

St. Joseph's Children's Liturgy of the Word

Year C weeks 2-8



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St. Joseph is the patron saint of the family, and the family is the “domestic Church.” These sheets were originally developed to support my parish of St. Joseph in Great Malvern, Worcestershire, but they are now used by parishes and schools not just in the UK, but some are sent to contacts abroad as well.

There are Four Dimensions of our Faith, and the activities all reflect one or more of each of these dimensions.

Professing the faith
(speaking about it and
learning the faith)

Celebrating our faith in
the liturgy and the
sacraments



Living the faith in Christ
(making choices by the grace
of Jesus Christ)

A prayer-filled life where
the Our Father takes
centre stage

The statue of Jesus at the top of St. Peter's Basilica, Rome. He is pointing to Heaven, as He came to lead us to His Father. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we are able to respond and, picking up our crosses, go after Him.

A blessed new calendar year to you, and a new way of counting!

The Gospel of St Luke is our guide into the mystery of Christ this liturgical year. In ordinary time, Luke's Gospel begins with that wonderful passage, colloquially known as, the “Nazareth Manifesto,” where we see Jesus setting out His “Mission statement.” Each of us is called to take part in His mission, which is also ours by the grace of the Holy Spirit received in Baptism and the other sacraments. Doing some of these activities is one way of sharing in that mission.

All the Children's Liturgy of the Word resources are now listed by liturgical week rather than by date so that resources can be used again without having to re-edit them. “Weeks 2-8.” is a quarter of the weeks of ordinary time and so this resource will take us up to Lent. The breakdown of the resources for each liturgical year will be:

- Advent
- Christmas
- Weeks 1-8 (wk.9 doesn't appear)
- Lent
- Eastertide
- Weeks 10-17
- Weeks 18-25
- Weeks 26-34

The *Saints and Celebrations* sister resource will continue to be published month by month and will include solemnities and feasts that may be celebrated on Sundays. E.g. Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord are in January's edition and the Feast of the Presentation in the Temple is in February's edition.

May God bless your ministry,
Carol Ann Harnett

Children's liturgy of the word for this week



Gospel for Sunday 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

John 2:1-11

At that time: There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding seventy or one hundred litres.

Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. And he said to them, 'Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.'

So they took it. When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.'

This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord

R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Introduce the Gospel liturgically

Originally the solemnity of "Epiphany" (which means something that is revealed or coming to an understanding), celebrated three moments in the Gospels when people came to an understanding of who Jesus is; the wise men realised that this baby was indeed someone to worship (c.f. Mt. 2:11) the revelation of Jesus as the Son of God in His Baptism (which we celebrated last Sunday) and today's reading of Jesus' first miracle, or "sign" as miracles are called in John's Gospel. So, this Sunday could be considered as "Epiphany Part 3."

Q: What did Jesus tell the servants to do? (A: To fill the huge jars with water.)

Q: What happened when the steward tasted the "water"? (A: The water had changed to wine.)

Q: What did the steward think about the wine? (A: That it was the best wine.)

Q: Why did Jesus' disciples believe in Him now? (A: Because He "manifested" [which means, showed] His glory and He performed an amazing miracle.)

Q: There are various "things" featured in this parable which are linked to our lives as Christians, what do you think they are? (A: Water, wine, wedding party.)

Q: Which Sacrament uses water? (A: Baptism.)

Q: Which Sacrament uses wine? (A: The Eucharist/Holy Communion.)

Q: What Sacrament is celebrated at a wedding party? (A: Marriage/matrimony.)

Q: In the Gospel story we have just heard, Jesus is acting and makes a big change – what was that change again? (A: He changed the water into wine.)

Q: In the sacraments, Jesus changes us. How does He change us in Baptism? (A: He cleans our souls from sin and joins us to Himself for ever. *Other answers may be given such as joining us to Him etc.*)

Q: What change does Jesus make to the bread and wine at Mass? (A: He changes the bread and wine into Himself, His Body and Blood.)

Let's just shut our eyes and say a silent prayer to Jesus thanking Him for changing us to be more like Him.

Sacraments are gifts, or presents, from Jesus that change us when we receive them. The labels below have been separated from the gifts - can you draw a line from each of the labels to match the correct gift? Colour in the gifts afterwards.



The gift of Baptism

Jesus changes us and gives us Himself as food



The gift of Confirmation

Jesus changes us and forgives our sins



The gift of Holy Communion/Eucharist

Jesus changes our souls so that they are joined us to Him and the Father, and the Holy Spirit



The gift of Confession/Reconciliation

Jesus changes us and gives us His Holy Spirit to strengthen us as Christians



The gift of anointing of the sick

Jesus changes a man so that he can act in the person of Jesus Christ and celebrate the sacraments for us



The gift of Marriage

Jesus changes us and joins a man and a woman together



The gift of Ordination

Jesus changes us and gives us strength when we are ill



Children's liturgy of the word for this week

Gospel for 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

At that time: Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up.

