

Family Liturgy – 21th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A) Sunday 23 August 2020

Preparing the prayer space

Place a green cloth on the table or floor (the colour for Ordinary time)
Place a cross, bible and candle on it. Some 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. Place something you value or treasure or any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

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



<http://clipart-library.com/clipart/837633.htm>

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver:

Today, we come together to celebrate the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A.
We ask God to help us today to come together whenever we can as the family of the Church and call Jesus the 'Son of the living God'.

Opening prayer: God of love and unity, help us to listen to you in the Gospel story and to follow you closely. Help us to want to come together as your family and church community where together we can and go out to meet you in our lives and through other people. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (16:13-20)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

When Jesus and his disciples were near the town of Caesarea Philippi, he asked them, 'What do people say about the Son of Man?'

The disciples answered, 'Some people say you are John the Baptist or maybe Elijah or Jeremiah or some other prophet.'

Then Jesus asked them, 'but who do you say I am?'
Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'

Jesus told him:

'Simon, son of Jonah, you are blessed!

You didn't discover this on your own. It was shown to you by my Father in heaven.

So I will call you Peter, which means 'a rock'.

On this rock I will build my Church, and death itself will not have any power over it.

I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven

And God in heaven will allow whatever you allow on earth. But he will not allow anything that you don't allow'.

Jesus told his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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 video together <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bul6bY22XLE> (1 min)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder who Peter said that Jesus was in the gospel story?

I wonder what are the names of Peter that Jesus used in this story?

I wonder what are the different names used for Jesus in this story?

I wonder what names you can use to describe Jesus from any of the gospel stories you know?

I wonder when are the times that our Church community come together and speak of Jesus as the 'Messiah, the Son of the living God'?

I wonder 'What is the church?' Let us look at this video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INsNTdaBIG8> (2mins)

I wonder what are the ways that we can be part of our church community?

I wonder how we can receive from others and give to others through our church community?

I wonder what words you hear Jesus speaking to you in your hearts as you prepare to meet him in the Sacraments?

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 listen to our needs.

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

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Pat and all Church and world leaders: that they will be guided by the Holy Spirit to lead us as faith-filled people believing in the God who loves us.

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

2 We pray for people in our world who are suffering in any way at this time especially during this COVID-19 outbreak: that they may feel the love and care of others who help to relieve their suffering and to know that they are deeply loved by God. Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray for all people in our parishes and in our communities: that they will be confident in God's love for them and grow in their desire to be a community who wants others to know of God's love of them too. Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pray for all people, especially for children, who are looking forward to receiving the Sacraments for the first time: that they will prepare well to receive Jesus into their hearts and do all they can to grow closer to God and help to build our faith community. Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

5 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 all people who have died recently and especially for people we know and love: that they will now be united with all the saints in heaven and with the Risen Jesus.

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

Closing prayer: God who calls us to be close, we believe in your love - you are the Creator of the world. We believe in your love – you sent Jesus to show us how to live a life of faith. We believe in your love – because of the Holy Spirit who breathes life through us and guides us. Amen.

Closing song: *One Faith, One Hope, One Love* by Andrew Chinn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eowzRp2Qslw> (3 mins)

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

- Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook) speaking to Jesus of your needs and of how you would like to grow close to Him this week and how together we can grow as a community of faith in our family, in our school and in our parish.
- Song for young children: *Peter Build My Church* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Z1Dx2ZBMgY> (2 minutes)
- A variety of puzzles on Peter's confession of who Jesus is for him https://sermons4kids.com/who_am_i.htm