

# St. Joseph's Family Activities

## July 2022

Year C

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<https://www.theannunciation.org.uk/resources/>



### Some very special Gospels

The Gospels this month are some of the most well-known. It is easy to see what the Gospel is and to say to ourselves “I know that one” and not to spend too much time reflecting on the message which is always new for us each time we read Sacred Scriptures. However, there is always something new; a deeper insight that the Holy Spirit wants to give us, so do take the time to read and reflect on these beautiful texts. On the last Sunday of this month, we have the parable about storing up treasure in heaven and when we take the time to sit down and reflect upon the words of Sacred Scripture, we are truly storing up treasure in heaven for ourselves!

Linked to the Gospel about Mary and Martha, there is a suggestion to create a focal table if you don't already have one. Please do send in photos of your focal tables to share. They only need to be simple; a white cloth or a coloured one to reflect the liturgical season. A crucifix, a bible or other liturgical book, and a candle. You can add a rosary, statuettes, or religious pictures. Do keep the focal table up to date and involve the children with setting them up. This all helps us to build up treasure in heaven by the grace of God!

Recent past copies are available from <https://www.theannunciation.org.uk/resources/>  
If you are after copies that go back further, please contact me directly.

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

We have Luke's version of the giving of the Our Father this month. In this tiny image, which is used in the Catechism of the Catholic Church to introduce the part on prayer, we can see Jesus addressing His Father. The Apostles are behind Him copying Him. When we pray the *Our Father* we are united to Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit (symbolised by the water at the bottom of the picture) who is praying to His Father in heaven on our behalf.



*The family is the “domestic Church” and if we are not able to gather in person with the parish, it's a good idea to set aside special times to pray with the family, even if it is just 10 minutes two or three times a week. These are graced moments. Light a candle and have a few moments' silence and remind everyone that they are in the presence of God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These times are very precious and even if it is just a few minutes after a meal, it can be a fruitful time. Don't bite off more than you can chew! Start with just a few moments and build up the scope and variety of prayers slowly. Give everyone the opportunity to voice their own prayers as well as reciting traditional prayers.*

**Speaking/Learning the faith  
(which the Church calls  
“professing the faith”)**

**Living it (in Christ) – i.e. the  
choices we make in  
everyday life**

**Celebrating it in the Liturgy  
and the Sacraments**

**Christian  
prayer.**

## Children's liturgy of the word for this week



### Gospel for 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022

#### Luke 10:1-12,17-20

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out ahead of him, in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit. He said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest. Start off now, but remember, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Carry no purse, no haversack, no sandals. Salute no one on the road.

'Whatever house you go into, let your first words be, "Peace to this house!" And if a man of peace lives there, your peace will go and rest on him; if not, it will come back to you. Stay in the same house, taking what food and drink they have to offer, for the labourer deserves his wages; do not move from house to house.

'Whenever you go into a town where they make you welcome, eat what is set before you. Cure those in it who are sick, and say, "The kingdom of God is very near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not make you welcome, go out into its streets and say, "We wipe off the very dust of your town that clings to our feet, and leave it with you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God is very near." I tell you, on that day it will not go as hard with Sodom as with that town.'

**The seventy-two came back rejoicing.** 'Lord,' they said 'even the devils submit to us when we use your name.' **Jesus said to them,** 'I watched Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Yes, I have given you power to tread underfoot serpents and scorpions and the whole strength of the enemy; nothing shall ever hurt you. Yet do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you; **rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven.**'

The Gospel of the Lord

R/: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

### Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross
- ✠ Someone read the Gospel slowly

*With very young children, it may be better to focus on the first part of the Gospel which is in bold. The message of today's Gospel is mission and that it is the responsibility of all of us to go out and bring the Good News of salvation to the world.*

**Q: What is Jesus doing in today's Gospel?** (A: He's choosing people to send out ahead of Him to tell people about Jesus.)

**Q: What does "harvest" mean?** (A: Gathering in all the crops/food that has been grown.)

**Q: What are "labourers"?** (A: Those who work in the fields to bring in the harvest.)

**Q: When Jesus talks about the harvest being rich what does He mean?** (A: That a lot of people don't know about Him)

**Q: Jesus sends out people in twos to go and tell everyone about Jesus. These are the labourers for His harvest. The mission is very urgent and they must not delay. How are they to travel?** (A: Without a purse, bag or even a change of shoes!)