And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll, and found the place where it was written,

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

And he rolled up the scroll, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, ‘Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

The Gospel of the Lord

R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Introduce the Gospel liturgically

This week's Gospel is sometimes called the "Nazareth Manifesto" as we hear Jesus proclaiming His intentions. He also does this by quoting from the prophet Isaiah in what we call the "Old Testament." The Gospel begins with Luke's opening words in chapter 1 and then jumps to the beginning of Jesus' ministry after His Baptism and temptations in the desert. It is suggested that with young children it's worth beginning reading the Gospel with Jesus returning to Galilee.

Q: Where did Jesus stand up to read? (A: In the synagogue in Nazareth. A synagogue is the building where Jews meet for prayer and worship of God.)

Q: What does Jesus say that He has been sent to do? (A: To bring Good News to the poor etc...)

Q: What power was in Jesus? (A: The Holy Spirit.)

Q: When did the Holy Spirit descend (come down) on Jesus in a special way? (A: His Baptism.)

Q: Do you know other times that the Holy Spirit came to Jesus? (A: Various, including when He was conceived in Mary's womb [Lk. 1:35]. Some may say when He cried out in prayer, when He prayed in the garden of Gethsemane etc. Basically, Jesus' whole life on earth was led and guided by the Holy Spirit, because as God, He was never without the Holy Spirit.)

Q: When do we receive the Holy Spirit? (In Baptism, Confirmation and in all the sacraments.)

Q: Why does the Holy Spirit come to us? (A: To help us to live a Christian life [a life like Jesus, loving as He does]...)

Q: What else did Jesus do apart from heal people? (A: Various – including that Jesus came to die for us on the Cross so that we can go to heaven and be with Him and the Father and the Holy Spirit.)

Q. Who will help us to tell other people about Jesus? (A: the Holy Spirit.)

Q. Who can we tell this Good News to today? How – in person, on social media, write a letter, make a poster to put up in front our house? (A: Open.)

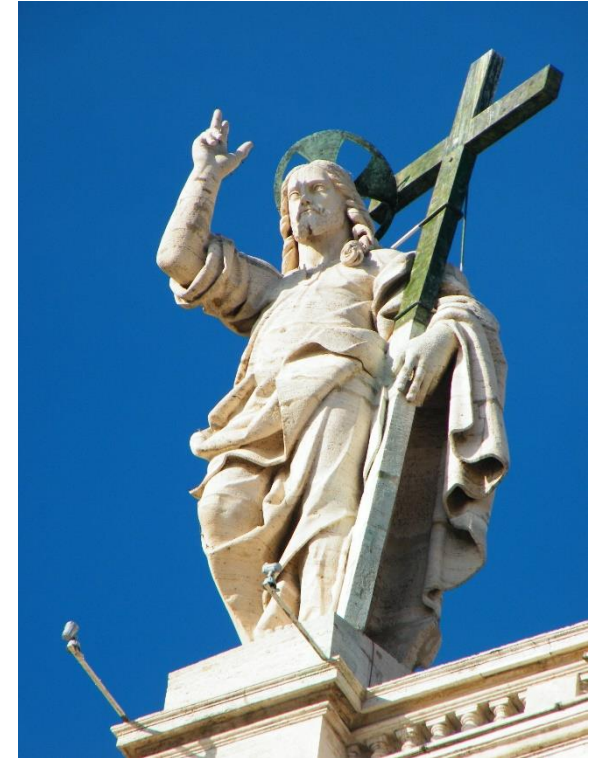
Finish the poster on the page below or make your own.

Jesus died for us on a C_____

So that we can go to

H_____ and live for

ever with His F_____



And He gives us His H_____ S_____

To help us on our way.

Children's liturgy of the word for this week



Gospel for 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

Luke 4:21-30

At that time: Jesus began to say in the synagogue, 'Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

And all spoke well of him and marvelled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?' And he said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Physician, heal yourself." What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your home town as well.'

And he said, 'Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his home town. But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow.

And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.'

When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath.

And they rose up, and drove him out of the town, and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff.

But passing through their midst, he went away.

The Gospel of the Lord
R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Introduce the Gospel liturgically

This week's Gospel is a continuation of last week's and we see a complete contrast here – first of all the admiration of Jesus' fellow Nazarenes and then their anger as He accused them of not having enough faith because they did not expect much from Him, being a "local lad."

