



Liturgy of the Word with Children

Te Ritenga o te Kupu hei ngā Tamariki

Prepared by the Liturgy Centre, Catholic Diocese of Auckland

Twenty ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Green

'To be a servant'

Jesus' model for leadership is that of a Servant King. It is human nature to want to be important. We all enjoy being given exactly what we want. It is much easier to deal with "Yes" rather than "No" when we ask others to give us what we want. How practical is the model of servant leadership for the Church, for our lives? What difference might this model make if we really took it seriously?

Hebrews 4: 14-16 Psalm 33...Mark 10 35-45



Leader's Preparation

In preparation for leading this celebration, begin by reading and reflecting on the Scriptures for the Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, starting with the Gospel. (You may choose to use or focus on one reading only, but remember that the Gospel may not be omitted.) Then look through the preparatory material that follows and familiarise yourself with the Liturgy Outline.

GOSPEL

Mark 10: 35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and asked, "Teacher will you do us a favour?"

Jesus asked them what they wanted and they answered, "When you come into your glory, please let one of us sit at your right side and the other at your left."

Jesus told them, "You don't really know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the cup that I must soon drink from or be baptised as I must be baptised?"

"Yes we are!" James and John answered.

The Jesus replied, 'You certainly will drink from the cup from which I must drink. And you will be baptised just as I must! But it is not for me to say who will sit at my right side and my left. That is for God to decide.'

When the other ten disciples heard this, they were angry with James and John.

Images from the Readings

- Jesus understands every weakness
- We will find help
- Will you do us a favour?
- Everyone's slave
- Give his life

Reflection for Leaders

The nature of our Saviour is explored in the First Reading from the letter to the Hebrews. Rather than being a High Priest in the old sense Jesus became fully human. Being fully human he is subject to the same temptations that assail each of us, yet he did not sin. Jesus has now become our advocate, to whom we can draw near in time of need as we would to our closest friend.

Jesus in the Gospel is faced with a question of power and the exercise of authority and power. He is put on the spot by a question from James and John the sons of Zebedee, "Grant us to sit one on your left and one on your right when you come into your kingdom" Jesus tells them that it is not in his power to decide who will do what in God's kingdom and says that whoever seeks power among us should look to serve the others and whoever would seek first place, ".....must be the slave of all."

We are not to look for rewards in terms of position, power and status in this life, rather we look to the example of Jesus the Messiah and Saviour who came as a servant, the slave of all. This is the challenge presented by Jesus to those who would follow him. To be a servant. Jesus gave his life for others by dying and also by the way he lived.

Ask the children how we can be like Jesus in our own way and in our own day to day lives.

If your parish offers morning tea after Mass, perhaps the children might take responsibility for handing around food to day.



Reflecting on the Readings with the children

Before Sunday read over the suggested discussion points given in the Leader's Liturgy Outline. With the 8-12 year olds: First, listen to the children's own responses to the Reading/s and then, if needed, use some of the discussion starters suggested.

With the 5-7 year olds: Adapt some of the questions in the 8-12 material and then join with the older group for the 'Liturgical Action'.

Suggested Focus

Green cloth, Lectionary, a candle, a dust pan and brush and a crown



LEADER'S LITURGY OUTLINE

Twenty ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

At a suitable moment after the Opening Rites, but before the First Reading is proclaimed, the children are presented with the Children's Lectionary and a candle and sent, with their ministers, to the place where they will celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word, with words of dismissal such as the following:

INVITATION – Pōwhiri I invite the children to join in the procession for their celebration of the Liturgy of the Word.

To the Minister of the Word: Receive this Book of Readings and proclaim God's Word faithfully to the children entrusted to your care.

Receive this candle as the light of Christ who is present in his Word.

PROCESSION WITH THE BOOK OF READINGS – Te Kapa o te Pukapuka Tapu

WELCOME – Ko te whakatau

Leader: Loving God, we celebrate your goodness to us by living as Jesus your Son taught us. Help us to remember that we are your children born to live with you forever.

R Amen.

(The Old Testament reading from Isaiah is omitted from the Children's Lectionary for today.)

First Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16

(if used)

The Word of the Lord / Ko te Kupu a te Ariki
Thanks be to God / Whakamoemiti ki te Atua

Psalms 33 **Response:** Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

or **Alleluia!**

D G Bm A D G Asus⁴ A

General: Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Fill us O Lord with your word._____

Bm G D A G A D

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Your word is life for our souls.

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

Minister of the Word: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark
Children: **Glory to you, O Lord / Korōria ki ā koe, e te Ariki**

At the end of the Gospel: The Gospel of the Lord
Children: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ / Kia whakanuia rā koe, e te Ariki, e Hēhu Karaiti.**

REFLECTING ON THE READINGS WITH THE CHILDREN – Whai Whakaaro

8-12 year olds:

Suggested Beginning: A good place to begin is with the question: What did you hear? Allow children the opportunity to respond in their own words to hearing the Word of God. When each has had an opportunity to speak you might begin general discussion by building on to their responses, perhaps using some prepared questions, like the following, to stimulate ideas:

Refer to the dustpan and brush and the crown from the focus: Ask the children:

- What is a king? Which items would belong to a king? How would you speak to a king? What would you say if a king asked you to do him a favour? How would you behave in his presence? Why does a king have servants? What qualities would a servant want in their king?
- Now ask: What is a servant? What sort of jobs would a servant do for a king? What qualities would a king would want in his servants?
- Would you rather be a king or a servant?
- Now Jesus is our king. It is true that he is very important and it is true that he is very powerful. However he is a very different sort of king to the story book king that we have

been talking about. Let's think of some of the ways in which Jesus is a different sort of king. Where was Jesus born – where might a king be born? Where did Jesus live? – where might a King live? What sort of work did Jesus do? What sort of work might a king do? If we think about the answers you have given about Jesus, we can see that his life was more like that of a servant than a king, so that is why we speak of him as being our Servant-King. Jesus is like a king and like a servant. He does not boss us around, but rather shows us by the way he lived with his family and friends, how we are to live our lives as members of his kingdom.

We are to serve one another as Jesus served the people of his day and as hundreds and hundreds of our Christian ancestors have done before us.

- The First Reading from Hebrews tells us what we should do if we are in need of God's help. What does it say? What does Jesus mean when he says to the disciples that if they want to be great they must be the servant of all the others?
- What does Jesus mean when he says that he did not come to be a slave master but to be a slave? Who are the people you know who serve others in your parish, your school and in your family? How can we in our lives be like Jesus, and serve others?

5-7 year olds: Adapt some of the questions in the 8-12 material and then join with the older group for the 'Liturgical Action'

LITURGICAL ACTION – Ko te Ritenga Karakia

Invite the children to help compose a prayer for kings and queens, presidents and prime ministers who are in charge of their different countries:

What gift do they need from God to do their jobs well?



PROFESSION OF FAITH – Panui o te Whakapono

We believe in God the Father,
who made the whole world.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
who was born in Bethlehem
and lived among us,
who died on the cross for us,
and rose from the dead.
We believe in the Holy Spirit
who brings life and love to us all.
We believe that the Church is one family,
and that one day
we will share everlasting life
with God in heaven.
Amen.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL – Te Īnoīnga o te Hunga Whakapono

(Here are some suggested intercessions; you are encouraged to compose your own according to the age and experience of the children)

Leader: With joyful hearts let us pray to our God for our needs:

- For the Church where the poor are welcomed, that the needs of all people will be met. Let us pray to the Lord.
R Lord hear our prayer or **E te Ariki whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou**
- For those who suffer pain and loneliness, that they will be comforted. Let us pray to the Lord.
R Lord hear our prayer or **E te Ariki whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou**
- For peace and an end to greed among the people of the South Pacific. Let us pray to the Lord.
R Lord hear our prayer or **E te Ariki whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou**
- That we will serve others before ourselves in all things. Let us pray to the Lord.
R Lord hear our prayer or **E te Ariki whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou**

Leader: God of Peace and Mercy you care for your people, hear the prayers we your children make to you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

The children re-join the assembly before the prayers over the gifts.

