
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

4th October 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 of God's great love for us all. He made the world and everything in it. We are responsible for taking care of the world and all the creatures, peoples and natural resources in it and sharing God's message of love.

Make the Sign of the Cross together.

Light the candles on the table next to the Lectionary.

The Collect:

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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 chose you out of the world, says the Lord, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide.

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.

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 21:33-43

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.*

Can you remember what happened in the Gospel today? In today's Gospel we hear the story of a farmer who owned a Vineyard. The Farm Workers who were left in charge of it did not treat the servants fairly when they were sent to collect the Farmer's wine.

The Farmer was not happy about this and sent his own son out to the Vineyard to collect his wine instead.

Something happened that surprised him. What was it? The Farm Workers also killed the Farmer's Son. He thought his own son would have been treated better than this and that they would have respected and listened to him and given him the wine.

This was all part of a story (Parable) told by Jesus. He asked the people, *"What will the Farmer do when he arrives at the Vineyard and sees what has happened to his son?"* The people agreed that the Farmer would be very upset and punish the Workers who were responsible for this.

We can think of the Vineyard as our World. Rather than a Farmer in charge, we have God. He created the World and everyone in it. We must answer to God for what we say and do.

When you stop and think about the way you behave and treat others, would God, who sees all, be happy to see it?

Take a few moments to reflect...Do you:

- Care for the environment?
- Care for others?
- Show kindness and patience when it's easy not to?
- Do you make good choices even when you think nobody sees you?

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 to share your message of love with all those we meet. May we lead by example and always strive to do what is right.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **"Hear our prayer."**

Lord Jesus

May we show patience and mercy to those in need. Help us to look after and share the world and all it's good produce with everyone.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **"Hear our prayer."**

Closing Prayer:

Lord Jesus.

Thank you for the world and all that is in it. May we always treat everyone in our world in a fair and respectful way. Help us to share your message of HOPE and LOVE with all those we meet.

All: Amen.