Q: What does "all spoke well of Jesus" mean (A: They liked what Jesus was saying.)

Q: Whose Son did they think that Jesus was? (A: Joseph's.)

Q: Who is Jesus really the Son of? (A: God the Father. St. Joseph was a kind of stepfather to Jesus and looked after Him when He was growing up.)

Q: The people in the synagogue had heard about Jesus' miracles in Capernaum (another town) but they were taunting Jesus and wanting Him to do miracles for the sake of it, like a magician. What does Jesus say to this? (A: A prophet is not accepted in his own country.)

Q: What is a prophet? (A: Someone who speaks the word of God.)

Q: What does Jesus mean by saying that a prophet is not accepted in his own town or country? (A: He means that because they think they know who Jesus is, just a carpenter, they do not believe in Him.)

Q: What do they try to do to Jesus? (A: Throw Him off a cliff!)

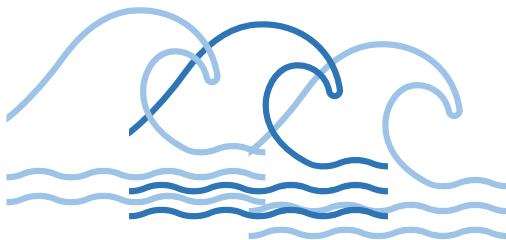
Q: It is not always easy to talk about Jesus to other people and sometimes they don't believe us. Who will help us to talk about Jesus and give us the words to say? (A: The Holy Spirit.)

Q: Jesus knew that we would not always find it easy to speak about Him and so He said this: Do not be anxious about what you are to say for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that moment what to say (Lk. 12:11-12).

Write a prayer on the next page to the Holy Spirit asking Him to help you to talk to other people about Jesus or about why you like to go to Church. (If you have young children who can't write, maybe end with a time of prayers asking the Holy Spirit to help us. Ask for ideas. Then they can colour in the images of the Holy Spirit.)

Write a prayer to the Holy Spirit asking Him to help you to talk about Jesus

These three symbols of the Holy Spirit might help you.
Dove, water and fire.



Dear Holy Spirit _____

Children's liturgy of the word for this week



Gospel for 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

Luke 5:1-11

At that time: The crowd was pressing in on Jesus to hear the word of God.

He was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.

Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land.

And he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.'

And Simon answered, 'Master, we toiled all night and took nothing!

But at your word I will let down the nets.' And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking.

They signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them.

And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.

But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.'

For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.

And Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.' And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him. The Gospel of the Lord. R/: **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Discussion on the Gospel

✠ Light a candle

✠ Introduce the Gospel liturgically

The call of the disciples varies slightly here from John's Gospel but that does not matter. Jesus calls us many times and as we need to hear that call many times, and so it was with His first disciples.

Q: What was the crowd doing? (A. Pressing around Jesus, listening to Him.)

Q: Why did Jesus get into a boat? (A: To teach people better as in the middle of a crowd, he could not teach them easily.)

Q: What did Jesus ask Simon to do? (A: To put out into deep water to catch more fish.)

Q: What was Simon's response? (A: They had been fishing all night and had caught nothing. *Note, fishing was generally done at night when the fish were nearer the surface of the water.*)

Q: What happened when Simon obeyed Jesus and let down the net? (A: They caught so many fish that their nets began to tear.)

Q: What did Simon Peter say and do? (A. Fell at Jesus' feet saying, "Leave me Lord, ...".)

Q: Why did Simon say this? (A: He was scared/overwhelmed/realised his own inadequacy/sinfulness next to Jesus' glory. *No doubt he had also been moved or had learned something from Jesus' teaching and realised that he was but a poor fisherman, who knew very little detail about God's plan of salvation.*)

Q: What did Jesus say to Simon and the others? (A: Do not be afraid, from now on you will be fishers of men.)

Q: What does Jesus mean by saying that they will be "fishers of men"? (A: That they will go out and tell people about Jesus and "fish them out" of their ordinary lives to be able to live with Jesus.)

Q: What did Simon and the others do then? (A: They left everything to follow Jesus.)

Jesus calls us to follow Him as well. We can follow Him in our everyday lives by spending time with Him in prayer, and also when we come to church. On the next page is a guided meditation reflecting on Jesus' call to each one of us. There are two other activities, one is a personal reflection type for readers and the last is something for younger children to colour in and distribute to people as they move back to Mass.

Read this slowly and gently aloud and try to join in yourself mentally. Where there are a series of dots, pause a bit to allow the picture to develop in everyone's mind.

