

## Children's liturgy – Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

**Colour:** green

**Props:** card and colouring pens/pencils or crayons.

**Song suggestions:** Whatsoever you do (926, Laudate)  
Servant song (924, Laudate)

**Welcome:** Today we hear about two of the healing miracles of Jesus. We learn about Jesus' kindness and understanding.

**Opening prayer:** Christ Jesus, as we hear of your loving kindness toward others may we be inspired to bring your healing to anyone in need. Amen.

**First reading (optional):** Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24

**Psalm:** Psalm 29:2, 4-6, 11-13 r. 2

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

**Gospel:** Mark 5:21-43

Jesus went back across to the other side of the lake. There at the lakeside a large crowd gathered round him. Jairus, an official of the local synagogue, arrived, and when he saw Jesus, he threw himself down at his feet and begged him earnestly, "My little daughter is very ill. Please come and place your hands on her, so that she will get well and live!"

Then Jesus started off with him. So many people were going along with Jesus that they were crowding him from every side.

There was a woman who had suffered terribly from severe bleeding for twelve years, even though she had been treated by many doctors. She had spent all her money, but instead of getting better she got worse all the time. She had heard about Jesus, so she came in the crowd behind him, saying to herself, "If I just touch his clothes, I will get well."

She touched his cloak, and her bleeding stopped at once; and she had the feeling inside herself that she was healed of her trouble. At once Jesus knew that power had gone out of him, so he turned round in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

His disciples answered, "You see how the people are crowding you; why do you ask who touched you?"

But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. The woman realized what had happened to her, so she came, trembling with fear, knelt at his feet, and told him the whole truth. Jesus said to her, "My daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your trouble."

While Jesus was saying this, some messengers came from Jairus' house and told him, "Your daughter has died. Why bother the Teacher any longer?" Jesus paid no attention to what they said, but told him, "Don't be afraid, only believe." Then he did not let anyone else go on with him except Peter and James and his brother

John. They arrived at Jairus' house, where Jesus saw the confusion and heard all the loud crying and wailing. He went in and said to them, "Why all this confusion? Why are you crying? The child is not dead – she is only sleeping!"

They laughed at him, so he put them all out, took the child's father and mother and his three disciples, and went into the room where the child was lying. He took her by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha, koum,*" which means, "Little girl, I tell you to get up!"

She got up at once and started walking around. (She was twelve years old.) When this happened, they were completely amazed. But Jesus gave them strict orders not to tell anyone, and he said, "Give her something to eat."

*(Gospel taken from Good News Translation® and used with permission\*)*

**Gospel reflection:** What do you remember from that reading?

Today we hear about how Jesus heals two people on the same day but in very different circumstances. What do you think about what you have heard?

The woman in the story had been ill for a long time. She touches Jesus' clothes and feels better straight away. The little girl is very ill, her father comes to ask Jesus for help, so Jesus goes to their house and tells the girl to get up.

Jesus cares about them and heals them both.

If we were ill what would happen? We would expect to be able to go to see a doctor or, at least, get medicine from the chemist. Can everyone in the world do this?

There are many people around the world who cannot get to see a doctor when they need to. The nearest clinic or hospital may be a very a long way away. Or they might not have enough money to pay to see the doctor.

How do you think you would feel if you were sick, or a member of your family was sick and you couldn't see a doctor?

We all know just how important it is to be able to get help when we are ill. In India lots of people are very ill with coronavirus at the moment and the health system has been struggling to cope.

Does anyone here have friends or family who live in India or who come from India? Have you ever been to India?

CAFOD has been supporting an organisation called Caritas India to distribute more medical kits, set up temporary treatment centres and give PPE to health workers. They are also helping families to provide care at home for people with mild cases, letting more people know about the vaccine to prevent the illness and helping people understand how to avoid spreading the virus.

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For more children's liturgy resources and illustrations see [cafod.org.uk/childrensliturgy](http://cafod.org.uk/childrensliturgy)

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Father Paul Moonjely from Caritas India said, "We are working round-the-clock to keep up with the pace of health measures... We are faced with a massive challenge."

Jesus was willing to help anyone who needed him. How do you think we can help others, so that they can live happy and healthy lives and get the care that they need when they are ill?

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

We pray together:

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may encourage all people to come together in peace and unity, to share and to stand up for what is right. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for world leaders: that they may do all that they can to make sure that all people have the medical care and support that they need. Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be moved to care for those who are unwell and support those who are caring for loved ones. Lord, in your mercy...

**Closing prayer:** Christ Jesus, you healed those who asked for your help. May we also be willing to reach out our hands to others in need. Amen.

### **Activity suggestions**

Invite the children to colour in the accompanying illustration, showing some of the ways that children around the world stay healthy.

Encourage the children to make 'Get Well' cards for anyone they know who is ill. They can either make them for members of their own family, friends, or perhaps for people in the parish such as those who would normally be visited by the SVP or parish ministers.

Invite the children to share with those at home all that they have heard and thought about today. Each time they pray this week, can they remember those who are ill and all the people who work to bring medical care to others across the world.

\*Gospel passage taken from:  
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