

Family Liturgy – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Sunday 30 August 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/search/?book=Matthew>

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: Today we hear a story about Jesus telling his disciples what would happen to him and encouraging them, and us, to think like God and live our lives for others, not just ourselves. We must learn to be more like Jesus and follow him to learn from him how to be good disciples. 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 (16:21-25)

All: Glory to you O, Lord

Jesus began telling his disciples what would happen to him.
He said, "I must go to Jerusalem.
There the nation's leaders, the chief priests,
and the teachers of the Law of Moses will make me suffer terribly.
I will be killed,
but three days later I will rise to life."

Peter took Jesus aside and told him to stop talking like that.
He said, "Lord, surely God won't let this happen to you!"

Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Satan, get away from me!
You're in my way because you think like everyone else and not like God."

Then Jesus said to his disciples:
"If any of you want to be my followers,
you must forget about yourself.
You must take up your cross and follow me.
If you want to save your life,
You will destroy it.

"But if you give up your life for me,
You will find it."

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 the Gospel story of Jesus talking to his disciples.

<https://youtu.be/MpWuQO45fsI> Matthew 16:21-25 (1.35 mins)

https://youtu.be/vkdcHF_n6BM Gospel reading and Reflection for kids (2.18 mins)

Gospel reflection and time of sharing:

- I wonder how Jesus felt when he was telling his disciples that the rulers would make him suffer and kill him but three days later, he would rise to life...
- I wonder how the disciples felt when Jesus told them that the rulers would make him suffer and kill him but three days later, he would rise to life...
- I wonder how it felt to hear Jesus talk about the terrible things that would happen to him but that he would rise to life after three days...
- I wonder how Peter felt when Jesus said, "Satan, get away from me! You're in my way because you think like everyone else and not like God."
- I wonder how I would feel if Jesus said these words to me?
- I wonder how the disciples felt when Jesus said to them, "If you want to be my followers, you must forget about yourself. You must take up your cross and follow me."
- I wonder what part of the story is the most important?
- I wonder where you are in the story or what part is about you?
- 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 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, faithfully take up the cross, follow Jesus and lead everyone to find eternal life. Lord, hear us.

2 We pray for all people in our parishes: May all those who feel disconnected or unwelcomed find someone who helps them come back to God's family. Lord, hear us.

3 We pray for our world: May people everywhere become true followers of Jesus and 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 true followers of 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 songs: <https://youtu.be/pJTr3dcDS0A> Follow me. Song (2.38 mins)

<https://youtu.be/KCLWPd5Yj9c> One way. Song (3.51 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 loving the world so much.
- Add to this prayer journal each day.
- Act out the Gospel story of Jesus talking to the disciples
- Make a choice to do something loving today in the footsteps of Jesus
- 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://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/50313720813394333/> (Take up your cross - Maze)
- <https://ministry-to-children.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Jesus-Puzzle.pdf> (Jesus - Puzzle)
- https://sermons4kids.com/take_up_cross_jumble.htm (Take up your cross - Jumble)
- https://sermons4kids.com/take_up_cross_wordsearch.htm (Take up your cross - Word search)
- **FOLLOW THE LEADER - Game:** Let children take turns being a "leader" and finding hard things for the followers to do. (Ex. would be to stand on one foot, twirl in a circle, climb under a bench, etc.) This can lead into today's lesson that sometimes "following" is hard.