

Children's liturgy – Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Preparation of the worship space

Colour: green

Song suggestions

Christ be our light (891, *Celebration Hymnal for Everyone*)

Welcome: Today we hear about the time when Jesus will come again. We do not know when this will be, but we must try to be ready. Let's think a bit about how we get ready for other special events in our lives today...

Opening prayer: Christ Jesus, we know that one day you will come again. Help us to be ready when the time comes. Amen.

First reading (optional): Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm: Psalm 15:5, 8-11 r. 1

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 13:24-32

Gospel reflection: We often prepare for special events. Can you think of some events that we get ready for?

We get ready to welcome visitors. We prepare when there is going to be a new baby in the family. We prepare for a party or a meal. We get ready for the school play.

What are some of the things we do to get ready for these things?

In El Salvador Aracely has to be up at 6.00 to prepare for her walk to school every morning. When she comes home, Aracely help her mother to prepare the family's meal of rice and beans. By carefully doing her homework each night, Aracely is preparing for her future when she can go to university.

In today's gospel Jesus talks about the time when he will come again. Do you remember what he says?

Jesus says that nobody except God knows when Jesus will come again. But as his followers we should still try to be ready to greet him when he comes. How do you think we can be ready for Jesus?

We can try to be ready by doing all that Jesus asks of us, by loving God and one another and helping other people. By living in peace with each other and by sharing what we have so that all people have enough.

What will you do to get ready for when Jesus comes again in glory?

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

We do not know when Jesus will come again and so we pray together:

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may be an example of generosity and welcoming love towards all people, leading the way for when Jesus comes again. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for all children around the world: that they may have the chance to go to school, to learn and prepare for the future, and build a better life for themselves. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, families and friends: that we may always try to be kind, loving and generous to others, so that we may be found ready when Jesus comes again. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: God of power, show us how to live in peace and harmony with each other, so that we may be ready to welcome your Son Jesus, when he comes again in glory. Amen.

Activity suggestions

Ask the children to colour in the accompanying illustration and to draw or write on the back what they will do to prepare for the coming of Jesus.

Ask the children to tell their family all that they have heard and thought about today. Ask them to do the best that they can all week, to try and be ready for Jesus when he comes again. And each time they prepare for something this week, to think of all the other children around the world who are preparing for similar things.

Ask the children to visit Kidz Zone, CAFOD's web pages for children (cafod.org.uk/kidzzone) to find out more about how children around the world prepare for different events in their daily lives.