Shut your eyes and imagine you can see Jesus by the Sea (it's a big lake really). There are a lot of people around and you are there. Jesus gets into Simon's boat and carries on teaching. His voice is loud and clear over the water.... What can you hear Him saying? Then watch, the men lower the nets in the daytime, that is amazing!.... See them haul in the nets and they are full of fish!.... Simon is shocked and kneels down, his head bowed in shame.... But Jesus tells him to get up.... You hear Him saying, "Follow me, and I will make you into fishers of men"..... You watch Simon, Andrew, James and John leave their boats and follow Jesus..... Then Jesus turns and smiles at you..... See Him smiling at you..... Feel His love pouring into your heart.... He gently says your name (add the names if you wish, gently)..... Jesus then says "I love you"..... Hear Him saying this. Hear his gentle voice.... He says it again..... "I love you".... then He says, "Will you follow me too?"..... Answer Him in the silence of your heart.... Your answer is private, just between you and Jesus.

When you are ready, you can come back into the room.

Which of these choices are following Jesus? Colour in the boxes that are things we do to follow Jesus.

When I say "Good morning Jesus" when I wake up.

When I pay attention at Mass and do my best to follow the readings and prayers.

When I help at home because I love like Jesus loves.

When I say grace (prayers) before and after my meals.

When I don't bother to say my prayers at bedtime.

When I invite someone to join in with my game at school.

When I don't do my best work at school.

When I sit and read a story from the Bible.

When I drop litter.

When I look at the beautiful world and say thank you to our heavenly Father.

When I smile and am polite to people.

