

# SUNDAY GOSPEL WITH CHILDREN

25TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

MARK 9:30-37

---

## BACKGROUND FOR PARENTS

Today we find Jesus teaching his disciples, and again saying that he will soon be leaving them, he will suffer and die. While following Jesus, we can hear the concern of the disciples talking amongst themselves, what will happen when he goes, who will carry on his work? Arguments arise as to who is best, who is closest to Jesus and worthy to lead the others, talking as if Jesus is dead already. Jesus interrupts them all and reminds them of the simplicity of a child, willing to come forward when called. How much Jesus loves children. It is not yet time for them to worry about such things. They are still like the child he draws close to his heart, who daily loves and trusts that his/her parents will take care of things. As children are obliged to obey and follow their parents' direction, so they too must be patient and not assume position of power. Instead, enjoy their time with him, look after each other and all (even the least) who come under their care. Soon Jesus the bridegroom won't be with them and then it will be time to act.



Conversations such as the one described in today's Gospel are common in family life. Perhaps these examples are familiar: "I should sit in the front seat because I'm the oldest;" "I did the dishes yesterday; someone else should do them today." How might we respond if Jesus walked in and asked about our family arguments? What would Jesus say to us in reply? All of us need the reminder: to be great in God's Kingdom is to be the servant of all.

---

## PREPARATION

In setting up a prayerful space together, you may like to put out a green cloth for Ordinary Time, have a bible open at the Gospel reading, light a candle, a teatowel, and the crosses made last week.

You may like to come together for the Gospel reflection at a later time, after the 11am live-stream Mass (link here: <https://www.facebook.com/stpatricksnz> )

Worksheets are also available at the end of this document.

---

## SETTING THE SCENE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Remind each other of the Gospel last week, of Peter's words inspired by God, "You are the Messiah", (the one we have been waiting for).

Take the little crosses made last week and share a time when we remembered to choose to do the hard good things. Study, helping out, following the rules for the sake of everyone. What joy was

found? What did we do to help choose the good thing. Say a small prayer of thanks to Jesus for his help with hard as well as the easy things we do everyday

---

## KYRIE

To prepare our hearts to listen to God's word, let us pray:

Lord have mercy, All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy, All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. All: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.

---

## OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, may we listen carefully to your Word. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

---

## GOSPEL INTRODUCTION

This week Jesus ask the disciples a question. Listen to Peter's reply, inspired by God one moment, and then getting it completely wrong the next.

---

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Younger children: (To the tune of "London Bridge is Falling Down")

Listen to the Word of God, Word of God, Word of God,

Listen to the Word of God, Alleluia!

Older children: (The usual Gospel Acclamation that is sung at Mass)

E.g.: "Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to the risen Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to His Name!"

---

## GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

*Sign of the Cross on the forehead (God be in my mind)*

*sign of the Cross on the lips (God be in my words),*

*Sign of the Cross on the heart (God be in my heart)*

## Gospel Mark 9:30-37

(You may like to read from the family bible)

<https://youtu.be/yRPZxznx2DU>

*(for older children, all three readings and reflection*

*Pause throughout to help with discussion and understanding.)*

At the end of the Gospel: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

---

## REFLECTING ON THE READING

Invite the children to say what they heard in the story. You may like to use these questions to help.



- What did Jesus say was going to happen?
- What were the disciples arguing about?
- Who did Jesus bring out to show them? Why?

Conversations such as the one described in today's Gospel are common in family life. Perhaps these examples are familiar: "I should get to sit in the front seat because I'm the eldest;" "I did the dishes yesterday; someone else should do them today." How might we respond if Jesus walked in and asked about our family arguments? What would Jesus say to us in reply? All of us need the reminder: To be great in God's Kingdom is to be the servant of all.

---

## RESPONSE

Sit in silence for a couple of minutes and listen to the sounds around you. There may be birds outside, or a car passing. Rest in that quiet, where sometimes Jesus speaks to us in the quiet of our hearts.

