

Family Liturgy – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Sunday 16 August 2020

Preparing the prayer space

Place a green cloth on the table or floor (green, for ordinary time). Place a cross, a bible and a candle on it. Holy water if you have some or a bowl with water as a reminder of our baptism. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

You tube as listed on sheet: Gospel stories and songs.

Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet. Print out sheet if required



<http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-sick-healed/>

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: Today we hear the story about a woman who came from a different country than Jesus. At first, it seems that Jesus will not help her, but when she proves to have real faith in Jesus, he heals her daughter. We join ourselves to Jesus and listen to what he is asking of us today.

Opening prayer: God of families and togetherness, we give you thanks for sending Jesus to us. Help us to hear Jesus' words to us and to understand and believe in them so we may love you more. Help us now to listen to your Word to us. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (15:21-28)

All: Glory to you O, Lord

Jesus went to the territory near the cities of Tyre and Sidon.
Suddenly a Canaanite woman from there came out shouting,
"Lord and Son of David, have pity on me!
My daughter is full of demons."

Jesus did not say a word.
But the woman kept following along and shouting,
So his disciples came up and asked him to send her away.

Jesus said, "I was sent only to the people of Israel!
They are like a flock of lost sheep."

The woman came closer.
Then she knelt down and begged,
"Lord please help me!"

Jesus replied, "It isn't right to take food away from children and feed it to the dogs."

"Lord, that's true," the woman said, "but even the dogs get the crumbs that fall from their owner's table."

Jesus answered, "Dear woman, you really do have a lot of faith, and you will be given what you want."

At that moment her daughter was healed.

The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the clips about the Gospel story of Jesus talking to a woman of great faith.

<https://youtu.be/nEW-kVjHIFY> Faith of a Canaanite Woman (1.41 mins)

<https://youtu.be/ZMIXmcwsZvg> Gospel reading and Reflection for kids (2.17 mins)

<https://youtu.be/JD066ml5SoU> Reflection: Being Included - Matthew 15:21-28(4.51mins)

Gospel reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder how Jesus felt when the woman was so insistent...

I wonder how the disciples felt when the woman kept shouting to Jesus...

I wonder how the disciples felt when Jesus said to them, she not from our country...

I wonder how the disciples felt when Jesus cured the woman's daughter because of her strong faith...

I wonder what it would be like to have so much faith in Jesus and his good works...

I wonder if Jesus still cures people who are sick if they have faith in him....

I wonder how God wants us to treat people who are different from us...

I wonder how God feels about people who look, dress, or speak differently from us...

I wonder how strong my faith in Jesus is....

I wonder what Jesus is telling me with this story today...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

Yes Lord I Believe by John Burland <https://youtu.be/7MR2iGDyUtE> (3 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to help us grow more loving like Jesus.
(We respond to the prayers by repeating the words 'Lord, hear our prayer')

1 We pray for our Church, Pope Francis and especially for Archbishop Pat: may our Church, through the intercession of Mary, become more loving like Jesus and welcome everyone. Lord, hear us.

2 We pray for all people in our parishes: May all those who feel disconnected or unwelcomed find someone who helps them come back to God's family. Lord, here us.

3 We pray for our world: May people everywhere work for justice, dignity, and love among all people. Lord, hear us.

4 We pray for all the children who are preparing to celebrate the Sacraments for the first time: may their lives be blessed with families and sponsors who help them become more loving like Jesus. Lord, hear us.

5 We pray for our families and friends: May people who have died recently and especially the people we know and love, find eternal life in the name of Jesus Christ. Lord, hear us.

Closing prayer: God of families and togetherness, we believe in your love – your love created the world. We believe in your love – your love sent Jesus to live with us on earth. We believe in your love – your love sent the Holy Spirit to breathe life through us. Amen.

Closing songs: <https://youtu.be/54jdoEIL7uk> Faith is just believing. Song (0.49 min)

https://youtu.be/YDu8ZH0_ktE It was by faith. Song (2.52 mins)

<https://youtu.be/6feFnwEZxzo?list=TLPQMjkwNzIwMjDvPnejA4yPSA> "One little Crumb" (3.07 mins)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- Write a prayer or draw a picture thanking God for loving the world so much.
- Add to this prayer journal each day.
- Act out the Gospel story of Jesus talking to the woman with a strong faith
- Make a choice to do something loving today
- Draw a cartoon story of what happened in this story with captions
- Go to the following links to find crosswords & other children activities on the topic:
- http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/worksheets/a-ordinary_time-20.PDF (Woman of faith)
- http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/worksheets/f-0815-the_assumption.PDF (Assumption)
- https://www.biblewise.com/kids/char_topic/jesus-as-healer.php Worksheet (Jesus as a healer)
- <https://www.biblewise.com/kids/fun/word-search-parables.php> Word search (Parables)
- Game: Finding Faith - Before class, hide strips of paper around the room with the word "Faith" written on them. Then, divide students into two or more teams. When you say, "Go!" the team members search the room to find the slips of paper. Once someone finds a slip of paper, they return to their team's starting area and wait for the others to find theirs. The first team to have all their members find a slip of paper and make it to their team's starting area wins. When the game is finished, remind students that we all need to have faith, just like the Canaanite woman did, if we want Jesus to help us.