**Q: What are Jesus' disciples to say?** (A: Peace to this house.)

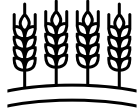
**Q: The disciples came back rejoicing. Why?** (A: [If you have read the whole text] because the devils submitted to them, [if you have read the short version] because it's a joy to talk about Jesus.)

**Q: Jesus said that their names are written in heaven - why?** (A: Because telling people about Jesus is what being a Christian is all about. It's what the Church is for!)

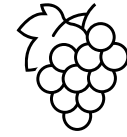
**Q: If Jesus was sending you out today to tell people about Him, what would you say?** (A: Open.)

On the next pages there are some symbols of harvest – Younger children can stick the statements about Jesus around a larger picture of Him; older children can come up with their own and write on post-its.

Jesus Died for us on  
the Cross



Jesus forgives our sins when we say  
sorry to Him in Confession



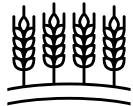
Jesus teaches about His  
Father



Jesus is God the Son



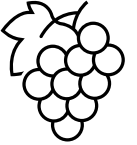
Jesus told His disciples to tell  
everyone about Him



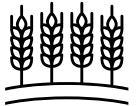
Jesus gives Himself to us in  
Holy Communion



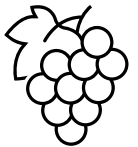
Jesus Died for us on  
the Cross



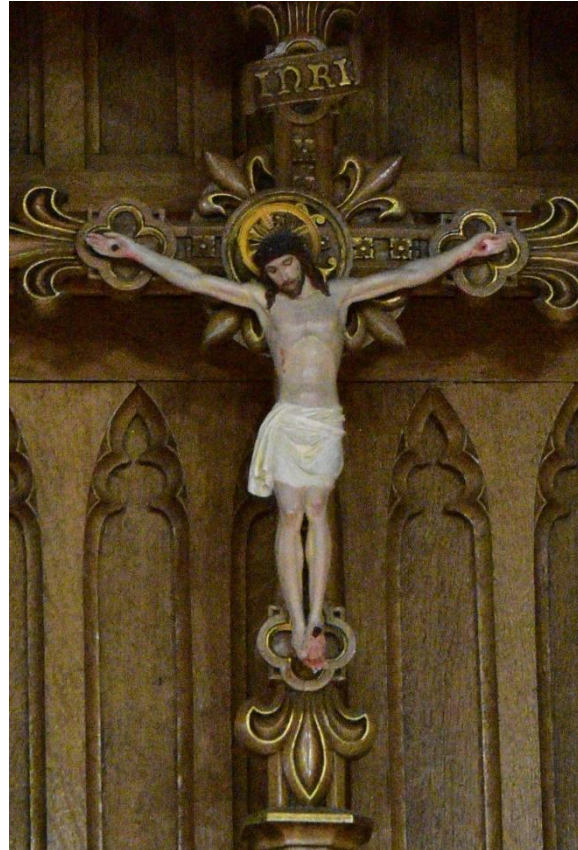
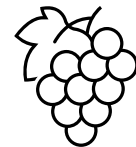
Jesus joins us to  
Himself when we are  
baptised



Jesus was born in  
Bethlehem



Jesus loves me





## Children's liturgy of the word for this week



### Gospel for 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C,

10<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Luke 10:25-37

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus 'do this and life is yours.'

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go, and do the same yourself.'

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

### Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross
- ✠ Someone read the Gospel slowly

*It is easy to use this parable to talk about being kind to those we don't like. However, whenever we come across wine, oil etc in the Bible it always points to the sacraments. The underlying message is that Jesus is the perfect neighbour who heals us through the sacraments.*

**Q: Who stopped for the man who had been attacked?** (A: A Samaritan whom the Jews did not like.)

**Q. What did the Samaritan do to the man who had been attacked?** (A: He stopped, took pity.... )

**Q: What did the Samaritan use to help heal the wounds?** (A: Oil and wine.)

**Q: Oil is used in the Church as a sign of the Holy Spirit' strength.**

**When is oil used in the Church?** (A: In the Sacraments, especially Baptism, Confirmation, anointing of the sick and in ordination?)













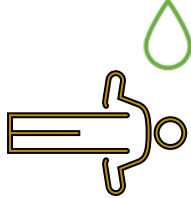
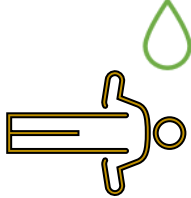






**Q: The Samaritan also used wine, when is wine used?** (A: Holy Communion.)

**Q: The wine is Jesus' life in Holy Communion and oil is His strength. Who does the Samaritan then remind us of)?** (Jesus.)