Where can we this week choose to not judge and take what is the best all the time, but find ways to help. find ways to help each other know that we are all loved as we are, there is much to do, and one day we too will be in Heaven with Christ.

This week collect family stories of service to others, especially children. Place those stories, along with pictures, into a album, labeled, "Our Christian Family."

---

## WE BELIEVE

In our creed, we say what we believe. Invite your children to think about what they are saying when they say the creed. Ask this series of questions and invite the children to reply, "I do":

- Do you believe that God is our Father, who lovingly created us as his children?
- Do you believe that Jesus is His Son, who knows our hearts and loves each and every one of us perfectly?
- Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, who lovingly encourages us in the quiet of our hearts?

---

## WE PRAY

We cannot come to Mass this Sunday, to receive Jesus in the Body and Blood of Christ, but we can be patient, help where we can and pray for each other. Again, try to relate the Prayers of the Faithful to the reading. Here is Pope Francis' five-finger prayer.

Start by saying, "We know that Jesus is always with us, listening to our prayers and filling our hearts with His love so we can listen to and care for everyone we meet today."

Respond to each prayer with: We Pray to the Lord.

All. Lord, Hear our Prayer

# 5 Finger Prayer

4) The ring finger is the weakest. Pray for the sick, poor, and those most in need.

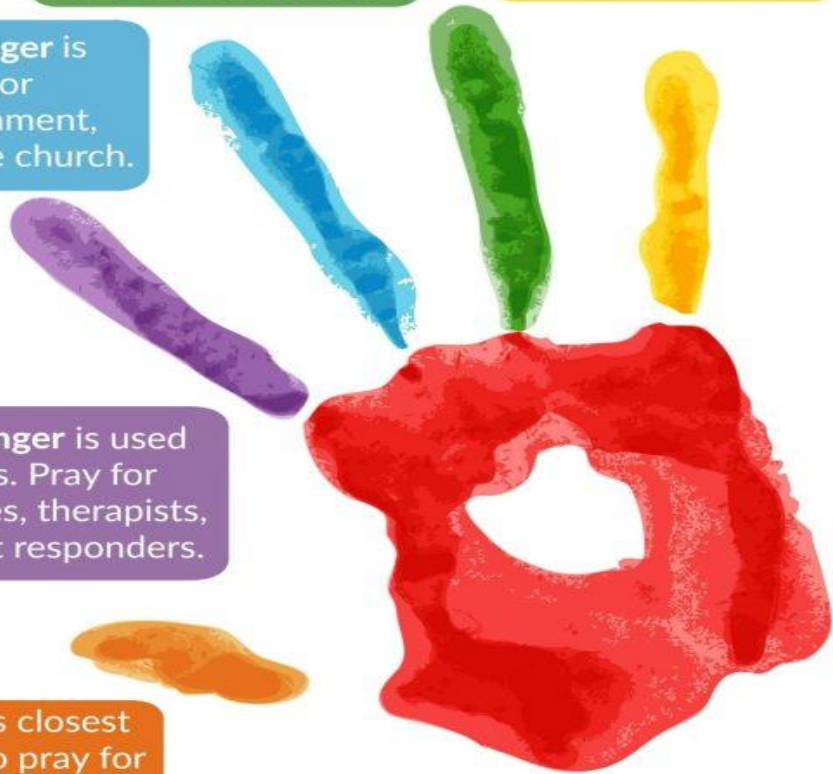
5) The pinkie finger is the smallest. Pray for **yourself** and your own needs.

3) The middle finger is the tallest. Pray for **leaders** in government, business, and the church.

2) The **pointer** finger is used to give directions. Pray for **teachers**, coaches, therapists, doctors, and first responders.

