

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY

Christ the King - Year A - 22 November 2020



“The Son of Man will sit upon his seat of glory and he will separate all into two groups.”

Something to Think About

If you were the king or queen of a huge kingdom, what rules would you ask your people to follow? What would be most important for keeping all the people safe and happy?

The Story

Jesus tells us in this gospel passage that the mark of a true disciple is a compassionate response to people's needs. Jesus wants us to show our care for other people in real and meaningful ways. This is what is most important in God's kingdom.

The Scriptures

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all of his angels, he will sit on his royal throne. The people of all nations will be brought before him, and he will separate them, as shepherds separate their sheep from their goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right, 'My father has blessed you! Come and receive the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world was created. When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink.

When I was a stranger, you welcomed me, and when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear. When I was sick, you took care of me, and when I was in jail, you visited me.'

"Then the ones who pleased the Lord will ask,

'When did we give you something to eat or drink? When did we welcome you as a stranger or give you clothes to wear or visit you while you were sick or in jail?'

"The king will answer, 'Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me.'

"Then the king will say to those on his left, 'Get away from me! You are under God's curse. Go into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels! I was hungry, but you did not give me anything to eat, and I was thirsty, but you did not give me anything to drink. I was a stranger, but you did not welcome me, and I was naked, but you did not give me any clothes to wear. I was sick and in jail, but you did not take care of me.'

"Then the people will ask, 'Lord, when did we fail to help you when you were hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in jail?'

"The king will say to them, 'Whenever you failed to help any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you failed to do it for me.'"

Then Jesus said, "Those people will be punished forever. But the ones who pleased God will have eternal life."

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

Group Discussion

'I was hungry and you fed me. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink'. Discuss what it is that people hunger and thirst for - food, respect, shelter, a job, peace, happiness, a word of encouragement, forgiveness, belonging, love.

Think about the many ways in which you can respond to people's needs e.g. a smile or a friendly word.

Video

Click to watch the video.

[Sharing and Caring for Each Other](#)



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: We pray that our leaders will be people of compassion. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for those who hunger and thirst. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for the sick and those imprisoned. Lord hear us

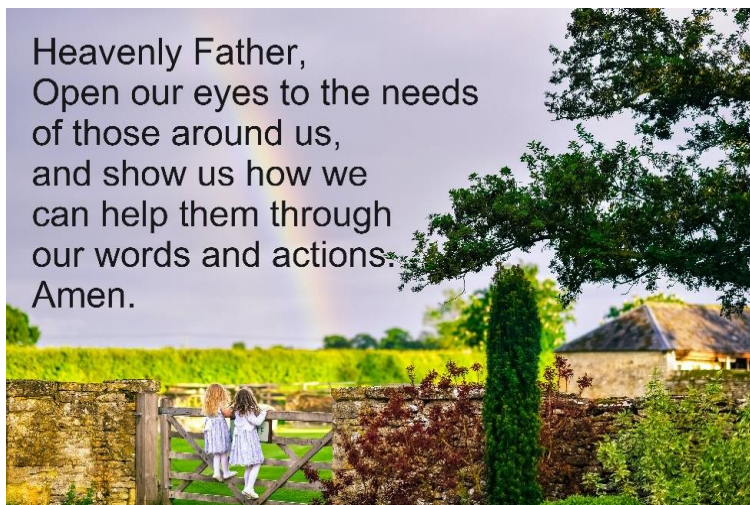
All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for our families and friends and all we love. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.



Heavenly Father,
Open our eyes to the needs
of those around us,
and show us how we
can help them through
our words and actions.
Amen.

Prayer

Say this prayer together during the week.

