

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

6 October 2024 - Year B

“The kingdom of heaven belongs to children like these.”

Something to Think About

Jesus always welcomed children and blessed them.
You can talk to Jesus whenever you like and know that he will be delighted to spend time with you.

The Story

When people brought their children to Jesus so he could bless them, the disciples tried to give Jesus some peace and quiet and told the people to stop bothering him. But Jesus wanted the children to come to him. He told the people that those who were like little children belong to the kingdom of God. Jesus blessed the children. Imagine what it would have been like to be blessed by Jesus!

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

10:13-16

Some people brought their children to Jesus so that he could bless them by placing his hands on them. But his disciples told the people to stop bothering him.

When Jesus saw this, he became angry and said,
"Let the children come to me!
Don't try to stop them.

People who are like these little children belong to the kingdom of God.
I promise you that you cannot get into God's kingdom,
unless you accept it the way a child does."

"Then Jesus took the children in his arms
and blessed them by placing his hands on them.

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

Video

Click to watch the video:
[The kingdom of heaven belongs to children](#)



Group Discussion

Why do you think children were so important to Jesus? What is it about children that is similar to the kingdom? Children are innocent, trusting and accepting. Jesus wanted all people to be like children in these ways, and to trust in him with a natural sense of awe and wonder.

What do you think the kingdom of heaven is like?

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 we will always have a child-like trust in God. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for children who feel unimportant or unloved. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for peace in our families. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray for those who care for children who are sick or in hospital. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray that we will always stay close to Jesus in our lives. 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,

Bless all the children of the world.
Help us always to trust you and to
build up your kingdom on earth.

Amen.

Group Activity

JESUS AND THE CHILDREN JIGSAW PUZZLE

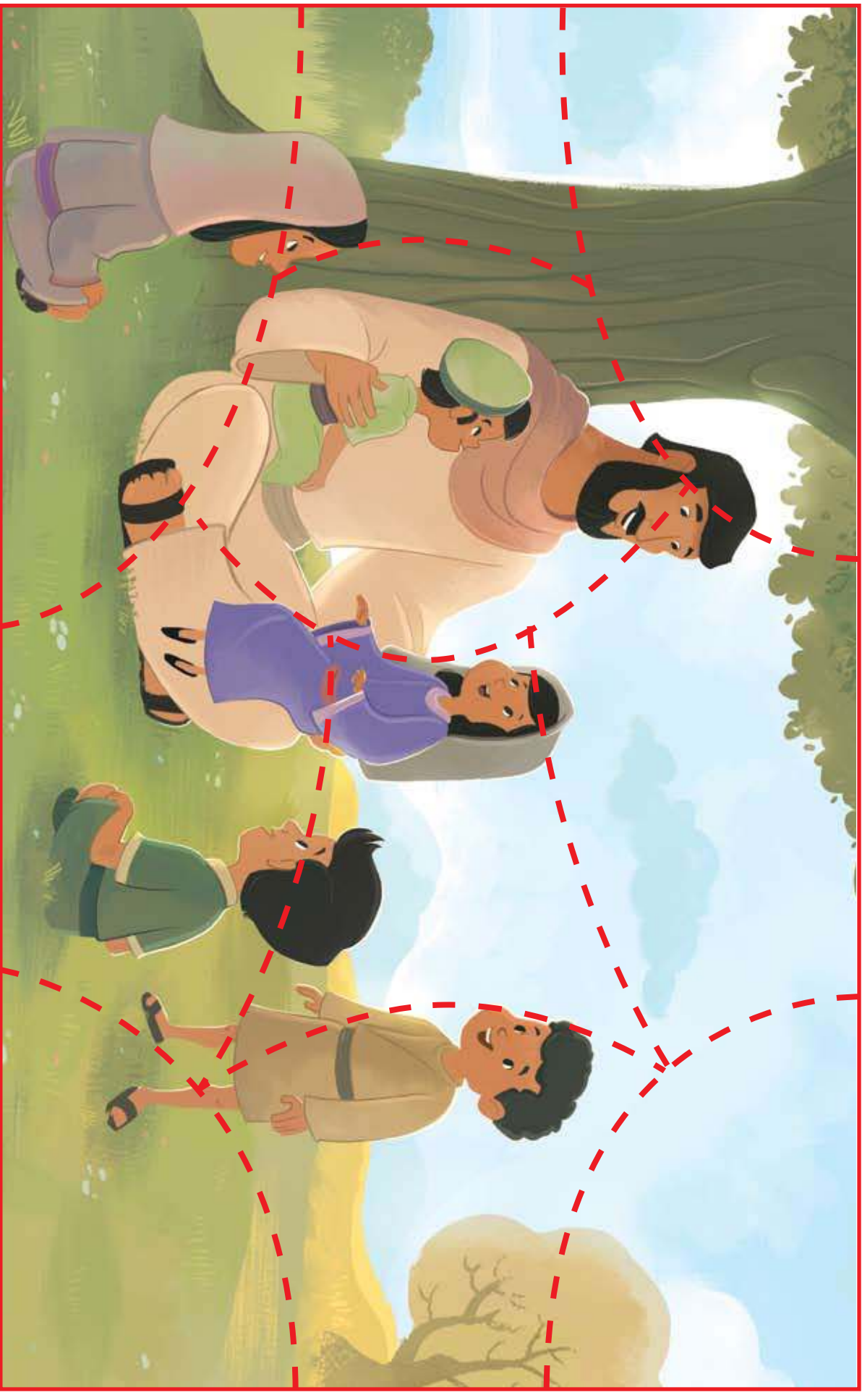
You will need: a jigsaw puzzle activity sheet (photocopied in colour) for each child, blank paper to glue the puzzle back onto, scissors, glue, envelopes for puzzle pieces.

1. Children cut along the red lines of the puzzle page.
(An adult may need to do this step for very small children.)
2. Children put the picture back together.
3. There are two options for the next step:
 - a. Glue the puzzle back together on another sheet of paper.
 - b. Put the pieces into an envelope and take home/put away to do again later.



Jesus and the Children Jigsaw Puzzle

Cut the puzzle apart on the red lines, mix the pieces up, and put the picture back together.



JESUS: LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME

JESUS BLESSES THE CHILDREN

*Draw yourself
with Jesus
here and
then colour in
the picture*

