

YEAR A

31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# BE A GOSPEL

## VISUAL AIDS

- > Pictures of pop stars, TV personalities, the Pope, Mother Teresa, Jesus.
- > Tassels and tassel shape cut-outs.

## WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

*Say/sing together:*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**The greatest amongst**  
**you must be your servant.**  
**Alleluia!**

A reading from the Good News  
given to us by Matthew.  
**Glory to you, Lord.**

Jesus said to the people and to his friends,  
'You must listen to the Scribes and Pharisees, and do what they tell you, because they are the teachers who tell us what the Ten Commandments mean. But do not do what the Scribes and Pharisees do, because they do

## DISCUSSION

Who wore tassels?  
- Scribes and Pharisees.

What did Jesus say about them?

Why did Jesus say not to imitate their behaviour?  
- because they did not practise what they preached.  
- they sought their own honour, not

God's.

How does Jesus ask us to live?  
- as one family, loving and serving each other.



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### SHARING

Show the children the pictures and encourage them to discuss why various people are famous or important.

Do the children want to be famous? What do people wear to show that they are important, or that they have special work to do?  
- crowns, medals, uniforms.

Sometimes people dress up to show off: get the children to give examples.

In today's Gospel we hear about some show offs.

not practise what they preach. Everything they do is to attract attention to themselves and make themselves important. They wear bigger and bigger tassels, and always like to sit at the best place at banquets. They take the front seats in the synagogue, so that people will be able to see them praying. And they love to be called "teacher". You are all the one family of God our Father in heaven, so call no one on

earth "master" or "teacher". Rather, love and serve each other.'

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

### ACTIVITIES

- > Mime the Gospel story, if possibly substituting present day equivalents.
- > Give out the tassel shape cut-outs.
- > Have the children write or draw on them ways in which they can behave more like Jesus.

