave the congregation before this is completed. <p>Leader: Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands. 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.</p>	<p><i>that none be entirely neglected.</i></p> <p><i>If the children leave after the collect, there is no need to repeat this.</i></p>
Liturgy of the Word	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gospel Acclamation must be read (outside of Lent the children could be taught to sing Alleluia here). <p>Alleluia, Alleluia Blessed are those who hold fast to the word of God in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience. Alleluia.</p>	<p><i>Reading the Gospel should be done from a Children's Lectionary if possible or a Bible (ESV-CE translation).</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gospel should now be read. <p style="text-align: center;">Luke 10:38-42</p> <p>Leader: “A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke”.</p> <p>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:</p> <p>Leader: “The Gospel of the Lord”. All reply: “Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ”. Ask everyone to be seated.</p>	<p><i>Take time so that the children can receive this. You might want to repeat the reading. You <u>must not</u> paraphrase the Gospel.</i></p>
Gospel Reflection	<p>The following are some suggestions to help with a discussion around the Gospel.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who did Jesus visit? (His friends Martha and her sister Mary). 2. What was Martha doing? (She was busy working serving everyone). 3. What was Mary doing at this time? (She was sitting listening to Jesus). 4. How do you think Martha felt? (She may be felt angry or hurt that she was doing all the work and not sitting with Jesus. Perhaps she felt that Mary was being lazy). 5. Can you remember what Jesus said? (That only one thing was necessary that was to listen to Him. Mary had made the correct decision). 	<p><i>The children should be encouraged to think about the Gospel message and share their ideas and thoughts. They should be given time and space to do this. Open questions such as ‘I wonder’ or ‘What did you hear in this reading’ may work better than a closed question. You could use Christian artwork to help with your delivery.</i></p>
Creed	<p><i>This is time dependant.</i> If there is time to recite this, the Apostles Creed can be used. Alternatively, a few lines of the Nicæan Creed can be recited to teach the Creed to the children.</p>	

Activity	This is time dependant. Resources to help can be found on our website.	<i>If used it must reflect and enhance the Gospel message of the day.</i> <i>The other sections especially the Gospel and reflection must not be rushed in order to complete an activity.</i>
Prayers of the Faithful (Bidding Prayers)	<p>The following are suggestions:</p> <p>Let us pray to our Father that we remember to spend time with Him</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We pray for peace in the world that we learn to listen to you and follow you. Lord, hear us Lord, graciously hear us. We pray that all who are worried or anxious spend time talking and listening to God. Lord, hear us Lord, graciously hear us. 	<i>These should be prepared in advance of the service, or the children could be asked to help by offering intentions that they might have.</i>
Closing Prayer	<p>This prayer brings the session to a close.</p> <p>Dear Jesus May we spend time with you learning to do as you want not as we want. Amen</p>	<i>The children should now be prepared to rejoin the congregation for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.</i>
Offertory	Volunteers should be organised ready for the children to rejoin the congregation.	

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.

When you reach the homepage of the website click on the section 'Archdiocese'. Scroll to the section 'Catechetics'. Under this section you will find 'Children's Catechesis' and an informative section on 'Adult Formation'.