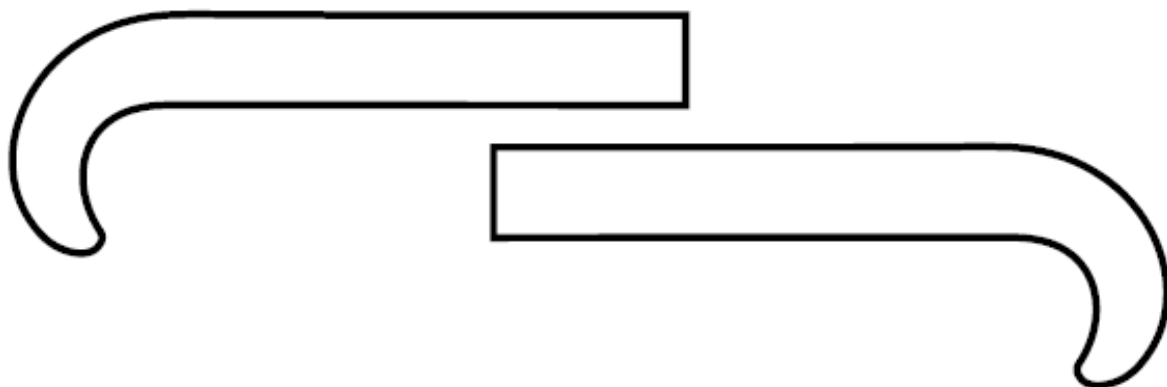
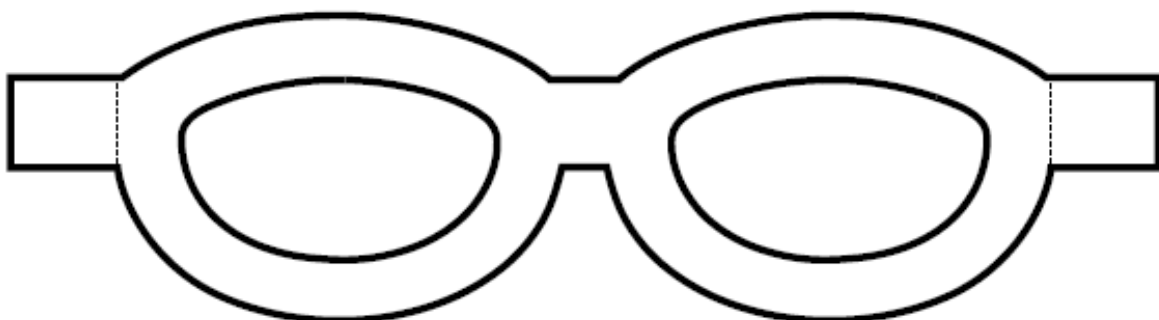
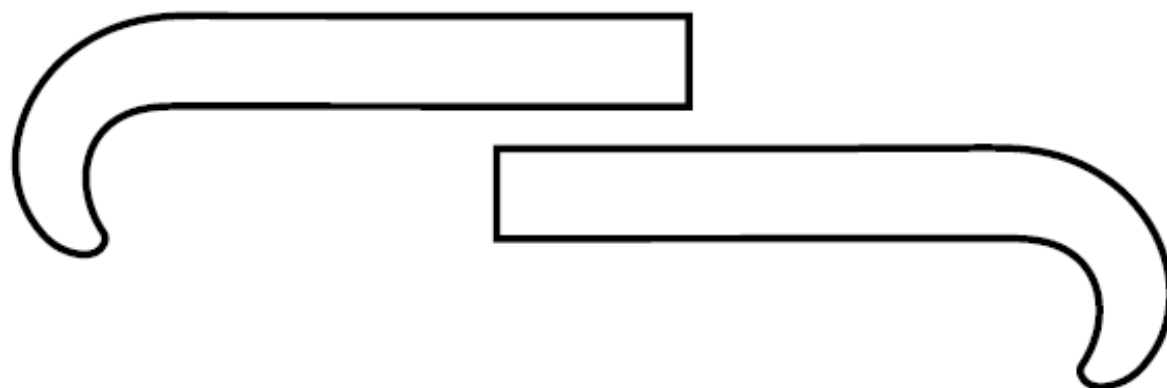
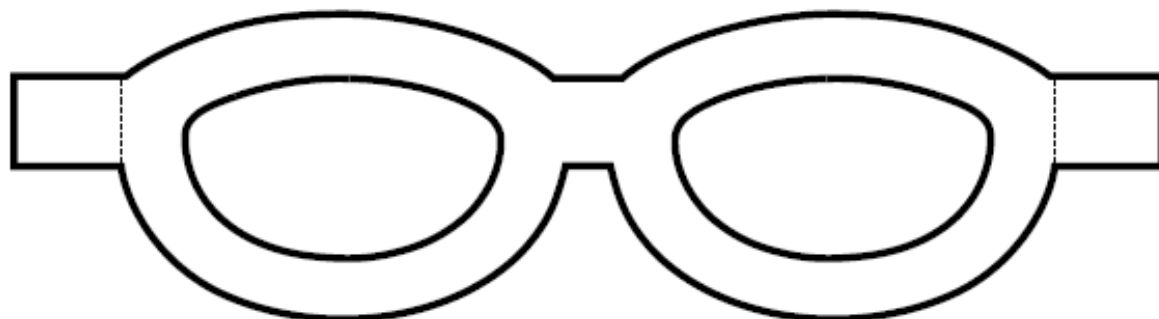
Group Activity

You will need: a glasses template for each child, coloured markers, optional extras for decorating (e.g. small stickers), scissors and glue.

Tell the children that they need to look carefully to see the needs of others around them and then act to help those people. Invite children to decorate the glasses and then help them to assemble and wear the glasses. Remind children to look carefully throughout the week as they try to spot people who need a smile, a kind word or some physical help.



Eyes to See the Needs of Others





**MARY SEES A BOY OUTSIDE
HER WINDOW. HE SEEMS
LOST AND LONELY.**

**WHAT WOULD SHE
SAY TO HIM?**



"I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME, HUNGRY AND YOU GAVE ME SOMETHING TO EAT..."