

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

29 September 2024 - Year B

***“Anyone who is not against us
is for us.”***

Something to Think About

Have you ever been left out of a game? How did it feel?

Can you think of some times when you may have excluded someone else?

The Story

John complained to Jesus that he saw someone casting out demons in the name of Jesus. How dare he? This man, whoever he was, was not a disciple, one of the select few! Who did he think he was calling on the name and power of Jesus for assistance! Jesus tells his disciples to accept anyone who is 'for' them.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

9:38-41

The disciple John said to Jesus,
"Teacher, we saw a man using your name
to force demons out of people.
But he wasn't one of us,
and we told him to stop."

Jesus said to his disciples: "Don't stop him!
No one who works miracles in my name
will soon turn and say something bad about me.
Anyone who is not against us is for us.
And anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name,
just because you belong to me,
will surely be rewarded."

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

Video

Click to watch the video:

[Children explain how you make friends](#)



Group Discussion

There are lots of examples in today's world of exclusion and rejection. In the gospel story, Jesus calls us to be tolerant and accepting of others. He encourages us to welcome others into our group.

What does being "one of us" mean for your friendship group? Your class group? Your family group?

What are some ways we can exclude or reject people? How might it look different if we welcomed and accepted them?

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 our leaders will work for justice. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for those who care for the sick and suffering. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for those who share their things with the poor and hungry. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray that our words and actions will be kind and sincere. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray that we will be welcoming and accepting of all people. 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 Jesus,
Teach us to be people who stand
for peace, fairness, gentleness,
friendship and love.
Amen.

Group Activity

WHAT WE STAND FOR

Jesus said "Anyone who is not against us is for us".

As a group, ask children to name the things they are 'for'. What do they value? What is important? What do they hold sacred?

You will need: a worksheet for each child, coloured markers, pens or pencils.

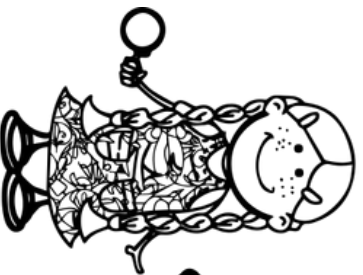
1. Talk with children about the things qualities that are important to them.
2. Look at the worksheet together, and talk about what each of the characters at the bottom of the page say is most important to them.
3. Ask children to take turns finishing the statement "I stand for..."
4. Invite children to draw or write what they stand for.



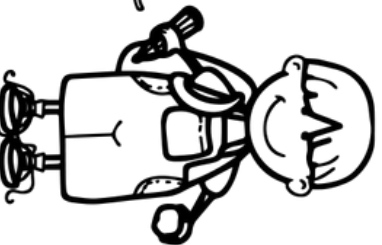
I stand for

**Colour in the children
who represent the
things you stand for.**

**There is also a space
for you to draw
yourself showing
another quality that
you stand for.**



Kindness



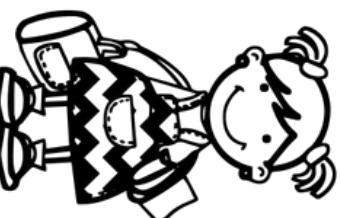
Trying hard



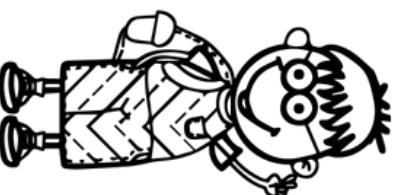
Friendship



Adventure



Gentleness



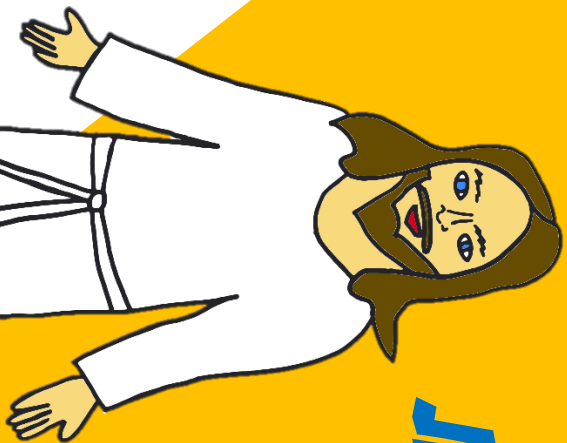
Generosity



Justice

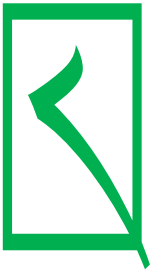
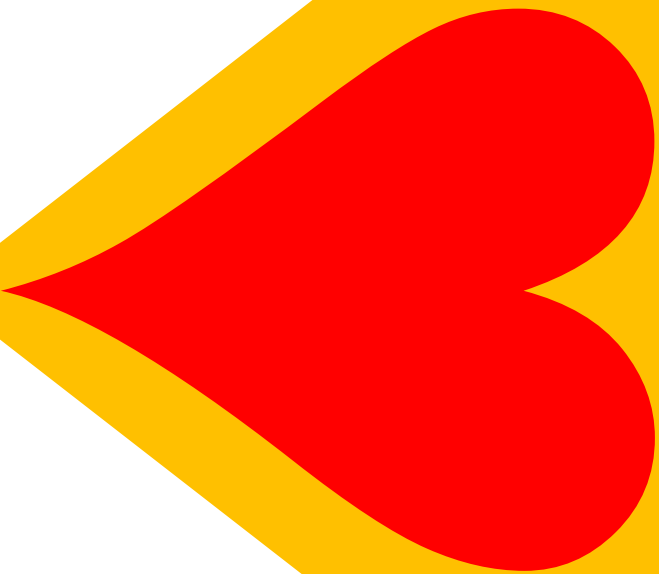


Peace



JESUS BRINGS LOVE AND PEACE

(JESUS ASKS US:
ARE YOU **FOR** ME
OR **AGAINST** ME?)



DRAW A TIME WHEN YOUR ACTIONS
WERE **FOR** JESUS' LOVE AND PEACE.



DRAW A TIME WHEN YOUR ACTIONS
WERE **AGAINST** LOVE AND PEACE.