
TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

20th September 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, we are reminded that God is generous and kind and that He treats us all with love.

Make the Sign of the Cross together.

Light the candles on the table next to the Lectionary.

The Collect:

Leader: O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. 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.

Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may pay attention to the words of your Son.

Alleluia.

Alternatively: *(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 20: 1-16

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? (Jesus told a story about a landowner who hires workmen at different times throughout the day promising to pay them a fair wage).

What happened at the end of the day? (The landowner paid the workmen their wages starting with the last to be hired- those who had worked for only one hour. He paid all of his workers the same amount).

How did the workers who had worked all day feel about this and why? (They took their wage, which was exactly what they had agreed to work for at the beginning of the day, but they were unhappy that the other workers who had worked fewer hours – even those who only worked for one hour – were given exactly the same wage)!

What do you think about this? Do you think it is fair? (Discuss with the children who they think the landowner in the story is supposed to be? Let them see that the landowner is supposed to be God and that God is generous and treats everyone well).

What do you think that Jesus is teaching us by telling this story? (Jesus is teaching us that God's way of treating people fairly, is not the way of the world. God treats everyone fairly and provides for all our needs).

Can you think of things that are not fair in the world?

- There are people who take more than they need and leave others with nothing or very little. Is that fair? Is that what God wants?
- There are people who have no food, no money, no home, no work....
- There are people who take /keep more than their fair share of all these things. This is not fair and we should not take more than we need.

We need to look after each other both here and all over the world and we need to look after the world we live in. We should not waste food, or waste water by leaving the tap running, or waste energy (leaving the lights on when not needed), or drop litter ...

Like the landowner in the Gospel, we should be kind and generous and share what we have with others especially if they don't have what they need.

What can you do this week to make to make the world a fairer place?

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

Lord Jesus,

Help us always to show Your generosity and kindness to others, by caring for each other and sharing what we have.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **“Hear our prayer.”**

Lord Jesus,

Help us to care for our earthly home and not waste any of the good things you have entrusted to us, so that there is always enough food and shelter for everyone.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **“Hear our prayer.”**

Closing Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, help us to always show Your love to others. May we always be generous, kind and caring especially to those who are in need.

All: Amen.