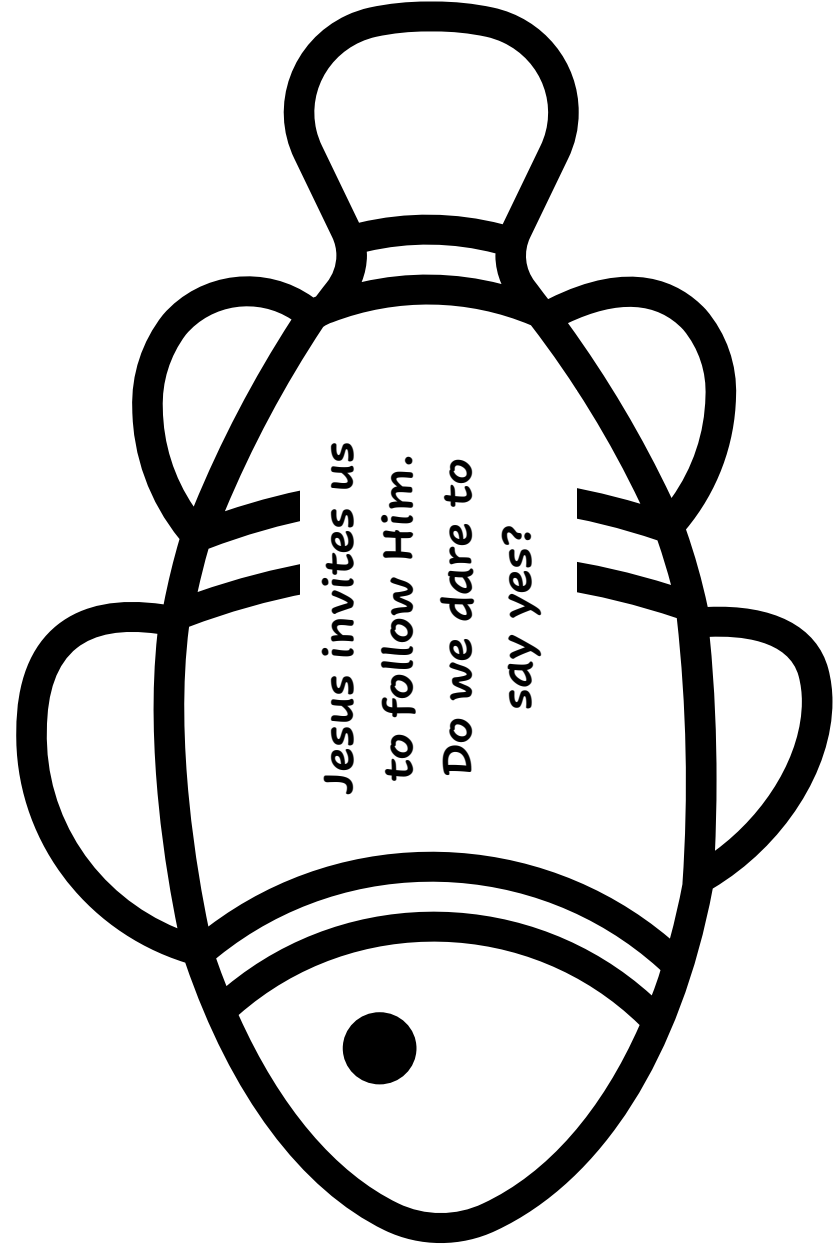
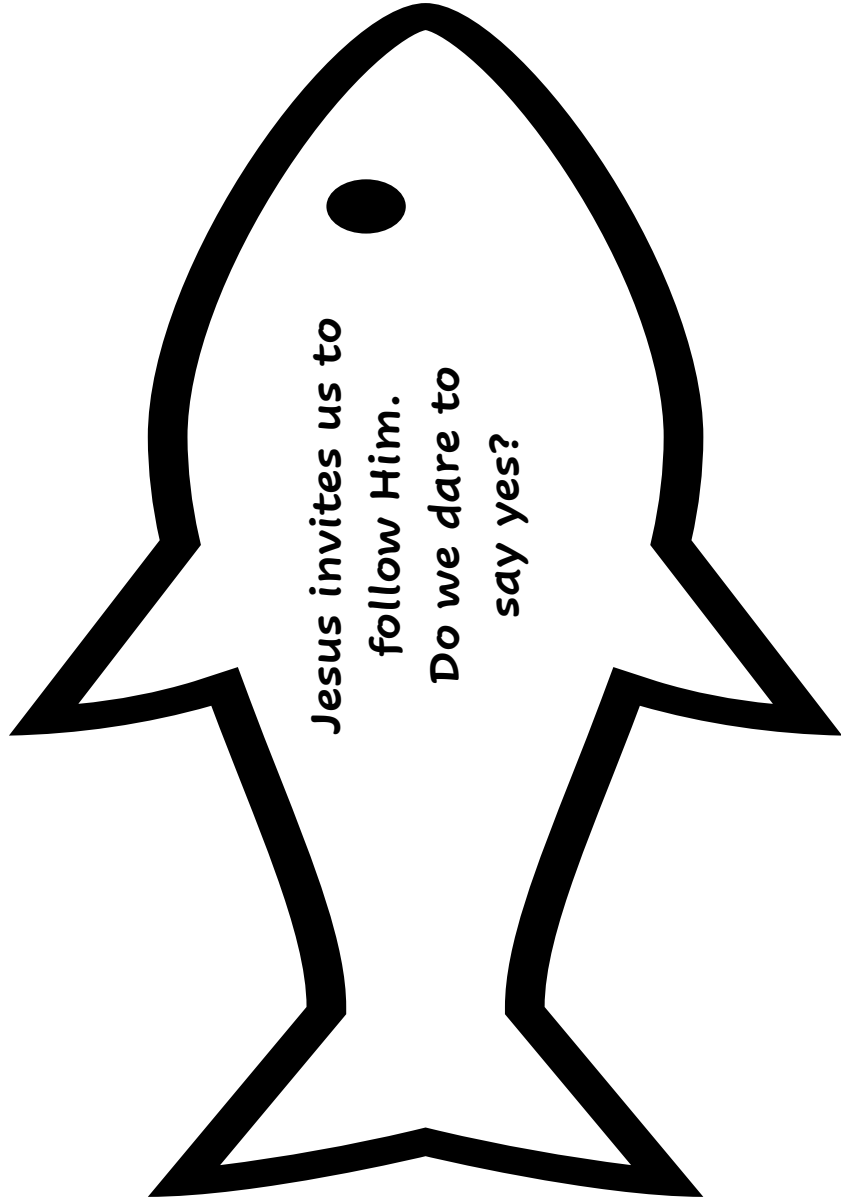
When I just take a big sigh and tell Jesus that I love Him.

When I am disobedient to my parents.

When I say thank you to people.

When I shout and argue with family members.

When things are difficult, I ask the Holy Spirit to help me.



Children's liturgy of the word for this week



Gospel for 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

Luke 6:17, 20-26

At that time:
Jesus came down with the Twelve and stood on a level place,
with a great crowd of his disciples
and a great multitude of people from all Judea
and Jerusalem
and the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon.
And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:
'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.
Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.
Blessed are you when people hate you,
and when they exclude you, and revile you, and spurn your name as evil
on account of the Son of Man!
Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy,
for behold, your reward is great in heaven;
for so their fathers did to the prophets.
But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.
Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.
Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
Woe to you, when all people speak well of you,
for so their fathers did to the false prophets.'

The Gospel of the Lord. R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Introduce the Gospel liturgically

We are more familiar with these teachings of Jesus from the "Sermon on the Mount" in Matthew's Gospel. Apart from the location – here, Jesus is on "level ground" and in Matthew He is on a mountain (echoing Moses bringing down the Ten Commandments from Mount Sinai) – the message is the same. True happiness comes not from worldly riches and superficial "fun" but our deepest joy comes from following and being with Jesus. This is a perfect Gospel after last week's, when "we" (along with the disciples) were invited to follow Jesus. In this revised translation of the lectionary, we now use the more familiar term "Blessed" from which the word "Beatitudes" comes from.