**Q: The Samaritan takes the man to an inn and pays the innkeeper to look after him and said that he would be back. Jesus paid for us to be able to go to heaven – how did He do this?** (A: He died on the Cross.)

**Q: Jesus has gone to His Father in heaven, but is coming back at the end of time. How can we be like Jesus and help those who are in need until He comes back at the end of time?** (A: Open.)

*On the next page is a set of cards focussing on the symbols in the sacraments. Print this off on card and share out the cards, taking it in turns to lay down a card. If someone has the same card, they can put it down. Who is the first to finish all their cards?*

<p><b>Wine; Holy Communion</b></p> 	<p><b>Wine; Holy Communion</b></p> 	<p><b>Oil; anointing at ordination</b></p> 	<p><b>Oil; anointing at ordination</b></p> 	<p><b>Oil; anointing at Baptism</b></p> 
<p><b>Raised hand; Forgiveness in Confession</b></p> 	<p><b>Raised hand; Forgiveness in Confession</b></p> 	<p><b>Giving of each other to each other: Marriage</b></p> 	<p><b>Giving of each other to each other: Marriage</b></p> 	<p><b>Oil; anointing at Baptism</b></p> 
<p><b>Oil; anointing in Confirmation</b></p> 	<p><b>Oil; anointing in Confirmation</b></p> 	<p><b>Oil; anointing the sick</b></p> 	<p><b>Oil; anointing the sick</b></p> 	<p><b>Coins - Jesus paid for us by dying on the cross</b></p> 
<p><b>Water; Baptism</b></p> 	<p><b>Water; Baptism</b></p> 	<p><b>Bread; Holy Communion</b></p> 	<p><b>Bread; Holy Communion</b></p> 	<p><b>Coins - Jesus paid for us by dying on the cross</b></p> 

## Children's liturgy of the word for this week



### Gospel for 16th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

17<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Luke 10:38-42

#### Martha works; Mary listens

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

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

### Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross
- ✠ Someone read the Gospel slowly

*A classic Gospel story which has given rise to calling people a "Martha" or a "Mary." Note that Jesus does not diminish Martha's role but says that Mary's is the better. We need to serve and look after people, but we also need to spend time listening to Jesus. If we do the latter, the former becomes a work of grace, not a chore.*

**Q: Who welcomed Jesus into her house?** (A: Martha.)

**Q: What did Martha's sister, Mary, do?** (A: She sat at Jesus' feet and listened to Him.)

**Q: Why did Martha grumble at Jesus?** (A: Because she was doing all the work and Mary was not helping her.)

**Q: What did Jesus say to Martha?** (A: You worry about too many things.....)

**Q: What did Jesus mean by this?** (A: Martha needed to spend time with her guest too, and [and then maybe she and Mary could get the food ready together...?]. In other words, we need to also give time to Jesus as well as the chores of everyday life.)

**Q: What does Jesus mean when He says that Mary has chosen "the better part"?** (A: That it is important to spend time with Jesus without worrying about other things.)

