

St Alban's Catholic Church, Finchley

Children's Liturgy

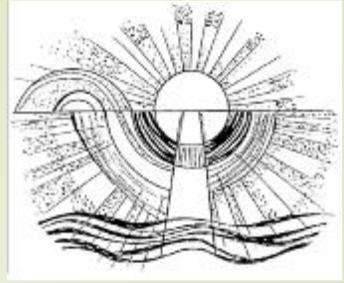
Content from...

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

https://liturgy.slu.edu/16OrdA071920/theword_hamm.html



16th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A Sunday 19th July 2020



Do you have a candle and perhaps a cross? Why don't you collect them and join together as a family to welcome Jesus.

Let us light the candle, make the sign of the cross and say...

Dear God,
Thank you for the big, round world
Thank you for the sea.
Thank you God for all my friends,
Thank you God for loving me.
Amen



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2fR9fUD5bM>

The parables that Jesus shares with us in today's Gospel are on a similar theme to last week. They use plants and growing as an analogy so this hymn fits this week too!
Try joining in with the chorus (in red).

(Bernadette Farrell)

Unless a grain of wheat shall fall,
It remains but a single grain with no life.

If we have died with him, then we shall live with him;
If we hold firm we shall reign with him.

If anyone serves me, then they must follow me;
Wherever I am my servants will be.

Make you home in me as I make mine in you;
Those who remain in me bear much fruit.

If you remain in me and my word lives in you;
Then you will be my disciples.

Those who love me are loved by my Father;
We shall be with them and dwell in them.

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you;
Peace which the world cannot give is my gift.



Let us read today's Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
For revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (*Matthew 13:24-30*)

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus told them another parable: "The Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man sowed good seed in his field. One night, when everyone was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. When the plants grew and the ears of corn began to form, then the weeds showed up. The man's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, it was good seed you sowed in your field; where did the weeds come from?' 'It was some enemy who did this,' he answered. 'Do you want us to go and pull up the weeds?' they asked him. 'No,' he answered, 'because as you gather the weeds you might pull up some of the wheat along with them. Let the wheat and the weeds both grow together until harvest. Then I will tell the harvest workers to pull up the weeds first, tie them in bundles and burn them, and then to gather in the wheat and put it in my barn.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

Reflection

In today's Gospel, like last week, **Jesus tells a parable – a special story - about the Kingdom of Heaven.** He talks about a man who plants seeds of wheat in his field. But his enemy comes along and plants weeds in the field too. The man asks his workers to wait instead of pulling up the weeds straight away – he didn't want to lose any of his wheat. At harvest time though, it is easier to tell the wheat and the weeds apart and so the workers can burn the weeds and collect up all the wheat.

In this parable, Jesus is the sower and we are the plants. God lets us grow and asks us not to judge one another. Don't you try to judge the righteous and unrighteous of the community; let them grow together till the end, when **God will take care of the final sorting out.**

Why do you think Jesus tells us stories or parables rather than just saying exactly what God's Kingdom is like, or exactly what it is he wants us to do? Jesus is a great teacher. He teaches people by telling stories. **Stories keep people interested in what he has to say and help us to understand things that are complicated.** Jesus wants us to learn from him so that we can know more about God. And when people don't understand his stories he explains them, so that we can all understand.

Who explains things to you when you don't understand? **Who do you learn from?** We learn from all sorts of people – teachers, friends, parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, cousins and more!

Why do you think it is important for us to learn? Learning helps us to find out more about the world that we live in and to understand how we can work together to make it a better place. Learning helps us to know more about Jesus and the things that Jesus asks of us - like loving one another. Learning helps us to get the skills we need for the future. So that we can be all that God knows and wants us to be.

