



## 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Sunday 26 July 2020

**Gospel**

**Matthew 13:44-52**

*He sold all that he had and bought the field.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when someone finds treasure hidden in a field and buries it again.

A person like that is happy and goes and sells everything in order to buy that field.

"The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when a shop owner is looking for fine pearls.

After finding a very valuable one, the owner goes and sells everything in order to buy that pearl."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Homily notes**

In the Gospel Reading today, Jesus explains what Heaven is like. He uses stories (which he called parables), to explain that if we would like to experience a little bit

of Heaven on earth, we need to be generous and sometimes we need to give something up. Sometimes we like to hold onto everything we have and not share what we have with others. That will make us sad and may also make us lonely. Heaven isn't a lonely place. It's a place where everyone enjoys each other's company, and everyone cares for each other.

We don't like it when people do not treat us nicely. What are some ways that people are unkind to us that do not make us feel happy and safe? Today we can think about what we should do when someone treats us unkindly. God gave all of us the right to feel safe at all times, even when others make us feel unhappy or unsafe and even when we may make others feel sad or unsafe.

Should we do the same thing back to them that they have done to us? Or should we tell them that they have done the wrong thing, we don't like it and that we don't feel happy and safe because of it?

We can also think about how we treat others to make sure they feel safe around us. We always like people to feel happy and safe with us and it is important to remember that when we are feeling safe or unsafe, we can talk with someone about it. God tells us that nothing is so awful that we can't talk with someone about it.

### **Discussion question**

*Aim: Only good things happen in Heaven, and Heaven requires us to be kind and generous to others.*

- Ask the children what do they think Heaven is like?
- Are people in Heaven kind and generous to one other?
- How do we show kindness and generosity to others?
- Are you happy to share your toy etc. with others?

### **Universal Prayer**

**Leader:** Jesus tells us that to experience heaven we need to think of others.

**Reader:** May we follow Jesus by sharing what we have with other people.  
Let us pray to the Lord.

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