

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

22 January 2023 - Year A

“Come with me.”

Something to Think About

Jesus calls his disciples in today’s story, and Jesus calls us too!
How can we reach out to others and share with them the Good News that Jesus brings?

The Story

In this gospel story, Jesus calls two brothers, Simon Peter and Andrew, to come and follow him. The brothers were fishermen, but Jesus told them that he would teach them how to catch people instead of fish. Later in the story Jesus sees two more brothers, James and John, and they agree to follow Jesus too. Jesus goes all over Galilee telling everyone the Good News about God’s kingdom and healing people who are sick.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

4:17-23

Jesus started preaching, "Turn back to God! The kingdom of heaven will soon be here."

While Jesus was walking along the shore of Lake Galilee, he saw two brothers. One was Simon, also known as Peter, and the other was Andrew. They were fishermen, and they were casting their net into the lake.

Jesus said to them, "Come with me! I will teach you how to bring in people instead of fish." Right then the two brothers dropped their nets and went with him.

Jesus walked on until he saw James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They were in a boat with their father, mending their nets. Jesus asked them to come with him too. Right away they left the boat and their father and went with Jesus.

Jesus went all over Galilee, teaching in the Jewish meeting places and preaching the good news about God's kingdom.

He also healed every kind of disease and sickness.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

Click to watch the video: [God's Story: Jesus Calls Disciples](#)



Group Discussion

Jesus chose to call fishermen to be his disciples. Fishermen need to work together, like a team. Jesus needs people he can rely on, people who will work together and pull together to achieve a common goal. Do you belong to a team? What is like being part of a team? Think of all the things that can be achieved together that can't be done by one person. How can you be part of the Jesus team to make the world a better place?

Praying For Others

Leader: Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

Reader 1: We pray for those who long for healing and good health. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for courage to follow Jesus. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for faith to tell others the Good News of God's kingdom. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray for wisdom to listen to what Jesus asks of us. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray for those people who feel unimportant or unloved. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



Dear Jesus,
Thank you for calling us to follow you.
Help us work hard to build up God's
kingdom on earth.
Amen.

Group Activity

CHOOSING TO FOLLOW JESUS

You will need: colourful or patterned construction paper, cardstock, pipe cleaners, scissors glue, hole punch, marker pen.

- 1) On construction paper, trace around child's shoe. Cut out this shape and glue it to cardboard to make it stronger. Then cut around the shape again.
- 2) Using hole puncher, punch one hole closer to the side of the flip flop where the big toe would go. Then punch two more holes DIRECTLY across from one another further down.
- 3) Fold pipe cleaner in half and thread the centre through the top hole. Twist the pipe cleaner on the back of the shoe a bit and then fold down.
- 4) Then thread the two remaining ends of the pipe cleaner into the other two holes. Turn flip flop over and again twist ends and then fold down so that they stay secure. Use some tape on the back to hold the ends.
- 5) Then use a marker to write "Walk with Jesus!" on the front.
- 6) Then display on the wall.



HEARING AND LISTENING

**PETER AND ANDREW, JAMES AND JOHN WERE FISHING.
THEY HEARD JESUS SAY, 'COME WITH ME!'
AND THEY LISTENED! THEY LEFT THEIR BOATS TO FOLLOW JESUS.**



**NOW IMAGINE
YOU ARE PLAYING
A GAME...
AND YOU HEAR
MUM SAY, 'IT'S
TIME FOR BED'...
HOW DO YOU
LISTEN? WHAT
WOULD YOU DO?**