



# World Mission Sunday Children's Liturgy

## 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time

**Environment:** Create a prayer table/space that displays a globe or map of the world. Use a cultural cloth or colorful table cover. Display photos (including the World Mission Sunday poster), artifacts, religious items, or art from different cultures of the world. You may also use other religious symbols.

**Preparation:** Read the suggested text for the Children's Liturgy of the Word or Lectionary. Reflect on the message of Pope Francis in honor of World Mission Day 2018, which says, "The Pontifical Mission Societies were born of young hearts as a means of supporting the preaching of the Gospel to every nation and thus contributing to the human and cultural growth of all those who thirst for knowledge of the truth. The prayers and the material aid generously given and distributed through the Pontifical Mission Societies enable the Holy See to ensure that those who are helped in their personal needs can in turn bear witness to the Gospel in the circumstances of their daily lives. No one is so poor as to be unable to give what they have, but first and foremost what they are. Let me repeat the words of encouragement that I addressed to the young people of Chile: 'Never think that you have nothing to offer, or that nobody needs you. Many people need you. Think about it! Each of you, think in your heart: many people need me.'"

You will need a children's lectionary, paper and markers/crayons for each child.

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

To Serve as Jesus did

#### **Lectionary for Masses with Children: Year B**

Ask an older child to help with proclaiming the readings. Make sure to instruct/remind the children about the responses after each reading and for the responsorial psalm.

First Reading (Hebrews 4:14-16)

Brothers and Sisters: we have a great high priest, who has gone into heaven, and he is Jesus the Son of God. That is why we must hold on to what we have said about him. Jesus understands every weakness of ours, because he was tempted in every way that we are. But he did not sin! So whenever we are in need, we should come bravely before the throne of our merciful God. There we will be treated with undeserved kindness, and we will find help.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 33: 4-5, 20, 22)

R: Lord let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The Lord is truthful; he can be trusted. He loves justice and fairness, and he is kind to everyone everywhere on earth.

R: Lord let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

We depend on you, Lord, to help and protect us. Be kind and bless us! We depend on you.

R: Lord let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Gospel (Mark 10:35-45)

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, will you do us a favor?" Jesus asked them what they wanted, and they answered, "When you come into your glory, please let one of us sit at your right side and the other at your left." Jesus told them, "You don't really know what you're asking! Are you able to drink from the cup that I must soon drink from or be baptized as I must be baptized?" "Yes, we are!" James and John answered. Then Jesus replied, "You certainly will drink from the cup from which I must drink. And you will be baptized just as I must! But it is not for me to say



who will sit at my right side and at my left. That is for God to decide.” When the ten other disciples heard this, they were angry with James and John. But Jesus called the disciples together and said: “You know that those foreigners who call themselves kings like to order their people around. And their great leaders have full power over the people they rule. But don’t act like them. If you want to be great, you must be the servant of all the others. And if you want to be first, you must be everyone’s slave. The Son of Man did not come to be a slave master, but a slave who will give his life to rescue many people.”

**Scripture Reflection:** Remind the children about the message of the first reading and psalm. God is kind and merciful, which means God loves us very much and we are forgiven for our mistakes. God is fair and just too, which means that God wants us to be sorry when we hurt someone and for us to fix the mistake. Jesus came to show us God’s way of love and forgiveness, this was his mission. In the Gospel Jesus teaches his disciples (or friends) a lesson: Some people like to order others around and be treated as special all the time. That is not how a disciple of Jesus acts. The true way to be special is to be the servant to others. Jesus came to earth to take care of others, and that’s what he invites us to do.

**World Mission Activity**

“Many people need me!”

Ask the children: did you know that people need you? Think about what Jesus told his friends (disciples), and what he tells us too, “If you want to be great, you must be the servant of all the others.” How do we serve others? Let the children share ideas. Then tell them what Pope Francis says in his Message for World Mission Sunday, “Never think that you have nothing to offer, or that nobody needs you. Many people need you. Think about it! Each of you, think in your heart: many people need me.” Ask the children to say out loud, “Many people need me!” (repeat as necessary)

Describe the images on the prayer table. Explain that this is World Mission Sunday, the day when every disciple (or friend) of Jesus Christ celebrates our job to share the Good News with others. Mission means

to continue the work Jesus started. World Mission means to go everywhere, all over the whole earth with Jesus’ message of love and mercy. There are people in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Pacific Islands, and here in North America that are disciples of Jesus. Today we celebrate the important job we share: to be servants to others.

One great way to serve is to pray for others and another way is to give a gift. So, we pray for our brothers and sisters all over the world. The other thing we do is give gifts of money so that missionaries may minister to people who live far away and who need help to build a safe home, to go to school or go to the doctor. The money that is donated (given) on this day will serve the people who have the greatest needs.

Ask the children to take a piece of paper and to write or draw the names/faces of people who need them. The people may be someone they know, or someone they don’t know but for whom they pray. They could write, “Many people need me!” Perhaps ask them to draw a picture of the world, to remind them that people all over the earth need them to pray and give gifts to help them.

**Petition Prayer**

Who needs our prayer?

Before the end ask the children to say out loud one to two names of people who need them for prayer or service. Make this a time for intercessory prayer and conclude the prayers by asking Jesus to teach everyone around the world what it means to be a servant of all others.