

Archdiocese of Adelaide

Family Liturgy – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Sunday 25 October 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



<https://scpeanutgallery.files.wordpress.com/2015/03/love-god-love-people-by-hannah.jpg>

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: In today's story Jesus tells us his two top rules for a happy life. Listen to the story to know which two rules are the most important for Jesus. 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 (22:34- 40)

All: Glory to you O, Lord

After Jesus had made the Sadducees look foolish,
The Pharisees heard about it and got together.

One of them was an expert in the Jewish Law.
So he tried to test Jesus by asking,

'Teacher, what is the most important commandment in the Law?'

Jesus answered:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind,'
This is the first and most important commandment.

The second most important commandment is like this one.
And it is, 'Love others as much as you love yourself.'

All the Law of Moses and the Books of the Prophets are based on these two commandments."

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 Jesus telling us which is the Greatest Commandment.

https://youtu.be/v_SVpWee2MA Jesus reveals greatest commandment (2.25 mins)

<https://youtu.be/8xb7qljEwaE> The Greatest Commandment - Matthew 22:34-40 (4.18 mins)

Gospel reflection and time of sharing:

- I wonder why a teacher of the Jewish law asked Jesus this question...
- I wonder if he was trying to trick Jesus....
- I wonder why Jesus answered in the way he did...
- I wonder how the Pharisee felt when Jesus gave his answer...
- I wonder what Jesus wants us to learn by his answer...
- I wonder what Jesus means when he says 'love'...
- I wonder if there are some people, we find hard to love...
- I wonder if you love everyone, all the time...
- I wonder what Jesus means when he says: *"Love others as much as you love yourself"* ...
- I wonder what Jesus is saying to each one of us 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 teach us to love others as much as we love ourselves.

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

1 We pray for our Church, Pope Francis, and Archbishop Pat: may our Church, be an example of how to serve others with love, patience, and humility. Lord, hear us.

2 We pray for all people in our parishes: May our communities be places where the light of love shines through us and touches the lives of all we meet. Lord, hear us.

3 We pray for our world especially during the current COVID-19 pandemic: May people everywhere have a greater understanding of God's love in our world today. 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 show them God's kindness and love. 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, experience God's merciful love and be welcomed to eternal life. 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 song: <https://youtu.be/AZRaeUP2IY> A life of Love (2.42 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 teaching us how to forgive one another.
- Act out the Gospel story of Jesus talking to the Pharisees
- Decide to think about the choices you make today as a follower of Jesus who loves others
- 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:
- https://sermons4kids.com/greatest_commandment_08_crossword.htm
- https://sermons4kids.com/greatest_commandment_08_decoder.htm
- https://sermons4kids.com/greatest_commandment_08_choice.htm
- http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/worksheets/a-ordinary_time-30.PDF
- https://sermons4kids.com/greatest_commandment_08_wordsearch.htm?fromSermonId=463
- **HEART COOKIES:** Give each child a heart cookie to frost and add sprinkles to the cookie. Ask the children about the Bible verse again and "what are we to love the Lord our God with".... (Answer... our HEARTS).