1) Your **thumb** is closest to your heart, so pray for those closest to you - your **family and friends**.

www.KathrynShirey.com

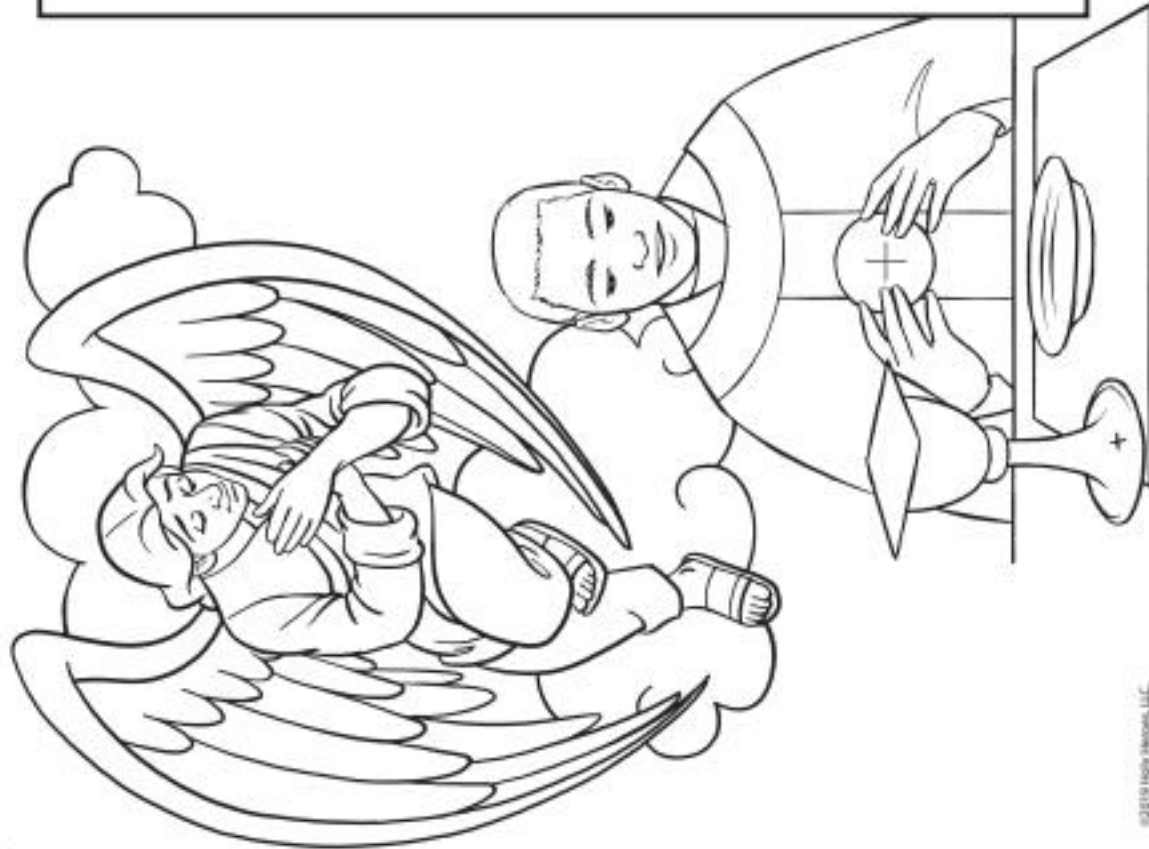


## [Rockhunting](#)

Here [Rockhunting](#) is a wonderful walk activity that your family may like to prepare for and instigate in your community.

What joy could we give to another that they could find as they go on their walk?





©2019 Holy Heroes, LLC

## Send Your Angel to HOLY MASS

O Holy Angel, at my side,  
Go to the church for me,  
Kneel in my place, at Holy Mass  
Where I desire to be.

At Offertory, in my stead,  
Take all I am and own,  
And place it as a sacrifice  
Upon the Altar Throne.

At Holy Consecration's bell,  
Adore with the Seraph's love,  
My Jesus, hidden in the Host,  
Come down from Heaven above.

And when the priest Communion takes,  
Oh, bring my Lord to me,  
That His sweet Heart may rest on mine,  
And I His temple be.

 HOLY HEROES

[www.HolyHeroes.com](http://www.HolyHeroes.com)