

Twenty-seventh Sunday (Year B)

3rd October 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 how important children are. Jesus invites the children to come to him and blesses them.

Opening prayer:

Lord God, help us to be like Jesus and see that each person is important no matter what. Help us to be loving and welcoming towards all people.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark (10:13-16)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

Some people brought their children to Jesus so that he could bless them by placing his hands on them. But his disciples told the people to stop bothering him.

When Jesus saw this, he became angry and said, "Let the children come to me! Don't try to stop them. People who are like these little children belong to the kingdom of God. I promise you that you cannot get into God's kingdom, unless you accept it the way a child does."

Then Jesus took the children in his arms and blessed them by placing his hands on them.

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

Talk to Jesus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r7nRSWR3jtU>

Jesus and the Children <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYgoGdf-nC0>

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

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

I wonder which part of the reading you are in...

I wonder why people wanted Jesus to bless their children...

I wonder what the children were thinking when they were with Jesus...

I wonder how the disciples were feeling after seeing Jesus bless the children...
I wonder how we can be a blessing towards others...

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 will lead with kindness rather than criticism.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray that families will continue to grow in unity and to love and care for one another.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray that the members of our Church will give witness to God's love.
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 feel lost, have lost hope, and need healing, that they will find Jesus who calls them to come to him.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer
(Daily Prayer 2021 © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago)

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

Closing song: The Blessing <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uiWZXLsdE9w>

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://ministryspark.com/wp-content/uploads/40-Jesus-Loves-the-Children.pdf>
- **Craft**
Create a mobile as a reminder that Jesus always welcomes children to come to him.
<https://www.jesus-without-language.net/the-children-luke-18-make-2/>
- **Family Connection- Loyola Press**
As you gather as a family... tell Jesus that we trust him and depend on him. Teach children the following Act of Faith, Hope, and Love and pray it together.
Jesus, I believe in you.
Jesus, I hope in you.
Jesus, I love you.
Amen