

Seventh Sunday (Year C)

20th February 2022

Preparing the prayer space

Place a green cloth on the table or floor (green – the colour for Ordinary time)

Place a cross, bible, and candle on it. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

- YouTube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
- Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
- Print out sheet if required



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Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: In today's gospel Jesus tells us that even if others don't show us kindness, we should be kind in return. Even though it is a challenge, it pleases God.

Opening prayer:

Lord God, even if others don't treat us kindly, help us to see the goodness in all people, and a heart big enough to show love them in return.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (6:27-37)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

"This is what I say to all who will listen to me:

Love your enemies, and be good to everyone who hates you. Ask God to bless anyone who curses you, and pray for everyone who is cruel to you.

If someone slaps you on one cheek, don't stop that person from slapping you on the other cheek. If someone wants to take your coat, don't try to keep back your shirt. Give to everyone who asks and don't ask people to return what they have taken from you. Treat others just as you want to be treated.

"If you only love someone who loves you, will God praise you for that? Even sinners love people who love them. If you are kind only to someone who is kind to you, will God be pleased with you for that? If you lend money only to someone you think will pay you back, will God be pleased with you for that? Even sinners lend to sinners because they think they will get it all back.

"But love your enemies and be good to them.

"Lend without expecting to be paid back. Then you will get a great reward, and you will be the true children of God in heaven. He is good even to people who are unthankful and cruel. Have pity on others, just as your Father has pity on you.

"Don't judge others, and God will not judge you. Don't be hard on others, and God will not be hard on you. Forgive others, and God will not be hard on you. Forgive others, and God will forgive you."

The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Good News Translation® (Today's English Version, Second Edition) © 1992 American Bible Society. All rights reserved.

Prayerfully watch the video together

Ordinary Time 8C <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wQENqPe-5Wk>

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why Jesus says to love your enemies...

I wonder why Jesus asks us to treat others as you want to be treated...

I wonder what it feels like to lend/ give without expecting to be paid back...

I wonder how others would feel if you treat them the way Jesus asks...

I wonder what the disciples thought when they heard Jesus speak about this...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVkgQ> (4 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.

(We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer')

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, all Church and world leaders. That they will lead by example of loving each person, just like Jesus did.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for all the people who are close to our hearts and those who have not experienced love the way we have, may they feel the love of God and let it bring comfort to their hearts.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray that all the members of our Church will follow Jesus' example and be good to others, showing kindness to all the people that they meet.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time *(pause)*

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for our world, especially for those who have been hurt or affected by the wrongdoings of others. May those people who have been hurt find peace in the love Jesus gives.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

Closing prayer: We lift our hearts and the prayers of our community. We make these prayers through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Closing song: Love One Another <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47Kf90d7Tf8>

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has end.

- **Prayer journal**
Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).
- **Colouring In**
<https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/237188?album=love-one-another-coloring-page>
- **Heart Wreath**
Cut out the middle of a paper plate and cut out hearts to stick around the plate. Write all the different names of people you would like to pray for and stick them onto the paper plate. Pray as you place each heart around the wreath.
https://sermons4kids.com/love_your_enemies_group_activities.htm
- **Sunday Connection**
During a time of quiet reflection, invite each family member to choose an action for the week in which he or she will go the "extra mile" for the family. Conclude in prayer by praying together [St. Ignatius's Prayer for Generosity](#).
<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/7th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-c-sunday-connection/>