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## TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

21<sup>st</sup> June 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, we are reminded not to be afraid but to have courage and proclaim the message of the Gospel.

Make the Sign of the Cross together.

Light the candles on the table next to the Lectionary.

### The Collect:

**Leader:** Grant, O Lord, that we may always revere and love your holy name, for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of your love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, you 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.**

The Spirit of truth will bear witness about me, says the Lord, and you also will bear witness.

**Alleluia.**

Alternately 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 10:26-33**

**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 did you hear in the Gospel today?** In today's Gospel we are reminded not to be afraid but to spread the love of God wherever we go.

- Sometimes it's very tricky to do things that we are afraid of; we have all sorts of emotions. Discuss these with the children (Fear, nervous, butterflies in our tummies)
- At times we may have these feelings about things we know we should not be doing but we can also experience these feelings with things that are good although they scare us. (Discuss with the children the times they may have experienced these: performing in a school show, maybe a solo talk at school, going to a new place we've never been before, performing in front of a crowd) When we have these feelings they usually fade and change to happiness and excitement when the experience that has made us afraid is over. At times we realise it wasn't as bad as we first thought it would be.
- When Jesus sent the Apostles out into the world to share his love they travelled to places they had never been before. How do you think they felt? (Scared, nervous, afraid) However, they were very brave and did what Jesus asked them to.
- What did Jesus leave them with to help prepare them? He left them with the gift of the Holy Spirit and that same Spirit is with us also and helps us when we are afraid. We can call on the God to come and guide and protect us.

Just as the Apostles were asked to share the message of God's love with others, we too are given the same mission! We do this not only through our words but also through our actions, wherever we go and towards all those we meet. We are asked to show the love of Christ.

### **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

Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to guide and protect us. Help us to show your love to all those we meet with the same courage and strength as the Apostles.

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

**All:** Hear our prayer

Dear Jesus

Help us to love and serve You better in our daily lives, that we may stand up and be witnesses of what we believe.

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

**All reply: Hear our prayer**

**Closing Prayer:**

Loving Father, help us to remember that we have no need to be afraid as we walk the path you set out for us. Help us to always follow your love and through our lives lead others to you.

**All:** Amen.