
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

30th 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, we are reminded to follow God's way, as this is the way that leads to eternal life and happiness.

Make the Sign of the Cross together.

Light the candles on the table next to the Lectionary.

The Collect:

Leader: God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which he has called us.

Alleluia.

Alternatively, you can sing 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 16:21-27

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.*

Why was Peter upset in the story today? Peter was upset when he learned that Jesus would suffer and die, he asked Jesus not to go and leave him.

What did Jesus say to reassure him? He responded that our way is not the same as God's way. When Jesus died on the Cross he overcame death for us all, so that when we die, we may enjoy eternal life and happiness with God in Heaven.

Sometimes we have to do things that we don't like to or want to do. Although we don't want to-we know that good will come out of it.

Discuss with the children about things that are good that they don't always want to do. (Maybe tidying their room - the outcome is a clean, organised room. Maybe doing homework - the outcome is they have learned something!)

We all experience having to do things we don't want to do. We cannot look into the future and see what the outcome will be or how we will feel if we do certain things. God knows and sees everything that we do. Today we are reminded to trust in him and follow God's way, even when things are difficult.

When we follow God's way, pray and do as he asks of us, we will experience peace and true happiness.

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:

Leader: We now ask Our Lord to hear our prayer

Lord Jesus,

Our ways are not always the same as yours. Help us to always trust in you and follow the path you have set out for us.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for Your love and mercy.

Help us to always show your love to others through our deeds and actions.

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 continue to follow the path you have set out for us with confidence and in doing so lead others to you.

All: Amen.