

Thirty-first Sunday (Year B)

31st October 2021

Preparing the prayer space

Place a green cloth on the table or floor (green – the colour for Ordinary Time)

Place a cross, bible, and candle on it. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

- YouTube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
- Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
- Print out sheet if required



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Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: In today's gospel, Jesus is asked what the most important commandment is.

Opening prayer:

Lord God, you love us more than we could ever know. Let us open our hearts to grow in love with you and to love our neighbour too.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark (12:28-31)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

One of the teachers of the Law of Moses came up while Jesus and the Sadducees were arguing. When he heard Jesus give a good answer; he asked him, "What is the most important commandment?"

Jesus answered, "The most important one says: 'People of Israel, you have only one Lord and God. You must love him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.'

The second most important commandment says: 'Love others as much as you love yourself.' No other commandment is more important than these."

The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the video together

The Greatest Commandment <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=msUvl-R-sJE>

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder what the Sadducees were arguing about...

I wonder why Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength...

I wonder what it means to love others as much as you love yourself...

I wonder how we can show love to others...

I wonder how the Sadducees felt after listening to Jesus...

I wonder what Jesus was thinking and how he was feeling after speaking to the Sadducees...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVKGQ> (4 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.
(*We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer'*)

1 We pray Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, all Church and world leaders will be able to lead with integrity, compassion and justice.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for hearts to be transformed by God's love so that people will treat others with respect and charity.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray for the members of our Church, that each person's gifts will be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and they will use their gifts to bring joy to others.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*)
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for all who have died or who have lost loved ones. May the Holy Spirit bring them healing, comfort, and peace.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer
(Daily Prayer 2021 © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago)

Closing prayer: We lift up our hearts and the prayers of our community. We make these prayers through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Closing song: Hillsong Kids Jr. -The Greatest Commandment
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4WygilFual>

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has end.

- **Prayer journal**
Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).
- **Colouring In**
<https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/1771352>
- **Family Connection- Loyola Press**
Talk about ways in which your family might contribute to the examples of Christian service you found. Choose one of these actions to do together as a family.
<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/31st-sunday-in-ordinary-time-b-sunday-connection/>
- **Craft**
Make this craft to help remember Jesus' greatest commandment
<https://www.jesus-without-language.net/tough-questions-matthew-22-make-2/>