



To follow in Jesus' footsteps, caring for each other when we work, play and pray

As we are unable to gather together to celebrate Mass at the moment, please use the Gospel Reflection below to gather as a family and reflect on the message from this week's Gospel (the children are used to following this structure from their class acts of Collective Worship - please encourage them to lead your time of prayer).

**Gospel Reflection for the Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year A)**

<p><b>Gather</b> Bringing everyone into the Holy space</p>	<p><b>Preparation of the worship space:</b> White cloth</p> <p><b>Welcome:</b> Today Jesus tells us that if we love him, we must keep his commandments. And that God loves those who listen to and love his son. Let's think a bit more about love today.</p> <p><b>Opening prayer:</b> God of love, you sent your only Son into the world to show us how to live. Help us to love you and one another in our words and in all that we do. Amen.</p>
<p><b>Listen to the Word of God</b> How will God's Word be proclaimed?</p>	<p>A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (John 14:15-21)</p> <p>"If you love me, you will obey my commandments. I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, who will stay with you for ever. He is the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God. The world cannot receive him, because it cannot see him or know him. But you know him, because he remains with you and is in you.</p> <p>"When I go, you will not be left all alone; I will come back to you. In a little while the world will see me no more, but you will see me; and because I live, you also will live. When that day comes, you will know that I am in my Father and that you are in me, just as I am in you.</p> <p>"Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. My Father will love those who love me; I too will love them and reveal myself to them."</p>
<p><b>Respond</b> How will we respond? What sort of prayer, action or song will we use?</p>	<p><b>Gospel Reflection:</b> In today's reading, Jesus is trying to prepare his disciples for what is coming next - his death on the cross and his rising again.</p> <p>He tells them that if they love him, they must keep his commandments - Jesus asked us to love God and to love one another.</p> <p>How do you show your love for others? How do others show their love for you?</p> <p>It is often easy to show our love for those people who are close to us. We can be kind and generous to our friends, we can listen to our parents, carers and teachers. We can share with our brother or sister. And they show their love for us by comforting us when we are upset, by looking after us and by sharing their things with us too.</p> <p>We are all God's children. God loves each and every one of us because we are special. And so we need to do our best to show our love to all people, not just those who are close by.</p> <p>How will you show your love for others, both here and around the world in the coming week?</p> <p><b>Intercessions:</b> We believe that we are loved by God and so we pray together:</p> <p>We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may be a living example of God's love for all people, especially those who are in need. Lord, in your mercy...</p> <p>We pray for all our brothers and sisters around the world: that together we may do all that we can to build a better world, free from hunger and poverty, and filled with love. Lord, in your mercy...</p> <p>We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may love God with all our hearts and be inspired to reach out in love to others. Lord, in your mercy...</p>
<p><b>Go Forth</b> What message can we give to people to think about and to act upon for the rest of the day?</p>	<p><b>Closing prayer:</b> Christ Jesus, you came into the world to show us how to live. May we follow your commandment of love for one another and do what we can to care for all people, especially those who are poor. Amen.</p> <p><b>Thinking about the message of today's Gospel reading,</b> colour in the accompanying illustration and write or draw on the back how you will show love for others this week.</p> <p>As a family, write a prayer thanking God for all the people in the world that you love and who are important to you, asking God to bless them and watch over them.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Message to Remember:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">"My Father will love those who love me; I too will love them and reveal myself to them"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I wonder how will you show love for others this week?</p>

### Spiritual Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus,  
I know that you are truly  
present in the Blessed  
Sacrament.  
I am sad because I cannot  
receive you at this moment in time,  
yet I know that your love for me  
knows no bounds.  
Please come to my heart  
and make your dwelling place in me.  
Give me the joy of knowing that you are always  
by my side,  
and the courage of sharing your love with those  
I am with today.  
Amen.



*Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Gospel: John 14:15-21*

