

Children's liturgy – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Preparation of the worship space

Colour: green

Song suggestions

When I needed a neighbour (888, Laudate)

I will be with you (866, Laudate)

Welcome: Today we hear how Jesus sent his disciples out to spread his word, but even though they had to travel far and wide, Jesus told them not to take any of their belongings with them. Let's think a bit more about this...

Opening prayer: God of truth, inspire us to share all that you have given us and be friendly and welcoming to all people. Amen.

First reading (optional): Amos 7:12-1

Psalm: Psalm 84:9-14 r. 8

Gospel acclamation everyone stands and sings the acclamation together. Suggestions include: 'Halle, halle, halle' (Caribbean) from 'Sing with the world', Alison Adam & John Bell; 'Alleluia' (Zimbabwe), Abraham Maraire Publications, WCC & GIA; 'Celtic Alleluia' (traditional); 'Alleluia! Raise the Gospel' from 'Go before us', Bernadette Farrell, OCP Publications.

Gospel: Mark 6:7-13

Gospel reflection: What do you remember from today's reading?

Jesus sends his disciples out to spread his word, but what did he say they could take with them?

They weren't allowed to take anything with them except their staff, to help them walk on their journey. They couldn't take a bag, or any food, or any money. Not even a change of clothes! How do you think the disciples felt about this?

When was the last time you went away? What did you take with you? How do you think you would like to go away without any clean clothes, any toys or books, any money to spend?

The disciples had nothing – it must have been very difficult. And without food or money to buy food, they could have been very hungry. They had to rely on the people they met along the way being kind and generous, inviting the disciples to stay with them and share their food.

In the world today some people have to leave their homes very quickly, because of fighting nearby or because of floods or other natural disasters. They do not get to take very much with them – just what they can carry.

Halima is only eight years old. Her family fled violence in Myanmar, along with more than 500,000 other Rohingya people. Imagine having so many people in need of help with nowhere to go.

She is now in a refugee camp in Bangladesh. Halima's mother, Fatema, says the family have been surviving on rice and potatoes and as a result the children are malnourished. They need help to get enough to eat.

CAFOD's local Church partner, Caritas Bangladesh, is providing emergency aid to many families like Halima's. Imagine how relieved her mother must feel to have the support of Caritas and to know that someone cares for her and her family.

All that we have is given to us by God and is meant for all people to share. So, this week let's try to be open to others, share what we have and be friendly and welcoming to everyone.

How will you share and be welcoming to others this week?

Intercessions *You may want to ask the children to offer their own prayers or you can use the suggestions below.*

We pray together to God who loves us all:

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may be a place of welcome and safety for all people in need. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all who have to leave their homes: that they may find a safe place to stay and be welcomed by those that they meet along the way. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be generous with what we have been given, sharing with others, so that all people may have enough. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God of love, help us to share your love with others. Open our hearts so that we might welcome all who are in need and do our best to make sure that all people have enough. Amen.

Activity suggestions

Ask the children to colour in the accompanying illustration and on the back to draw what they will do in the coming week to share and be welcoming to others.

Ask the children to make a list of all the things that they would take with them if they had to leave their home, or of all the things that they took with them the

last time they went on holiday. Then tell them that they can only take the two most important things on this list – what would they take and why?

Show the children the [Share the Journey refugee stories PowerPoint](https://www.cafod.org.uk/primary/refugees) (available at [cafod.org.uk/primary/refugees](https://www.cafod.org.uk/primary/refugees)) and ask the children to reflect on the stories of these children and to hold them in their prayers in the coming week.

Ask the children to go back and tell their family all that they have heard and thought about today. Ask them to try to be welcoming and friendly to others and to share what they have in the coming week.