

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



Sixth Sunday of Easter

5 May 2024 - Year B

"No one can have greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Something to Think About

How do you show someone that you love them? Sometimes it isn't easy!
Your parents show you they love you by taking care of you even when they are tired.
You might show your love for a friend by sharing your lunch, even when you are hungry.

The Story

There is a clear message in today's gospel story – Jesus asks us to love one another just as God loves us! Jesus loved us so much that he died on the cross for us.
Jesus tells us that when we love others, we will be completely happy.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

15:9-14

Jesus said to his disciples:
"I have loved you,
just as my Father has loved me.
So remain faithful to my love for you.
If you obey me,
I will keep loving you,
just as my Father keeps loving me,
because I have obeyed him.

"I have told you this to make you as completely happy as I am.
Now I tell you to love each other,
as I have loved you.
The greatest way to show love for friends is to die for them.
And you are my friends,
if you obey me."

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

Video

Click to watch the video: [Love One Another](#)



Group Discussion

John's gospel says, 'The greatest way to show love for friends is to die for them'. Realistically, few of us will ever be asked to literally die for another. But love and friendship are sometimes demanding and not always easy. At times we need to put others first and put ourselves second. Can you think of an example in your own life?

Praying For Others

Leader: Trusting in God's love and encouragement, we pray for the needs of the world.

Reader 1: We pray that our leaders will be filled with God's spirit of love. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for grateful hearts as we thank God for the beautiful world we live in. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for our families and friends. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray for those who have lost someone they love. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray that we might show love to others in all we do and say. 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 our prayers in the name of the risen Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



Lord Jesus,
God of joy, you loved us so much you
sent your Son to us. Help us to love
each other as you love us.
Amen.

Group Activity

Create a Love Poster

You will need: paper or whiteboard for brainstorming, a large poster page, cut-out heart for each child, decorating materials.

1. As a group, brainstorm the ways you could show love to people in your family, school or community this week.
2. Display the large poster page which will have written at the top: "Love Each Other as I Have Loved You."
3. Give each child a heart-shaped cut out and invite them to write or draw one thing they will do this week to show love to someone.
4. At the end, invite children to stick their decorated hearts on the poster and talk about how much love will come into the world this week through their actions.



JESUS SAID: **GOD LOVES ME** **I LOVE YOU** **YOU LOVE EACH OTHER**

Find a smooth stone or a flat board
and paint a colourful message of
GOD'S LOVE



LOVE COMES FROM GOD: GOD IS LOVE!