

Dining Room Prayer Time

Seventieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

“HIDDEN TREASURE”

Child/teen to lead by following purple instructions and reading the blue instructions.

Setup Sacred space

Before the prayer. Spend 20 minutes collecting 3 or 4 items to set up the sacred space. Such as a candle, cross, image and flower or some greenery. Set this up on the dining table in your house. Choose a time that everyone can come together. You will also need colouring-in-pencils for the prayer. Print this worksheet for each person in your house. Ask an adult to light the candle at the start.



1. Start

Let us put ourselves in God's presence by focusing on our breathing.

Breath in..... Breath out..... *(repeat this 4 times)*

As we light the candle we make the sign of the cross.

ALL – “In the name of the father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen”

2. Gospel

Matthew Chapter 13 verse 44 to 46

Child/teen to read -

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field,

which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls.

When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

3. Gospel Reflection

Child/teen to read -

Here Jesus uses another story or parable. Do you remember what a parable is? Yes. It is a short story with a meaning or message. Jesus talks about two parables here. One of hidden treasure. The other of a great pearl or jewel like a diamond. Jesus also talks about the idea of “Kingdom of heaven” or the “Kingdom of God”. Can you imagine how a king, queen or president today might act? With political power. Wanting more treasure. However, Jesus’ Kingdom is not physical or powerful or wanting more money. The Kingdom of Heaven for Jesus is something spiritual, relational, and is sometimes often hidden, like a treasure or a pearl. Here other people may not understand where it is or what is it. The Kingdom of Heaven begins now in our hearts (Matthew 6:21) and builds into the future. We begin to understand what it is when we step into it. We play a part in this Kingdom of Heaven through our thoughts, actions and feelings and how we relate to other people in it. As you would imagine, like a jewel or treasure, the Kingdom of Heaven produces joy and goodness, but for the long term.

4. Second Reading

Child/teen to read the Gospel a second time

5. Colour

Colour in the following picture



6. Questions

Spend a few minutes completing the following questions, write and the discuss.

1. What treasure or thing do you want?
2. Is this the treasure what Jesus is talking about?
3. What is the kingdom of Heaven?
4. How do we enter the Kingdom of Heaven?
5. (parents) –Why are simple things in life important to finding the Kingdom of Heaven?

7. Prayers of the Faithful

We ask that God receives the following prayers:

A. We pray that we are open to and try to seek God's Kingdom of Heaven. Lord hear us.

ALL : Lord hear our prayer.

B. We pray that we act with courage, faith, and choose the simple things in life that produce the Kingdom of Heaven. Lord hear us.

ALL : Lord hear our prayer.

C. Does anyone else have a prayer they would like to share? *PAUSE*.....

ALL : Lord hear our prayer.

8. Final Prayer

Dear God we ask that you receive all our prayers as we pray the Our Father together.

ALL - Our Father who art in Heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins. As we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

As we blow the candle out we ask that God remains with us.

We make the sign of the cross.

ALL – “In the name of the father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen”