



Children's liturgy – Twenty-seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

Welcome: Today we are going to hear how special and important children were to Jesus. Let's think some more about how important all children around the world are now.

Opening prayer: Loving God, your Son Jesus shows us that all people, including little children, are important and loved by you. Help us to follow his example and to respect and care for all people around the world. Amen.

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Some people brought children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples scolded the people. When Jesus noticed this, he was angry and said to his disciples, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I assure you that whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." Then he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on each of them, and blessed them.

Gospel reflection: What do you remember about the gospel reading that we heard today?

People were bringing their children to Jesus for his blessing, but the disciples tried to stop them. Why do you think they did this?

Perhaps they thought the children would bother Jesus, that he would find them too loud or lively. Or maybe the disciples were worried that Jesus was tired or hungry and that it was time for him to rest.

How did Jesus feel when he noticed what the disciples were doing? What did he say?

Jesus is angry and tells the disciples to let the children come to him. He says that the kingdom of God belongs to children like these. He says that they have a special way of looking at the world and of understanding things, which adults can learn from.

How does it make you feel to know that Jesus thinks all children are important and that he wanted to listen to them?

Jesus welcomed and blessed the children who came to see him. He loves us all. No matter where in the world we live. Whether we are old or young, big or small, rich or poor.

Last week we heard all about Daniel in the Democratic Republic of Congo and about how important it is for all children and young people to have the chance to go to school and learn.

Find out more at cafod.org.uk/primary/harvest.

In today's gospel, Jesus welcomes the children and shows the disciples how important they are. We are also called to care for children everywhere whenever we can, because we are all brothers and sisters.

What will you do this week to show your love for God's children around the world?

Activity

Use the illustration draw Jesus into the picture, to remind you that all children are special and loved by God.

For more activities and resources to help you support others around the world go to cafod.org.uk/primary/harvest

Remember to tell the people at home all that you have heard and thought about today. Remember also that you are loved by God, whose Son Jesus welcomed the little children. Pray for children everywhere this week and to do what you can to care for others at home, at school and around the world.

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