

# PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

## SUNDAY LITURGY



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

28 January 2024 - Year B

**“Here was a teaching with authority behind it.”**

### Something to Think About

Jesus spoke and acted with great authority, and people listened to him. Think about some people you know who are good leaders. What makes them a good leader?

### The Story

In today's gospel story, Jesus teaches the people with great wisdom and authority. People were amazed at his teaching and they listened to him. Today's story is also a miracle story where Jesus is presented as a great healer. Jesus cures the man of the evil spirit, and shows how the power of God is stronger than pain and suffering.

### The Scriptures

**A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark**

**1:21-28**

Jesus and his disciples went to the town of Capernaum. Then on the next Sabbath he went into the Jewish meeting place and started teaching. Everyone was amazed at his teaching. He taught with authority, and not like the teachers of the Law of Moses.

Suddenly a man with an evil spirit in him entered the meeting place and yelled, "Jesus from Nazareth, what do you want with us? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are! You are God's Holy One."

Jesus told the evil spirit, "Be quiet and come out of the man!" The spirit shook him. Then it gave a loud shout and left.

Everyone was completely surprised and kept saying to each other, "What is this? It must be some new kind of powerful teaching! Even the evil spirits obey him." News about Jesus quickly spread all over that part of Galilee.

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

### Video

Click to watch the video: [Jesus is Super Powerful](#)



## Group Discussion

There are many ways to heal. What are some different ways to 'heal' someone, for example someone who has been bullied, someone who is lonely or misunderstood, someone who has lost someone they love. Invite the children to reflect on their own ability and willingness to 'heal' others.

## 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 those who need to be healed in their heart, mind or body. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 2:* We pray that we will ask Jesus for help when we need it. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 3:* We pray that we will be a sign of Jesus' healing to others. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 4:* We pray for all those who are sick in hospital. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 5:* We pray that we will have faith in the healing power of Jesus. 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,  
We know that you are powerful and  
that nothing can keep us from your love.  
Help us to bring your  
healing kindness to others.  
Amen.

## Group Activity

### SHREDDED STICKY NOTES

*You will need: coloured sticky notes, pens and markers.*

Jesus is stronger than all of our fears.

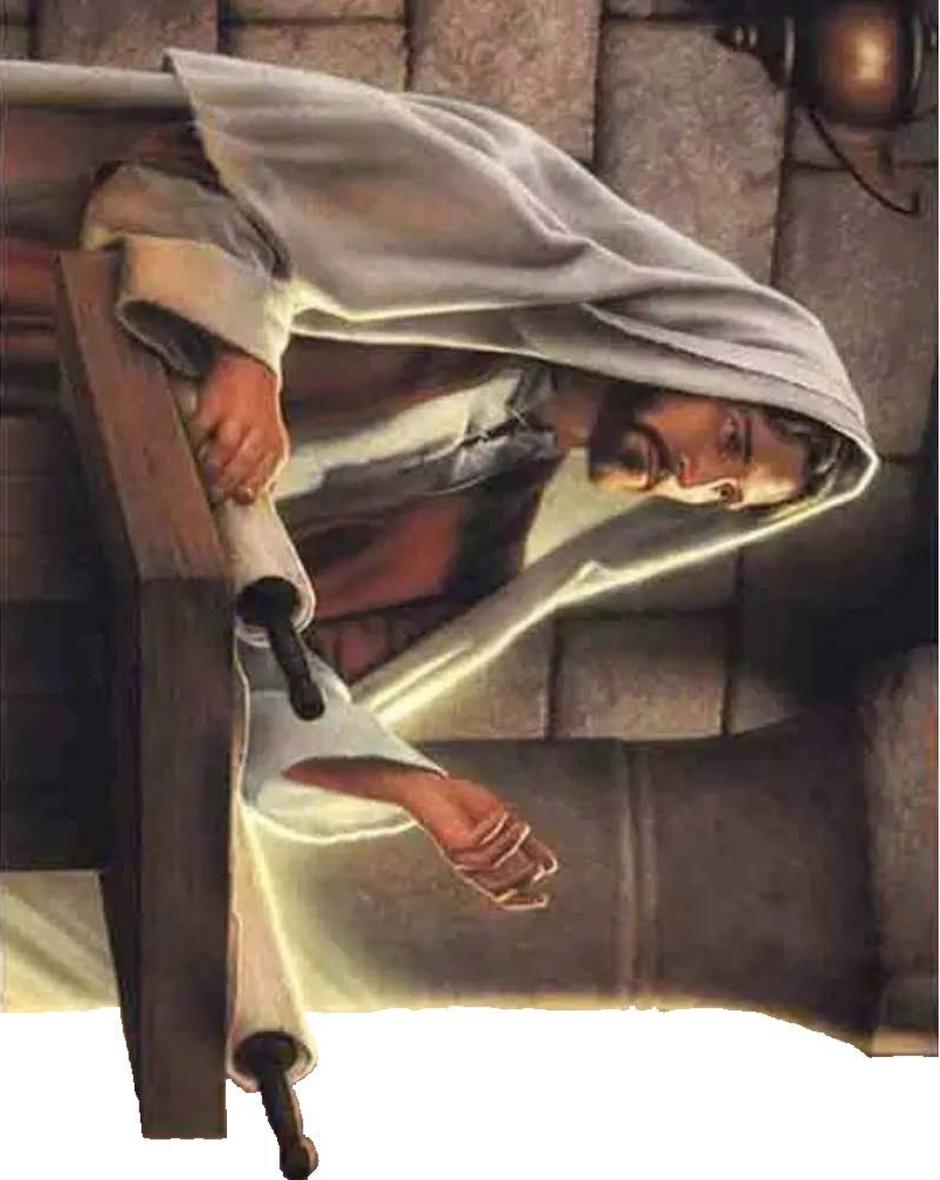
Give each child a post-it note and ask them to write or draw something they are afraid of, or something they are worried about.

After reminding children that they don't need to be afraid because Jesus is with them, ask the children to tear up their post-it notes and throw the pieces of paper behind them!

(The activity concludes with everyone helping to pick up the pieces of paper and put them in the bin!)



# JESUS WENT TO THE JEWISH MEETING PLACE AND STARTED TEACHING



EVERYONE WAS AMAZED  
THAT HE TAUGHT WITH A NEW KIND OF POWER

DRAW THE AMAZED PEOPLE LISTENING TO JESUS. PUT YOURSELF INTO THE PICTURE.