

Twenty-fourth Sunday (Year B)

12th September 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, Jesus talks about what it means to become a follower of Christ.

Opening prayer:

Lord God, let us listen to your Word and help us to follow you with our whole heart.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark (8:31-35)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

Jesus began telling his disciples what would happen to him. He said, "The nation's leaders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law of Moses will make the Son of Man suffer terribly. He will be rejected and killed, but three days later he will rise to life." Then Jesus explained clearly what he meant.

Peter took Jesus aside and told him to stop talking like that. But when Jesus turned and saw the disciples, he corrected Peter.

He said to him, "Satan, get away from me! You are thinking like everyone else and not like God."

Jesus then told the crowd and the disciples to come closer, and he said: "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 and for the good news, you will save 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 video together

Australian Animated Bible Stories Mark 8:31-38 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1DdKxN-k8U>

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder what your favourite part of the story was...

I wonder why Peter asked Jesus to stop talking like that...

I wonder what Jesus meant by, "If any of you want to be my followers, you must forget about yourself"...

I wonder if Jesus' followers understood his words...
I wonder how I can follow Jesus more closely...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVKGQ> (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 may serve the people who are under their care and protection, with their best interests and needs in mind.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for those who are in the process of receiving, or have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. That they will continue to come close to Christ.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray for those members of our Church who struggle to carry their own cross. May they find strength in Jesus.
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 people and families who have been affected by the situation in Afghanistan, that the Holy Spirit will bring peace, comfort, and healing.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

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

Closing song: *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b4_Jbqn8ri4
(2:19min)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has end.

- **Prayer journal**
Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).
- **I will follow Jesus by...**
Colour in and record the ways you would like to follow Jesus
https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/6104/51373/version/8/Prayer_childrens-liturgy_24th-Sunday-Ordinary-Time-B-pic.pdf
- **Family Connection**
As you gather as a family, talk about what we expect God to be doing in our world and in our family life... Do we sometimes forget to let God be God for us? <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/24th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-b-sunday-connection/>