

Seventeenth Sunday (Year B)

25th July 2021

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, we hear that Jesus feeds a crowd of five thousand.

Opening prayer:

Lord God, when things seem to be difficult and out of our control, let us remember to place our trust in you because you will make a way and with you, nothing is impossible. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to John (6:1-15)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

Jesus crossed Lake Galilee, which was also known as Lake Tiberias. A large crowd had seen him work miracles to heal the sick, and those people went with him. It was almost time for the Jewish festival of Passover, and Jesus went up on a mountain with his disciples and sat down.

When Jesus saw the large crowd coming toward him, he asked Philip, "Where will we get enough food to feed all these people?" He said this to test Philip since he already knew what he was going to do.

Philip answered, "Don't you know that it would take almost a year's wages just to buy only a little bread for each of these people?"

Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the disciples. He spoke up and said, "There is a boy here who has five small loaves of barley bread and two fish. But what good is that with all these people?"

The ground was covered with grass, and Jesus told his disciples to have everyone sit down. About five thousand men were in the crowd.

Jesus took the bread in his hands and gave thanks to God. Then he passed the bread to the people, and he did the same with the fish, until everyone had plenty to eat. The people ate all they wanted, and Jesus told his disciples to gather up the leftovers, so that nothing would be wasted. The disciples gathered them up and filled twelve large baskets with what was left over from the five barley loaves.

After the people had seen Jesus work this miracle, they began saying, "This must be the Prophet who is to come into the world!"

Jesus realised that they would try to force him to be their king. So he went up on a mountain, where he could be alone.

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

Jesus Feeds the 5000 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6rj9cAJrWE> (2:09min)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why Jesus asked the disciple Philip and not another disciple...

I wonder where the large crowd came from...

I wonder if there was any other food there...

I wonder why there were 12 baskets...

I wonder how the people in the crowd were feeling...

I wonder why Jesus needed to be alone...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVkgGQ> (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 can meet the needs of their communities.

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

2 We pray for those who are preparing for, or have received their sacraments, that they will grow in their relationship with Jesus and come to him to be nourished by his teachings and God's Word.

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

3 We pray that members of our Church will be nourished by the Word of God.

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 those who may be facing challenges or feel worried that they will remember to place their trust in Jesus.

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

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

Closing song: *Shout Hooray! Two by 2!* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcpG0WbCHkg> (1:47min)

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://cafod.org.uk/content/download/25318/181927/version/5/Prayer_childrens-liturgy_17th-Sunday-Ordinary-Time-B-illustration.pdf
- **Craft corner**
Use paper to create your own loaves and fish to remember this Sunday's gospel <https://www.jesus-without-language.net/feeding-5000-john-6-make/>
- **Family Connection**
As you gather as a family, talk together about the things that your family needs... Continue by naming other things that a family needs to be happy and healthy—time together, cooperation, patience...
<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/17th-sunday-of-ordinary-time-b-sunday-connection/>