**Q: Does Jesus say that we must never do housework?** (A: No, of course not.)

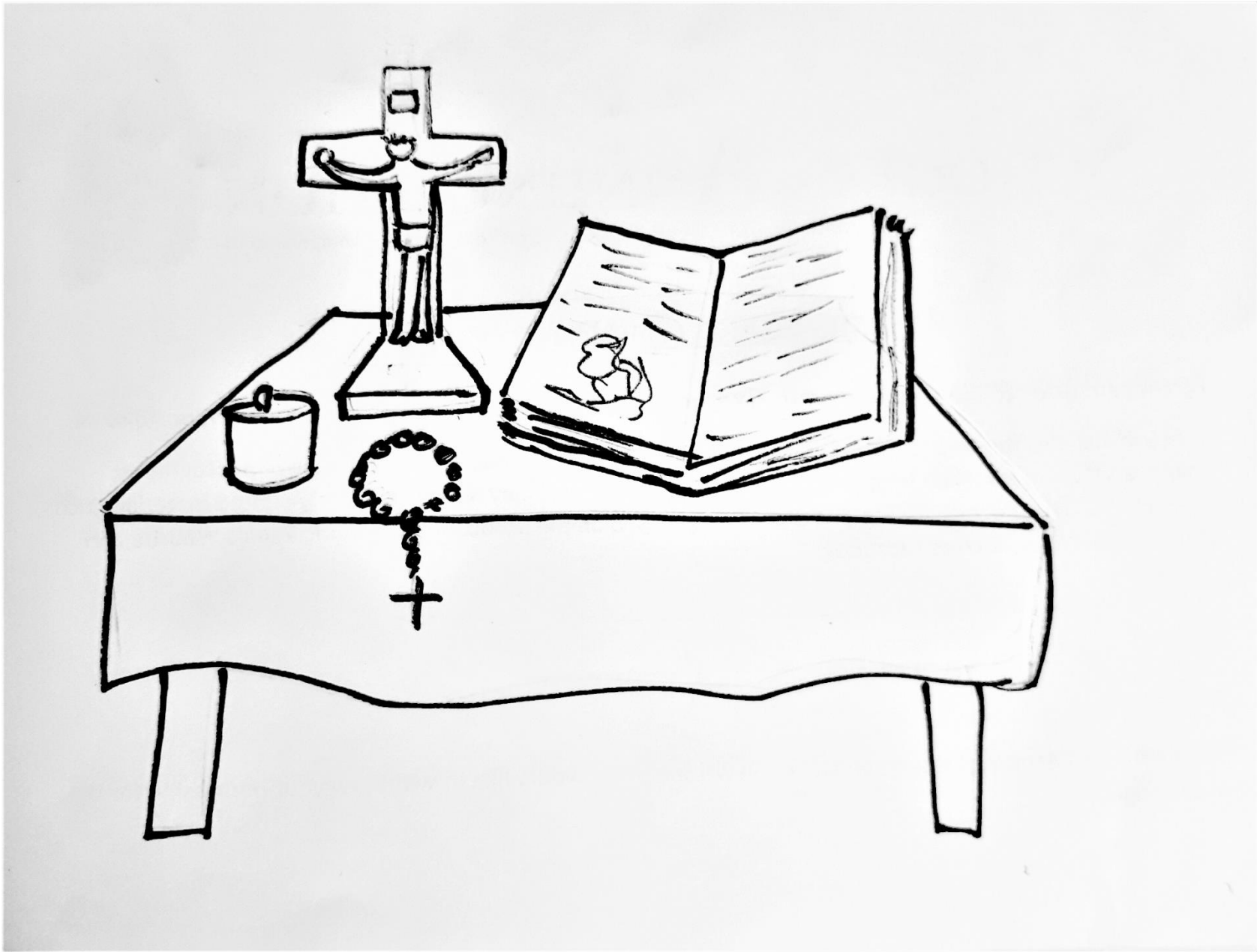
**Q: How can we spend time with Jesus today?** (A: Open, e.g. praying, coming to Mass, morning offering.....)

**Q: It's a wonderful thing to invite Jesus into our homes. How can we make Him more welcome in our homes?** (A: Open, e.g. setting up a little focal table at home, making sure that we have pictures of Jesus and the saints up, put a Bible in a prominent place....)

**Q: For those who have made their First Holy Communion, every time we go to receive Him, we are welcoming Him into the home that is our heart. How can we better be ready to receive Him?** (A: Open, e.g. praying, reading the Gospel before Mass, paying attention in Mass, singing the hymns and joining in with the prayers....)

*If you have the materials, may be help the children to practice making a focal table for their homes or colour in the picture on the next page.*

Colour in this picture of a focal table you can make at home to welcome Jesus into your home. The cloth should be green as it is ordinary time at the moment. Maybe you can add pictures of Jesus, the Holy Family, statues etc.





# Children's liturgy of the word for this week



## Gospel for 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year C

24<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Luke 11:1-13

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.'

He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

“Father, may your name be held holy,  
your kingdom come;  
give us each day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our sins,  
for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.  
And do not put us to the test.”

He also said to them:

‘Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, “My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him”; and the man answers from inside the house, “Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it you.” I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship’s sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

‘So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!’

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

## Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross
- ✠ Someone read the Gospel slowly

*Another wonderful Gospel this week. I have put part in bold as with younger children you may just want to focus on the first part.*

**Q: What did the disciples ask Jesus?** (A: To teach them to pray.)

**Q: What is praying?** (A. Spending time with Jesus talking to Him and listening to Him.)

**Q: What does this prayer Jesus says sound like?** (A: The Our Father .)

**Q: How does Jesus begin the prayer?** (A: By addressing His (and our) Father saying that His name is holy.)

**Q: This is praising God the Father. Jesus shows that our prayers need to begin by praising our Father in heaven. What other words can we use to praise God?** (A: e.g. Praise, glory, honour, great, wonderful, hosannah .....)

