**Children’s liturgy – Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)**

**Preparation of the worship space**

Colour: green

Props: colouring pencils and pens

**Song suggestions:** Tell out my soul (684, Celebration Hymnal for Everyone)

**Welcome:** Today Jesus tells us how powerful faith is. How, if we have faith we can do anything we want to, even if at first it seems impossible. Let’s think some more about this now.

**Opening prayer:** God of light, help us to see that even with the smallest amount of faith, we can do anything you ask of us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**First reading (optional):** Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

**Psalm:** Psalm 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v.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:** Luke 17:5-10

**Gospel reflection:** Today the disciples ask Jesus to give them more faith.

Can you remember what Jesus says?

Jesus says that even if they had faith like a mustard seed they could tell a mulberry tree to move from where it is in the ground and plant itself in the sea.

What do you think Jesus was trying to say here? How big is a mustard seed?

Is it easy to get a tree to move itself into the sea?

A mustard seed is really tiny. So, Jesus is saying that even if we only have a small amount of faith we can do amazing things. Even if we can’t move trees we might be able to make big changes to the world around us.

Last week we heard about Fabiano in Uganda and the difficult time that he had collecting water for his family. He had to walk a long way, often in the dark, and it was very dangerous.

We all have times when things are really difficult. It can be hard to keep our faith in God at these times. Even the disciples had moments when they did not think that they had enough faith.

But we also heard last week that now, thanks to people like you and your families, Fabiano now has a water pump near his vegetable garden, which makes his life much easier and safer. It has made a really big change to Fabiano’s life.

When we look at the world we can see that it is not very fair. Some people have lots of food. Some people don’t have enough. Some people have clean water in their homes. Some people have to walk a long way to collect water for their families.

How does this make you feel?

Yet this reading gives us hope – that even if we just have a tiny little bit of faith, with God’s help, we can make real changes to the world around us.

What change will you try to make in the world this week?

**Intercessions** *You may want to ask the children to offer their own prayers or*

*you can use the suggestions below.*

We know that everything is possible with faith and God’s help, and so we pray together:

We pray for world leaders: that they may see that real change is possible and act to make the world a fairer place for everyone to live. Lord, in your mercy…

We pray for all people throughout the world who do not have enough food or water: that they may have hope and faith as they work to change their lives for the better. Lord, in your mercy…

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may have the faith and courage to try to make a real difference to our world so that it becomes a fairer place for all. Lord, in your mercy…

**Closing prayer:** God of life, give us the courage to try to make a change to our world, no matter how small, and the faith to know that with you all things are possible. Amen.

**Activity suggestions**

Ask the children to colour in the accompanying optional illustration and on the back to draw the change that they will try to make in the coming week.

Ask the children to go home and share all that they have heard and thought about today. Ask them to try and do one thing this week to make a difference to someone else or to make a change to the world around them.

Find out more about Fabiano and resources for CAFOD’s Family Fast Day to use with children at cafod.org.uk/primary