Q: Jesus begins His sermon by saying that some people are "blessed." "Blessed" means "happy." Who does Jesus say are blessed? (A: The poor, the hungry, those who weep (cry) those who are hated etc.)

Q: What is the reward for these sufferings? (A: the Kingdom of Heaven, satisfied, laughter/Our reward will be great in heaven...)

Q: What does Jesus say about those who are rich and who have everything now? (A: They will be hungry etc...)

Q: Jesus is telling us that it is not easy to be one of His followers, but that in the end, staying close to Him will give us a real deep joy and happiness. When are we closest to Jesus? (A: Various, but most particularly when we are at Mass.)

Q: Why are we the closest to Jesus at Mass? (A: Because Jesus is present in Holy Communion.)

Q: How else is Jesus with us at Mass? (In the person of the priest, in the readings [the word of the Lord] and in the congregation [Jesus said that where we are gathered together in His name, He is with us].)

Q: When we come into a Catholic church we genuflect, why? (A: Because Jesus is present in the Tabernacle and by genuflecting, we acknowledge His presence in the saved hosts (Holy Communion).)

Q: What little prayer can we say whilst we genuflect to remind ourselves that we are in the presence of Jesus who is united to His Father and the Holy Spirit? (A: The Sign of the Cross.)

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Either write your answers to these questions about the Sign of the Cross in the Four Dimensions of the Faith or choose some of the colour-coded labels from the next page to stick in correct boxes.

Why do we say, "in the NAME of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit"?

When do we make the Sign of the Cross in the liturgy (Mass) and sacraments?

When do we make the Sign of the Cross during our everyday lives?

When do we make the Sign of the Cross in prayer?

Parents, please help your children to read these labels and use them as a starting point for a discussion on making the Sign of the Cross at home with them.

We are baptised into the NAME of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.	The Sign of the Cross shows that we believe in God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.	The Sign of the Cross helps us to be strong in our faith.
We make the Sign of the Cross at the beginning and end of Mass.	We make a Sign of the Cross over our bodies with our arms because it shows that our whole bodies are important.	The Sign of the Cross helps us to stay close to Jesus when we are tempted to make wrong choices.
We make the Sign of the Cross when we genuflect in front of the Tabernacle.	Making the Sign of the Cross with our bodies shows that we don't always need words to pray.	The Sign of the Cross is a beautiful short prayer.
The Sign of the Cross reminds us of the grace that Jesus gives us to help us love Him and other people.	The Sign of the Cross reminds us that Jesus died on a cross.	The Sign of the Cross is like a door that we go through to be able to pray.
We make the Sign of the Cross on our forehead, lips and heart at the Gospel.	The Sign of the Cross was marked on us by our parents and godparents when we were baptised.	We make the Sign of the Cross when we see an ambulance to pray for the person inside.
On Ash Wednesday we are marked with ash in a cross shape.	The Sign of the Cross is recognised all over the world as a prayer.	Some people make the Sign of the Cross when they see a funeral to pray for the person who has died.
The Sign of the Cross means that we belong to God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.	When we make the Sign of the Cross it shows that we love Jesus who died for us on the cross.	The Sign of the Cross is like a shield in front of our bodies.
The Sign of the Cross means that we are joined to Jesus.	The priest makes the Sign of the Cross over the bread and wine before it becomes Jesus' Body and Blood.	We make the Sign of the Cross when we say grace before meals as it is like inviting Jesus to be with us.

**Gospel for 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year C**

Luke 6:27-38

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

Bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either.

Give to everyone who begs from you; and from one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

'If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you?

For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount.

But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

'Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap.

For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.'

The Gospel of the Lord,

R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

Children's liturgy of the word for this week



Discussion on the Gospel

✠ Light a candle

✠ Introduce the Gospel liturgically

The Gospel paints a picture of the ideal Christian world which can seem to be so impossible that we can be tempted to give up at the first hurdle. However, we can live as Jesus commands by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Some people think that turning our cheeks seems to indicate that Jesus wants us to be "doormats," but it is about retaining our dignity. (For a fuller explanation of the cultural background on these instructions see the explanation at the end of these pages.)

Q: Jesus gives us a lot of instructions here, what are the positive verbs (actions) that He says? (A: Hear, love, do good, bless, pray, offer, do not withhold (refuse), give, treat others, be compassionate, be merciful, do not judge, do not condemn, pardon (forgive), lend...)

