

Twenty-eighth Sunday of the Year

Thank you Jesus

INTRODUCTION

As children we are taught to say 'thank you' when we are given something, but how many times do we forget to thank God for all his goodness.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

LIGHT THE CANDLES

Sing together: *See the light.*

SORRY

Each one of us is filled with God's spirit.

If we have acted selfishly or unkindly
towards someone else,

we have done the same to God

As we sing our song together, we ask God
to forgive us, and to fill our hearts and our
lives with his love.

Sing Sorry Song 1.

GLORIA

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

Give thanks to God for all his love.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL (cf Luke 17)

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus drew near a village where he found ten lepers waiting to meet him. Keeping their distance they called out to him, 'Jesus of Nazareth, have pity and help us!'

Jesus saw their suffering and said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priest.'

They set off to see the priest and on the way they realised that their leprosy had disappeared and they were cured! As the others ran to find the priest, one of the ten went back to find Jesus. He threw himself down before him, praising God and thanking Jesus for his kindness. 'Were the others not cured too?' Jesus asked. 'Yet only one has bothered to thank God for his goodness.' Then he said to the man, 'Now go and see the priest, your faith in God has made you well.'

DISCUSSION

In what ways did lepers suffer? – They suffered from the disease of leprosy which causes deformity with the loss of limbs and sometimes blindness. They also suffered because they were outcasts who were driven away from their homes

and families, to live far away from villages and towns. They had to warn people that they were 'unclean' by ringing a bell or shouting, because they were afraid of catching their disease. Their lives were miserable and their suffering was very great.

What did Jesus do when they asked for his help? – Jesus took pity on them and told them to go and show themselves to the priest. The priest was the person who decided whether their leprosy had gone and gave them permission to live with their families again. They showed how much they believed in Jesus because they set off at once, and trusted him to cure them.

What did one of the lepers do when he realised that he had been cured? – He remembered to go back to Jesus and say thank you. The others had rushed off to see the priest and be reunited with their families and friends again.

Do you think that Jesus was pleased that one said 'thank you'? – Jesus was very pleased with the one leper who had remembered to say thank you but was disappointed that the other nine did not. People often forget to thank Jesus when something good happens. All too often we take things for granted and forget to thank God for all his kindness.

ACTIVITY

Photocopy the picture onto some stiff paper to make a card. Fold a 4cm wide strip of paper and stick one end inside the card, and the other end onto the 'Thank you Jesus' badge. Encourage the children to write something that *they* want to thank Jesus for.

CREED

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus,
the lepers asked for your help
and you gave them new life and new hope.
Thank you for all the love
and kindness you give to me.