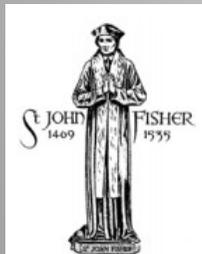


CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sunday 21st June

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Do not be afraid



St John Fisher
Catholic Church,
Perivale

OPENING PRAYER

Let us begin with the Sign of the Cross



And our Opening Prayer

*Loving God,
We believe that there is no need to be afraid
because you love us and we are precious to you.
Amen*

INTRODUCTION

Do Not Be Afraid

Have you ever felt afraid or scared?

Maybe when you were in the dark, because it was difficult to see. Maybe when you tried to do something for the first time because you had never done it before and were worried it might go wrong or perhaps you were afraid when you tried a new food because you thought you might not like it.



What makes you feel less afraid?

Do you feel less afraid when someone else is with you, someone you know and trust and can tell you everything will be alright?

That person might be mum or dad, a brother or sister or a good friend

- it can also be Jesus!



TODAY'S GOSPEL



Say the Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia,
Never fear, never fear
We believe and trust in God
Alleluia, alleluia

Read today's Gospel

(Matthew 10: 26-33)

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

Jesus said to his disciples “Do not be afraid of anything, not of the dark or of people who will say bad things to you or will hurt you. Two sparrows may be sold for only a penny, but if one of them falls to the ground, the Lord our God will know about it. He even knows how many hairs are on your head. So there is no need to be afraid because you are more valuable than many sparrows”.

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

In today's Gospel, Jesus is telling the disciples not to be afraid of going out and telling other people about God and what they believe. But the disciples were afraid that people might make fun of them, say bad things or hurt them.



Jesus then started talking about sparrows - *have you ever seen a sparrow?*

Sparrows are very small brown birds. They are also very social birds who like to be together in large groups, so it is difficult to count them.

But Jesus says “If one of them falls to the ground, the Lord our God will know about it”

Do you know how many hairs are on your head?

One hundred? Many hundreds?

Jesus says that God knows exactly how many hairs are on your head. Imagine knowing that!

Jesus also says that we are “more valuable than many sparrows”.

What is something valuable?

It can be something worth a lot of money, something we like very much, something we need to look after very carefully, something that would make us sad if it was broken or we lost it.

To God, **we are ‘valuable’**.

If God cares and loves a tiny sparrow, he loves us even more and will take care of us.

We do not need to be afraid, because he is always with us, by our side.



CLOSING PRAYER



*Dear Lord,
We pray that we will always remember
how valuable we are to you.
Watch over us everyday and guide us.
Amen*



ACTIVITY



If you had to tell someone else about Jesus, what would you say?

What do you think Jesus looks like?

When you try to be like Jesus, what good things do you do?

Draw a picture of what you think Jesus looks like
and what it is to be like Jesus.



Acknowledgements

Inspiration for this lesson taken from the books 'The Liturgy of the Word with Children' by Katie Thompson and 'Welcome to the Word' by Joan Brown