

Family Liturgy – 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A) Sunday 20 September 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

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver:

Today, we come together to celebrate the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A.
We ask God to help us today to do our best in all things and be happy with what we have is gift.

Opening prayer: God of love and wisdom, help us to listen to you in the Gospel story and to follow you closely. Help us to want to give of ourselves out of love freely and not out of reward. Help us to turn to you and to be grateful for what you have given to us. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (20:1-16a)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

“As Jesus was telling what the kingdom of God would be like, he said:
‘Early one morning a man went out to hire some workers for his vineyard.
After he had agreed to pay them the usual amount for a day’s work, he sent them off to his vineyard.

About nine that morning, the man saw some other people standing in the market with nothing to do.
He said he would pay them what was fair if they went to work in his vineyard. So they went.

At noon and again about three in the afternoon he returned to the market.
Each time he made the same agreement with others who were loafing around with nothing to do.

Finally, about five in the afternoon the man went back and found others standing there.
He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’
‘No one has hired us,’ they answered. Then he told them to go work in his vineyard.”

“That evening the owner of the vineyard told the man in charge of the workers to call them in and give them their money. He also told the man to begin with the ones who were hired last.
When the workers arrived, the ones who had been hired at five in the afternoon were given the full day’s pay.

The workers who had been hired first thought they would be given more than the others.
But when they were given the same, they began complaining to the owner of the vineyard.
They said, ‘The ones who were hired last worked for only one hour.
But you paid them the same as you did us. We worked in the sun all day long!’

The owner answered one of them. ‘Friend, I didn’t cheat you. I paid exactly what we agreed on.
Take your money and go! What business is it of yours if I want to pay them the same that I paid you?
Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Why should you be jealous if I want to be generous?’”

The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PARABLE OF THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD
(MATTHEW 20:1-16)



<http://clipart-library.com/clipart/19-7iaKBzziT.htm>

Prayerfully watch the video together <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jke7tfdteU8> (3mins)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why the owner of the vineyard gave each person the same reward even though they worked for different amounts of time?

I wonder if there are times when we feel jealous of others? How can I act if I am a follower of Jesus?

I wonder if we treat everyone the same regardless of what we receive from them?

I wonder what are some examples of treating others as you would like to be treated by them?

I wonder how the Holy Spirit can be with us to guide us in how we treat others?

I wonder what the message for us is in this story?

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 to our generous and loving God.

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 serve each other with generous hearts and out of love given freely to help the other. 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 with generous hearts.

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 in the love and mercy of God.

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: *Now Go* by John Burland <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7qvXO7sCewQ> (3mins)

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 the needs of your family
- https://sermons4kids.com/vineyard_workers_wordsearch.htm
- https://sermons4kids.com/vineyard_workers_decoder.htm
- https://sermons4kids.com/vineyard_workers_crossword.htm
- <http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/parable-of-the-workers-in-the-vineyard>