

Children's liturgy – Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Colour: green

Song suggestions: Let there be love shared among us (358, Celebration Hymnal for Everyone) Come to the feast (866, Celebration Hymnal for Everyone)

Welcome: Today we hear about how Jesus asks a rich young man to sell his nice things and to give all his money to people who are poor. What do you think the rich man did? Let's find out...

Opening prayer: God of light, show us how we can answer your call. Inspire us to share all that we have with others, so that all people around the world may live free from poverty. Amen.

First reading (optional): Wisdom 7:7-11

Psalm: Psalm 89:12-18 r.14

Gospel acclamation: *Everyone stands and sings the acclamation together.*

Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

A man came to Jesus and asked, "Master, what must I do if I want to share everlasting life with God?"

Jesus said, "First, you must obey all of God's commandments."

"I have always tried to live according to the rules of God," the man said. Jesus looked at the man kindly, and saw all his goodness and love. "Then you must sell all you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have riches in heaven; then come and follow me." When the man heard this, gloom spread over his face, and he went away sad, because he was very rich.

Jesus looked round at his disciples and said to them, "How hard it will be for rich people to enter the Kingdom of God!"

The disciples were shocked at these words, but Jesus went on to say, "My children, how hard it is to enter the Kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is much harder for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle."

At this the disciples were completely amazed and asked one another, "Who, then, can be saved?"

Jesus looked straight at them and answered, "This is impossible for human beings but not for God; everything is possible for God."

Then Peter spoke up, "Look, we have left everything and followed you."

"Yes," Jesus said to them, "and I tell you that anyone who leaves home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and for the gospel, ³⁰ will receive

much more in this present age. He will receive a hundred times more houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and fields—and persecutions as well; and in the age to come he will receive eternal life.

Gospel reflection: What do you remember from today's reading?

The rich man asks Jesus what he must do to have eternal life. What does Jesus say?

Jesus reminds the man of the Ten Commandments, that he should not kill, should not steal or tell lies, and that he must respect his parents.

The man says that he has kept all of the commandments since he was young. And so Jesus gives him an extra challenge. What was it that Jesus asked the man to do?

Jesus asked the man to sell his nice things and to give all his money to people who are poor. Once he had done this, Jesus said, that the man could follow him.

How did the man feel? Did he sell all his things and give the money to those who needed it? Why do you think he didn't?

How would you feel if someone came along and said that you had to sell all your favourite toys, or that you had to give them away to someone who didn't have any?

But this is exactly what Jesus does ask of us. That if we have more than enough, that we share what we have with others. That way all people in the world would be able to have the things that they need.

Can you think of a time when you have shared with other people? How did it feel?

Can you think of a time when someone wouldn't share with you? How did that feel?

Do you think it is fair that some people in the world have a lot more than others? Why not?

It is important to share things so that everyone has enough and so that the world is a fairer place for everyone to live. How do you think that we can do this?

What will you do to try to make the world a fairer place this week? What will you share with others this week?

Intercessions *You may want to ask the children to offer their own prayers or you can use the suggestions below.*

It is sometimes hard to do what Jesus asks of us, and so we pray together for God's help:

We pray for world leaders: that they may look for ways to make sure all of their people, especially those who are poor, can have their fair share. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for people living in poverty: that they may have the chance to share in the gifts that God gave for us all. Lord, in your mercy...

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We pray for our parish, our families and our friends: that we may have the strength to answer Jesus' call, to share what we have, and to help make the world a fairer place for all. Lord, in your mercy...

Closing prayer: Generous God, we thank you for all the gifts that you have given us. Teach us to share these gifts with others, so all people may have enough. Amen.

Activity suggestions

Invite the children to colour in the accompanying illustration and to count how many different types of sharing they can see in the picture. Encourage them to write or draw on the back what they will try to share with others in the coming week.

Remind the children to share all that they heard and thought about with the people at home during the week. Encourage them to try to share what they have with others.

*Gospel passage taken from:
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