Q: Who is Jesus telling us to love? (A: Our enemies.)

Q: Why does Jesus ask us to love our enemies? (A: So that we will have a great reward.)

Q: What does "being compassionate" mean? (A: Being kind to those who are in difficulties, loving, caring etc.)

Q: Why does Jesus tell us not to judge? (A: Judging is like criticising. If we judge people, we may not know what is going on inside them. Only Jesus knows the real reason someone does what they do.)

Q: As well as loving, Jesus also tells us to give. To whom must we give? (A: To everyone who asks.)

Q: What will happen when we give? (A: God will reward us with far more than we have ever given! ["a full measure, pressed down..."])

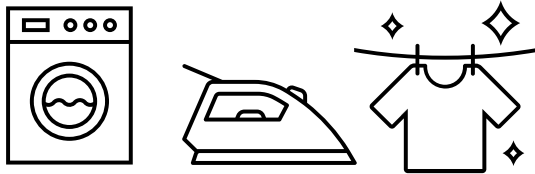
Q: Giving does not always have to be things, we can give of our time. How can we give of our time this week? (A: Open...)

Q: Doing as Jesus asks is not always easy, but it is not impossible for us as Jesus has given someone to help us. Who is that? (A: the Holy Spirit)

Think about how you are going to give time this week and say a quiet prayer to the Holy Spirit asking Him to help you.

Here are some ideas about how we can show Jesus how much we love Him by giving time to help other people. Tick or colour in the things that you could do this week.

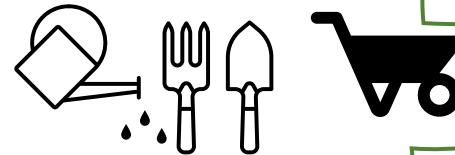
I can show my love for Jesus by helping with the laundry at home.



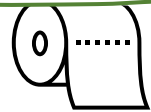
I can show my love for Jesus by making my own and other family member's beds.



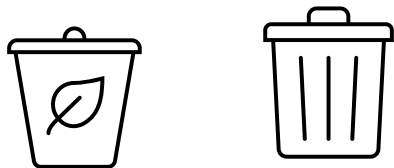
I can show my love for Jesus by helping in the garden



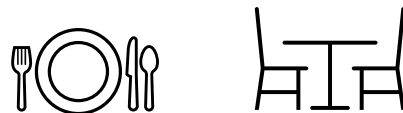
I can show my love for Jesus by changing the loo roll when it's empty!



I can show my love for Jesus by taking out the bins.



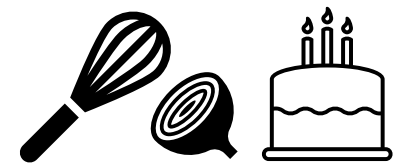
I can show my love for Jesus by laying the table.



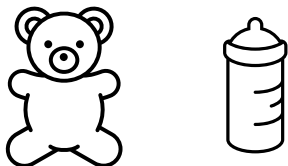
I can show my love for Jesus by helping with the housework.



I can show my love for Jesus by baking a cake or helping with the cooking (and cleaning up afterwards).



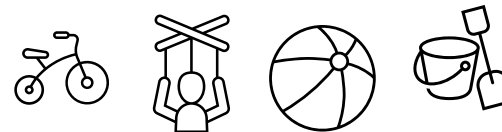
I can show my love for Jesus by helping to look after a younger brother or sister.



I can show my love for Jesus by helping making tea for the family.



I can show my love for Jesus by tidying up at home or at school.



I can show my love for Jesus by reading to a younger sibling or by hearing them read.



**Gospel for 8th Sunday of Ordinary
Time Year C**

Luke 6:39-45

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable: ‘Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit?’

A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.

Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?

How can you say to your brother,

“Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye”, when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye?

You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother’s eye.

‘For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit.

For figs are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.

The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.’

The Gospel of the Lord

R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

Children’s liturgy of the word for this week



Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Introduce the Gospel liturgically

Jesus gives us three images here on how to live as Christians: 1. That we have to know Jesus to be able to lead people to Jesus (the blind can't lead the blind); 2. That we are prone to criticise others but be “blind” to our own faults; 3. Our “goodness” comes from the goodness inside us.

Q: Jesus is talking about how we can help other people today and starts by referring to blind people. What is a blind person? (A: Someone who can't see.)

Q: What does Jesus say would happen if a blind person leads another blind person? (A: Both will fall into a pit.)

Q: What does Jesus mean by this? (A: If the person who is leading can't see where to go, both people will be in danger.)

