

Family Liturgy – 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Sunday 19 July 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/>

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: Today we hear a story about a farmer planting and growing seeds. Jesus loves us and he knows it takes time to become loving like him. 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 to know and 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 (13:24-30)

All: Glory to you O, Lord

Jesus told his disciples this story:

"The kingdom of heaven is like what happened when a farmer scattered good seed in a field. But while everyone was sleeping, an enemy came and scattered weed seeds in the field and then left. When the plants came up and began to ripen, the farmer's servants could see the weeds.

"The servants came and asked, 'Sir. Didn't you scatter good seed in your field? Where did these weeds come from?' 'An enemy did this,' he replied.

"His servants then asked, 'Do you want us to go out and pull up the weeds?' 'No!' he answered. 'You might also pull up the wheat. Leave the weeds alone until harvest time. Then I'll tell my workers to gather the weeds and tie them up and burn them. But I'll have them store the wheat in my barn.'"

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 with the Gospel story of the farmer.

https://youtu.be/0mUz4w_nWQU Wheat &The Weeds - Parables of Jesus (4.36 mins)

<https://youtu.be/rQVeiRQTiPo> The Parable of the Weeds (2.15 mins)

<https://youtu.be/wtqZgHA5KEw> The Farmer and the Seeds, Holy Tales Bible Stories (3.41 mins)

https://youtu.be/M25a_733dzk Gospel Reading and Reflection for Kids – Matt.13:24-30(1:57 mins)

<https://youtu.be/HkXNS1joo2E> The Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds (1.52 mins)

Gospel reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder how the farmer felt as he was planting the good seeds in the field.

I wonder how the farmer felt when his servants told him about the weeds growing in the field

I wonder why someone would scatter weed seeds among the good seeds in the middle of the night

I wonder why the farmer told the servants to let the weeds grow among the good seeds

I wonder how the enemy felt when all the weeds were collected, tied up and burnt

I wonder how the good seeds felt when they were collected and stored in the barn

I wonder how the farmer and the servants felt when all the wheat was stored in the barn

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 become more loving like Jesus. Lord, hear us.

2 We pray for all people in our parishes: May all those who feel disconnected 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 song: <https://youtu.be/TqLRfzEQK9A> Jesus Loves Me, HolyTales Bible Songs (4.15mins)

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 the farmer
- 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:
- Game - Let the children go outside and pick some weeds to glue onto a piece of brown paper. Children can make the weeds into an Art piece to show that God wants us to make something beautiful out of the weeds!
- https://freesundayschoolcurriculum.weebly.com/uploads/1/2/5/0/12503916/lesson_43_the_weeds_and_the_wheat.pdf
- <https://i.pinimg.com/236x/1a/cc/9e/1acc9ead3866e7fd1051ccbf143beeca--parables-of-jesus-the-weeds.jpg>
- <https://mrshlovesjesus.files.wordpress.com/2016/06/wheat-ares.jpg?w=652>