

# PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

## SUNDAY LITURGY



14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

7 July 2024 - Year B

**“A prophet is despised only in his own country.”**

### Something to Think About

Do you know what a prophet is? A prophet is one who has eyes to see what needs to be changed in the world; ears to hear the call of God and the cry of the poor and a mouth that challenges people to change their ways.

### The Story

Everybody listened to Jesus when he spoke, and he often had surprising things to say. He was announcing the arrival of God’s kingdom, which meant a new way of doing and being. He was not always popular. His message was not one everyone wanted to hear. In this story we see his own family questioning who he is and what he is on about. Sometimes those closest to us have the least understanding of who we are or what we are trying to achieve.

### The Scriptures

**A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark**

**6:1-6**

Jesus left and returned to his hometown with his disciples.  
The next Sabbath he taught in the Jewish meeting place.

Many of the people who heard him were amazed and asked,  
"How can he do all this?  
Where did he get such wisdom and the power to work these miracles?  
Isn't he the carpenter, the son of Mary?  
Aren't James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon his brothers?  
Don't his sisters still live here in our town?"

The people were very unhappy because of what he was doing.  
But Jesus said, "Prophets are honoured by everyone,  
except the people of their hometown  
and their relatives and their own family."

Jesus could not work any miracles there,  
except to heal a few sick people by placing his hands on them.  
He was surprised that the people did not have any faith.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Video

Click to watch the video: [God's story: Jesus](#)



## Group Discussion

Prophets were often unpopular people because they challenged people to do the right thing. Imagine you are a modern day prophet and discuss what might need changing in your school or parish or local community.

## Praying For Others

*Leader:* Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

*Reader 1:* We pray that world leaders will work for peace. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 2:* We pray that we will be wise and thoughtful people. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 3:* We pray for those who do not feel accepted. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 4:* We pray for those who comfort and support us when we are sad. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Reader 5:* We pray that our families and friends will help us to follow Jesus. Lord hear us.

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.*

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

## Prayer



Dear God,  
We know that you have made all people special. Help us to treat all people with kindness, no matter where they come from.  
Amen.

## Group Activity

### A SPECIAL PERSON

*You will need: paper, crayons, coloured pencils or markers*

Sometimes when we know a person really well, we forget about how special they are.

Think about someone you know well.

Write or draw about how that person is wonderful, and about the special things that person does,

You might like to give your writing or drawing to that person, or say a quiet prayer for them.



# SOMETIMES IT IS HARD TO RECOGNISE GREATNESS

JESUS went home and  
the people knew him too well.

He was just the local carpenter...

They didn't think he was anything special!

Write some words to describe a  
**GREAT PERSON**

Seven empty rectangular boxes with blue borders, arranged in a circular pattern, intended for writing words to describe a great person.