Q: Jesus often talks about people who don’t know who He is, as being “blind”. What is the second example He gives in today’s Gospel about not being able to see? (A: ... The splinter and the plank.)

Q: Here Jesus is saying that before we criticise other people, we need to make sure that we are not doing wrong things ourselves. Finally, Jesus talks about good trees and rotten trees. What does He say about them? (A: See the text opposite.)

Q: Last week in the Gospel we learned about all the good things that Jesus was teaching us to do, can anyone remember them? (A: Loving, not judging, giving....)

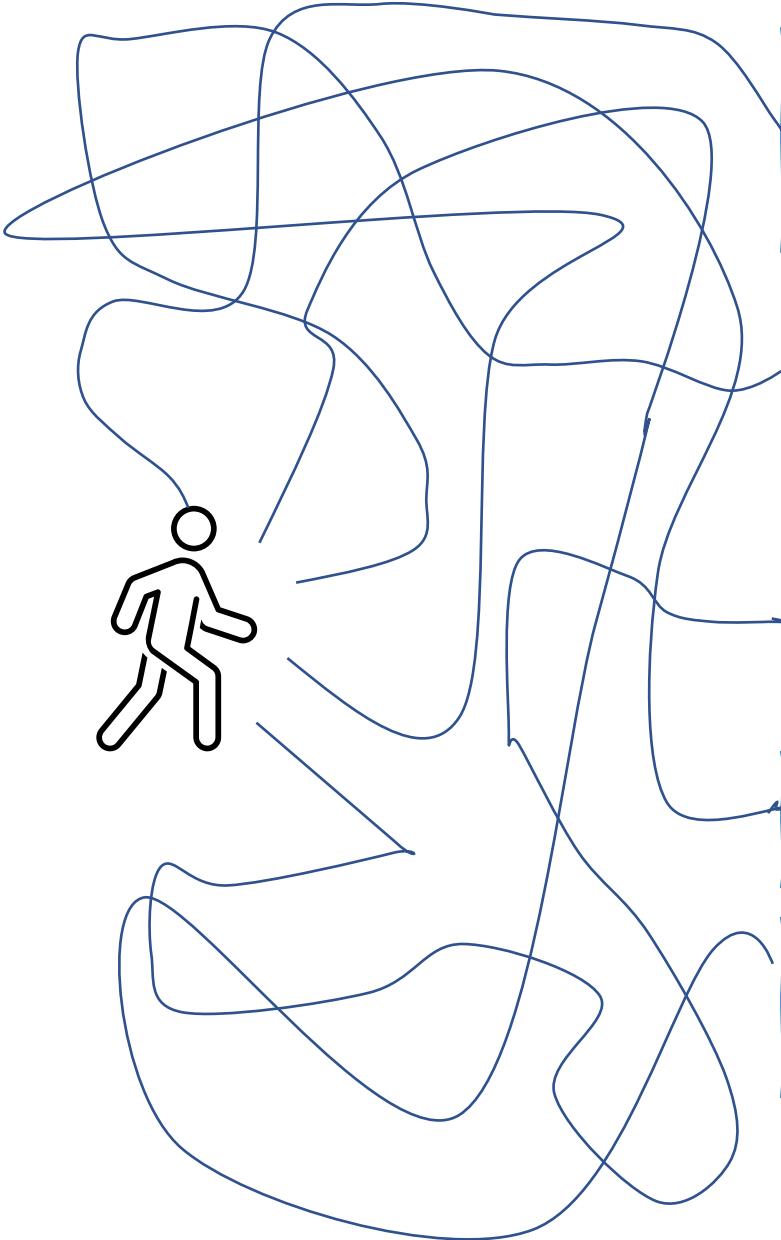
Q: When we give to other people or are nice to them, because we love Jesus, what kind of tree are we like? (A: A good tree.)

Q: When we look at the bad things that we have done and say sorry to Jesus, and try to not do them again, what are we doing? (A: Taking the plank out of our eyes [some children may refer to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and may say they are going to Confession, which is great!])

Q: How can we grow into being like good trees that bear lots of good fruit? (A: Open, e.g. paying attention at Mass, praying, reading the Bible, listening to the homily at Mass/to our teachers/parents....)

Let’s just close our eyes and privately ask Jesus to help us to grow into “good trees” that bear lots of good fruit.

Which of these lines lead to Jesus and which lead to falling into a pit?



I decide to pray the "Our Father" every day and invite a friend or brother or sister to pray with me.

I come to Mass but spend the whole time playing or trying to distract someone else.

I make a little booklet and write some of my favourite prayers to give to someone who can't get to Mass.

I invite my friend to come to an event at church with me.

I tell a friend that I can play on a Sunday instead of going to Mass.

