

YEAR A

13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WELCOME, JESUS!

VISUAL AIDS

- > A cup of cold water.
- > Cup shape cut-outs.

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE WORD

Say/sing together:

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, Lord,
to welcome your friends.
Alleluia!**

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

Jesus says:

'My friends, choose me over and
above anyone or anything else in
this world.

Be willing to follow in my footsteps,
even to carrying a cross like me.

DISCUSSION

What does Jesus expect of his
friends?

- to choose him over and above
everything else
- to follow in his footsteps
- to carry a cross.

How does Jesus expect his friends to
be treated?

- to be made welcome.

When we welcome a friend of Jesus,
we welcome Jesus.

If we welcome everyone we will be
sure of welcoming Jesus and his
friends.

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SHARING

Who are the people who make us feel welcome?
- children who want to share their games and toys;
- children at school who let us join in their games.

How well do we make others feel welcome?

- little brothers or sisters who want to join in our games;
- visitors who come to our house.

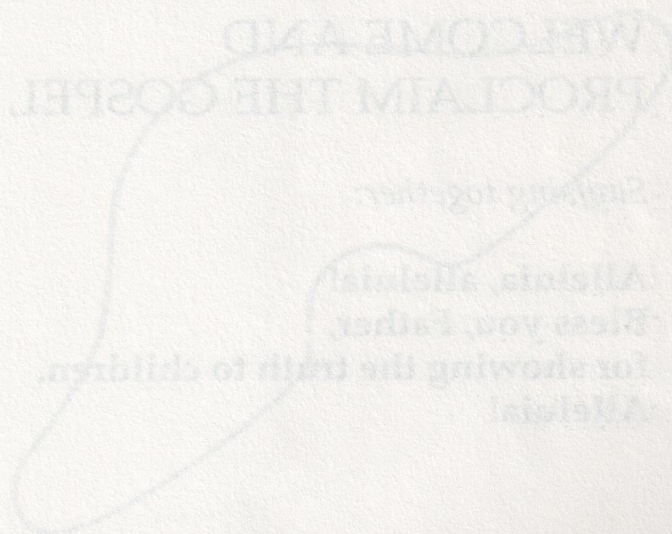
God makes everyone welcome; he never turns away anyone who comes to him.

Today Jesus tells his friends more about what it means to be his friend.

Anyone who makes my friends welcome is welcoming me.

Even if it is only a cup of cold water that you give to my friends, you will be rewarded.'

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



ACTIVITIES

- > Give out the cup shape cut-outs.
- > Have the children write or draw on them how they will fill the cups with loving welcomes in the week ahead.

