

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

25 June 2023 - Year A

***“Do not fear those who can
kill the body.”***

Something to Think About

Have you ever felt afraid? What helped you to feel better?

The Story

In today's gospel, Jesus reminds us that we don't need to be afraid because Jesus is always with us. Jesus tells the people that they are important and loved by God – God knows all about us and wants the best for us.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

10:26-31

Jesus said to his disciples: "Don't be afraid of anyone!
Everything that is hidden will be found out, and every secret will be known.

"Whatever I say to you in the dark, you must tell in the light.
And you must announce from the housetops whatever I have whispered to you.

"Don't be afraid of people.
They can kill you, but they cannot harm your soul.
Instead, you should fear God who can destroy both your body and your soul in hell.

"Aren't two sparrows sold for only a penny?
But your Father knows when any one of them falls to the ground.
Even the hairs on your head are counted.
So don't be afraid!
You are worth much more than many sparrows."

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

Video

Watch the video:

[God Knows All About Me](#)



Group Discussion

Jesus shows his love for us through the people who love us and help us to feel safe and calm. Assure the children that God knows everything about them and that they can trust in God's love and protection. Children might like to share the things that help them to feel safe and calm, and to thank God for those gifts.

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 brave and make good decisions. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

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

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for those who have no one to help them feel safe. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray that we may trust in God's great love for us. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray for all those people who care for us. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

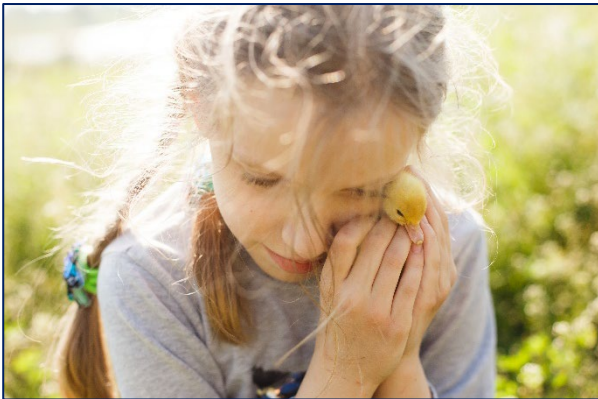
Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

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

All: Amen.

Prayer



Dear God,
You know everything about me.
Help me to trust in your love and to
share your peace with others.
Amen.

Group Activity

God Knows Me and Loves Me

You will need: a template for each child with the title "God knows me and loves me", colouring pens or markers.

1. Read the title aloud for the children and then ask them to draw a picture of themselves under the words.
2. As the children are drawing, ask them to think of two important things that God knows about them. Remind the children that God knows everything about them, but they are to pick two things (e.g. God knows I love to dance, or God knows I love playing soccer...)
3. Then ask children to draw those things into their picture.
4. Children may wish to share their drawings and to describe the two things that God knows about them.





God Knows Me and Loves Me

GOD KNOWS WHEN A SPARROW FALLS TO THE GROUND.

GOD CARES FOR EVERY CREATURE.

GOD CARES FOR YOU.

VISIT A PARK. TAKE SOME BREADCRUMBS
TO FEED THE BIRDS OR DUCKS.

What birds did you find? How many?

Notice the colours of their feathers.

Write the story of your trip to the park.

