

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

18 June 2023 - Year A

“Jesus summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.”

Something to Think About

Do you know what the word “compassion” means? Having compassion for someone is more than feeling sorry for them – it is as if we enter into their pain and experience it with them. This makes us eager to help them! How do you reach out to others and show them kindness?

The Story

In today’s gospel, Jesus feels sorry for the people because they seem lost and confused, with nobody to lead them. Jesus sends out his twelve disciples to show God’s compassion to others, healing the sick and being helpful to people in need.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

9:36 – 10:8

When Jesus saw the crowds, he felt sorry for them. They were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

He said to his disciples, "A large crop is in the fields, but there are only a few workers. Ask the Lord in charge of the harvest to send out workers to bring it in."

Jesus called together his twelve disciples. He gave them the power to force out evil spirits and to heal every kind of disease and sickness.

The first of the twelve apostles was Simon, better known as Peter. His brother Andrew was an apostle, and so were James and John, the two sons of Zebedee. Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew the tax collector, James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus were also apostles. The others were Simon, known as the Eager One, and Judas Iscariot, who later betrayed Jesus.

Jesus sent out the twelve apostles with these instructions: "Stay away from the Gentiles and don't go to any Samaritan town. Go only to the people of Israel, because they are like a flock of lost sheep.

"As you go, announce that the kingdom of heaven will soon be here. Heal the sick, raise the dead to life, heal people who have leprosy, and force out demons. You received without paying, now give without being paid."

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

Video

Watch the video:

[Compassion in Action](#)



Group Discussion

Children might like to think of themselves as a modern day 'Jesus team'. What might be the motto for your team? Perhaps you could discuss a list of Do's and Don'ts for your Jesus team. Think of practical ways of helping others.

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 that our leaders will be compassionate and caring. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for those who are worried or confused. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for those who have no one to love and care for them. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray for those who are sick. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray for a generous heart to reach out to all who need our help. 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,
Help us to bring your love and
compassion to those we meet
through our words and actions.
Amen.

Group Activity

Sending Compassion

You will need: blank paper (possibly coloured paper), coloured pencils or markers, stickers, envelopes.

1. Ask each child to think of a person that they would like to send kind thoughts to. It might be a neighbour, or someone they know who is sick or sad.
2. Ask children to make them a special card, with a bright picture and a happy message.
3. Invite children to place their card in an envelope and write the name of the recipient on the envelope.

Tell the children that if the person lives far away, they could post their letter. If they can visit the person, they could hand their letter straight to them and give them a smile or a hug as well.



TRY THE APOSTLES QUIZ!

ORDINARY TIME 11 – YEAR A
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PETER,
ANDREW,
JAMES,
JOHN,
PHILIP,
THOMAS,
BARTHOLOMEW,
MATTHEW,
JAMES,
THADDAEUS,
SIMON,
JUDAS.



1. HOW MANY FRIENDS DID JESUS CHOOSE AS APOSTLES? _ _ _
2. THESE TWO WERE BROTHERS: P _ _ _ AND A _ _ _
3. HEY! THESE TWO WERE ALSO BROTHERS: J _ _ _ AND J _ _ _
4. WHO WAS THE TAX COLLECTOR? M _ _ _ W _ _ _
5. JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD, CALLED APOSTLES TO BE S _ _ _
6. JESUS SENT THEM TO SPREAD THE G _ _ _ N _ _ _ OF GOD'S LOVE.