Children all around the world go to school to help them learn. This year lots of you have not been able to go to school. How has that made you feel? Have you missed school? **Are you looking forward to going back if you haven't already?**

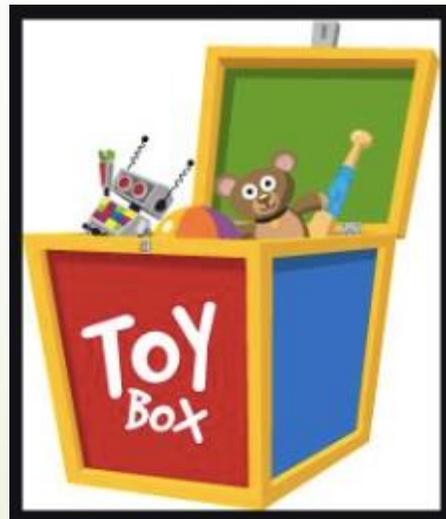
This week, **let's give thanks to God for all the people we learn from.** Let's try to listen carefully to our teachers and our grown ups at home. And let us try to learn more about Jesus and how he asks us to treat others.

Activity 1

Sorting.

Do you have a box of toys that are all mixed up? Perhaps pieces from different toys are all in one box. Could you sort out the different toys and put them back where they're meant to be? Do you have a tray of colouring pencils? Are some blunt? Sharpen the pencils so they are ready to use.

Perhaps you could sort out of a bag of toys that you no longer play with and someone else might appreciate them. Could you donate some to a charity shop? Remember to share this with the grown ups at home first!



Activity 2

Wheat vs. Weeds

What makes us wheat? What makes us weeds? By following Jesus' message then we will grow to be a good, strong crop of wheat. Sometimes we make bad choices or forget to be kind. Can you think of times when you've been wheat and times when you might have been weeds? What can you do this week to be wheat?!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwSkmzw8dY8>

You could now sing, **Blest are they**
Join in the chorus in red – it's a bit of a belter!

(David Haas)

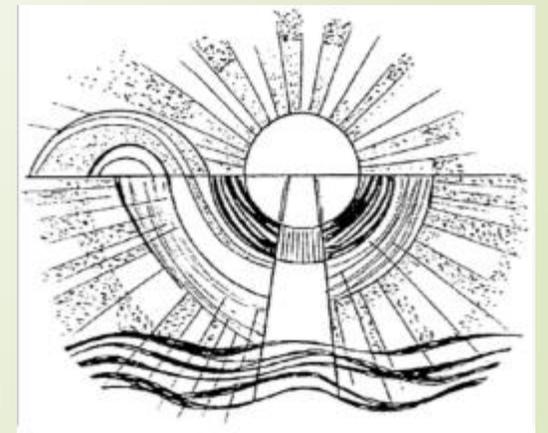
Blest are they, the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow, they shall be consoled.

Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours in the kingdom of God!



Blest are they, the lowly ones, they shall inherit the earth.
Blest of they who hunger and thirst, they shall have their fill.

Blest are they who show mercy, mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart, they shall see God!

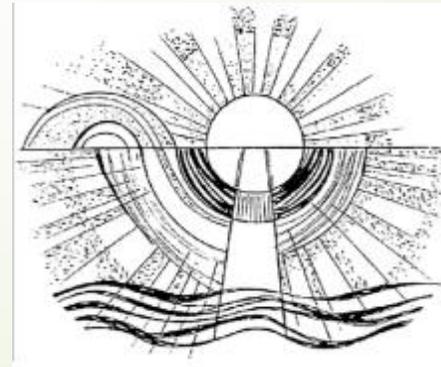


Today's psalm is, O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Let us now bow our heads and say our closing prayer together...

Loving God,
Thank you for sending your Son Jesus to show us the way.
Thank you for all the people who teach us.
Help us to listen and to learn from one another..
May we love one another as you teach us to.
Amen.

**Have a lovely summer holiday.
See you in September!
Clare**





Dear Lord,

Thank you for all that is me.

Thank you for all that I am and that I can become;

In your family Lord, we are all so special, so different and unique.

Thank you most of all for Jesus, who comes to us in love and in Holy Communion.

Help me to carry your love to my family and in my friendships.

Help me to lean on your love in times sadness and in times of fear.

Lord open my eyes so that I may see you.

Lord open my heart that I may know you.

Amen