

Year C

## Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

Teach us to pray

### INTRODUCTION

Jesus taught us how to pray to God, our father, who will always listen to what we say and do whatever is best for us.

### SIGN OF THE CROSS

### LIGHT THE CANDLES

As we light our candles, we thank God for sending Jesus to be a light in the darkness and lead us to everlasting life.

### SORRY

Jesus taught us to pray, "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us..." and so we say:

Lamb of God,  
*have mercy on us,*  
Lamb of God,  
*make us merciful to others,*  
Lamb of God,  
*fill us with your love and your peace.*

### GLORIA

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

To welcome today's Gospel sing Acclamation 3.

### GOSPEL (LUKE 11:1-4, 9-10)

One day, when Jesus had finished praying, one of his disciples said, "Master, teach us how to pray!"

And so, Jesus taught them to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Then Jesus said, "Anyone who asks, will be answered; anyone who looks, will find; and anyone who knocks, will have the door opened."

### DISCUSSION

The prayer which Jesus himself taught us is called The Lord's Prayer, or the Our Father. This prayer was very different from anything the Jews had heard before. Do you know why?

Jesus taught the disciples to think of God as someone who was loving and protective, like a father to all people. This changed the whole idea of God from being someone all powerful and mighty to someone who is a close friend.

What sort of things do you pray for? (Encourage the children to share their thoughts and ideas.) Another way that we can say the Our Father is with these words:

God, our father, you are everywhere,  
and we bless your holy name.  
Help us to choose to share  
the love and joy of your kingdom.  
Help us to know and do your will.  
Provide us with all our needs  
because we depend on you.  
Forgive our mistakes  
as we forgive the mistakes of others.  
Help us when we are put to the test  
and keep us safe from harm. Amen.

Jesus told us: to ask, and God will answer us; to look, and we will find him. God always answers our prayers but in his own way, and not necessarily as we expect him to. Whatever happens we know that we can always rely on God's continuous concern and fatherly love for each one of us.

### ACTIVITY

Make copies of the Lord's Prayer for the children to decorate and hang up at home; or, ask the older children to write a prayer of their own.

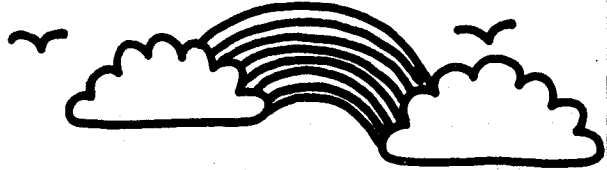
### CREED

### CLOSING PRAYER

Ask the children to read out their own prayers; or, read aloud:

Father, you know and love us so well;  
you take care of all our needs,  
and we are never alone.

Help us to remember this, as we pray:  
Our Father...



Our Father, who art in Heaven  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done



on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.



And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.

Amen.

