

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

22 August 2021 - Year B

"To whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life."

Something to Think About

Think about the kinds of decisions you make each day.

Perhaps you have to think about what to wear, and what you would like for breakfast. What other choices do you make?

The Story

Many people were finding it too hard to follow Jesus, and so they were turning away from him. In the gospel story we hear today, the disciples too were faced with the important choice of whether or not they were going to follow Jesus. Simon Peter declares that there is no one else that they can go to. He tells Jesus that the disciples have faith in him, because the words of Jesus give eternal life.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

6:65-69

Jesus said,
"You cannot come to me,
unless the Father makes you want to come.
That is why I have told these things to all of you."

Because of what Jesus said,
many of his disciples turned their backs on him
and stopped following him.

Jesus then asked his twelve disciples if they were going to leave him.
Simon Peter answered,
"Lord, there is no one else that we can go to!
Your words give eternal life.
We have faith in you,
and we are sure that you are God's Holy One."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

Click to watch the video and sing: [I have decided to follow Jesus](#)



Group Discussion

Will we follow Jesus, or will we choose to follow someone or something else?

Who else or what else might people choose to follow?

It may not always be easy to follow Jesus, but to whom can we go? Who else offers eternal life?

Praying For Others

Leader: Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

Reader: We pray that we will choose to follow Jesus in our lives. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for those who do not know Jesus. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that we will listen carefully to God's word. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for generous and forgiving hearts. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



Dear God,
We thank you for Jesus, the only
one to whom we can go for the gift
of eternal life.
Teach us to listen to Jesus' words.
Amen.

Group Activity

FOLLOW IN JESUS' FOOTSTEPS

You will need: a worksheet for each child, coloured pencils or coloured markers. You may like to provide glitter glue for children to add to their creations.

Invite children to add colour to the footprint as they think about following Jesus in their lives.



Follow Jesus



Follow Jesus

DRAW YOUR OWN FAMILY



WE HELPING MUM + DAD

MY DAD

MY MUM

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OBEY YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER, AND YOU WILL HAVE A LONG AND HAPPY LIFE!