**Q: What is the next line?** (A: May your kingdom come.)

**Q: Jesus is asking His Father that everyone on earth will recognise God's kingdom. How can we do that?** (A: Open – pray, love other people...)

**Q: What is our daily bread?** (A: Both the food we need and the Bread of life – Holy Communion.)

**Q: Jesus asks His Father to forgive us in the way we forgive other people. When does God forgive us?** (A: When we go to Confession, at the beginning of Mass.)

**Q: When people have hurt us, how can we forgive them?** (A: Ask the Holy Spirit to help us and to say a prayer for them.)

**Q: Jesus asks His Father not to put us to the test. What does that mean?** (A: To help us to avoid doing bad things [sins].)

**Finish by slowly saying the “Our Father” in the traditional way then decorate the prayer on the next page to put on display.**



Our Father who art in  
heaven, hallowed be thy  
name, thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily  
bread and forgive us our  
trespasses as we forgive  
those who trespass  
against us and lead us not  
into temptation. Amen.

## Children's liturgy of the word for this week



### Gospel for 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

31<sup>st</sup> July 2022

#### Luke 12:13-21

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

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

### Discussion on the Gospel

- ✠ Light a candle
- ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross
- ✠ Someone read the Gospel slowly

*Today's Gospel gives us a warning not to be greedy. Children are very aware of "being fair" and will quickly complain if someone is not sharing. Whilst we all need to learn to share more and not be greedy, we also need to learn to not want more things that we need. A tough call for us all!*

**Q: What did the man in the crowd want?** (A: His brother to share what he has with him.)

**Q: Jesus says to be "on your guard against avarice". "On your guard" means, "be careful" but what does "avarice" mean?** (A: Being greedy.)

**Q: When might we be greedy?** (A: Open...)

**Q: Jesus tells a parable – a story, what is the story about?** (A: A man who stores up [saves] lots of wealth in big barns and then thinks that he won't have to work anymore as he is so rich.)

**Q: What happened to the man?** (A: He died before he could use all his wealth.)

**Q: Jesus says that we need to store up our treasure in heaven, not on earth. What does He mean by this?** (A: Open.)

**Q: There are four distinct ways to store up treasure in heaven; 1. Learn about Jesus and tell people about Him, 2. Come to Mass and if we have made our First Holy Communion, to go to Confession, 3. Love other people and be generous and share and 4. Pray. When can we pray?** (A: Open...)

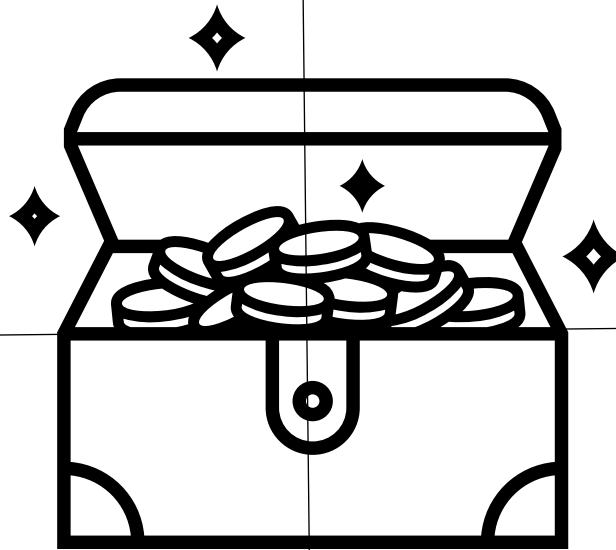
**Q: What prayers do you know?** (A: Open....)

**Q: One person who stored up lots of treasure in heaven is Mary, our Blessed Mother. Let us finish by asking her to help us to store up treasure in heaven, Hail Mary.....**

**On the next page is a "treasure chest" in the middle of the four dimensions of the faith mentioned above. Either draw or write what could be done for each dimension or make a shoebox look like a treasure chest and invite the children to put their ideas into the box on pieces of coloured paper. Note the suggestions reflect the fact that we can only act by the grace of God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

This is what the Holy Spirit does to help me to learn or talk about Jesus

This is what the Father does to help me concentrate better at Mass



This is how Jesus helps me to live like Him and love others

This is what the Holy Spirit does to help me pray to the Father better