

How we pray together

Children's Liturgy for Sunday 19 January 2020



Suggested Songs:

- Song of the Body of Christ – David Haas
- Children of the Light – CJM Music
- Lord hear my prayer – Taize

Suggested Resources:

- Activity sheets
- Pens
- Coloured felt tips/pencils

Introduction

Today we will be talking about how we pray together. There are lots of different ways to pray, can you name some? (Praying in silence, song, prayers in school, grace before meals etc.)

What is prayer? Prayer is a conversation with God. God will always listen to our prayers. Sometimes we pray for things we need or want, sometimes we pray to say thank you to God or to ask God's help. Sometimes lots of people come together to pray like today in Mass or in school, sometimes a few people will gather in a prayer group and a lot of times people will pray on their own to God.

When we talk to God it is important to listen to what God is saying to us in our lives. We may not have an experience of God like John the Baptist did in today's Gospel reading but by praying we can pay attention to God.

Let us bow our heads and talk silently to God now about the things that are on our mind. In your head talk to God, like you are talking to a friend.

Penitential Rite

For the times we have ignored God in our lives and not taken time to pray.

Leader: Lord Have Mercy

Children all say: Lord Have Mercy

For the times we do not live in the way Jesus teaches us to.

Leader: Christ Have Mercy

Children all say: Christ Have Mercy

May we find God through our prayers.

Leader: Lord Have Mercy

Children all say: Lord Have Mercy



Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of John

The next day John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptising with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.”

Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptise with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ I have seen and I testify that this is God’s Chosen One.”

John the Baptist is Jesus’ cousin and he was baptising people with water in the River Jordan. In the gospel today John tells everyone about the time that Jesus was baptised. John saw the Holy Spirit come down upon Jesus in the form of a dove. John knew that Jesus was God’s Chosen One. By telling everyone about what he saw people believed. Our belief in Jesus brings us all together to pray and to worship God.

Suggested Responses:

- Complete activity sheet
- Write your own prayer
- Pray together the Examen
- Make a prayer tree. Add your own prayers and leave in church for other people to add to.



Prayer

Pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us all to say:

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Synod Prayer

Father, we thank you
for the love you have shown us
in the gift of Jesus, your Son.
We thank you for the gift of the Church,
through which you show us
that you are always with us
and are always at work in our lives.

As we journey together to Synod 2020
help us to become the Church that you are calling us to be.
May your Holy Spirit be powerfully
at work among us.
Strengthen each of us and guide Francis, our Pope
and Malcolm, our Archbishop.

Help us to respond
to the challenges of our times in new ways
to bring your love to all our sisters and brothers.
We make this prayer
through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

AMEN

St John Henry Newman: **Pray for us!**



How we pray together

Can you unjumble the letters to show some of the different places we can pray:

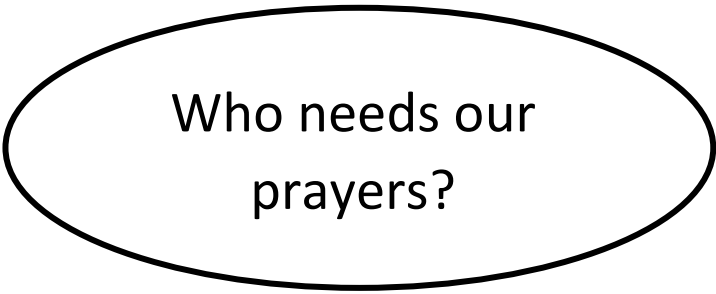
HRUCCH _____

MHOE _____

OLOSHC _____

Draw a picture of Jesus and John the Baptist here:

In Church we pray for the needs of the world. Who are the people and places that need our prayers?



Who needs our prayers?

How we pray together

Write your own prayer here:

Dear God,

How we pray together

An Examen

Find somewhere comfortable to sit and close your eyes.

For a moment, think about how you are feeling right now and concentrate on your breathing.

Imagine that Jesus is sat right next to you, spend a moment sat with Jesus in silence.

Now tell Jesus about the good things that have happened this week.

When you are ready tell Jesus about anything that is worrying you or has upset you this week.

Let Jesus reply to you. What do you think he would say to help you?

Now think about the week coming up, talk to Jesus about it.

When you are ready open your eyes.