



# Child Protection Sunday 2022

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Sunday 11 September 2022



## Children's Liturgy of the Word

### Prayer Focus

A candle, a Lectionary for Masses with Children (or a bible), green cloth, a kite cut out and hand shapes.

### Introduction

The reading from the bible today reminds us that Jesus loves us so much that Jesus always forgives us and wants us to be safe. Jesus wants us all to look after each other and not hurt others. When someone we know hurts us or does something wrong that we feel uncomfortable about, we need to let someone we can talk to know about what has happened and what we should do so that we do not get hurt again.

### Sign of the Cross

(Sign of the cross in Noongar language)

*Yirra Maaman, Ngank, Kwobadak, Wirn*

[MP4 Sound bite](#)

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

God, you always love us. Help us to look after each other.

### Scripture Reading

In today's reading from the bible Jesus tells a story, called a parable, about a dad and his two sons.

### Gospel

A reading from the holy gospel of Luke (15:11-32)

Jesus told the people this story:

"Once a man had two sons.

The younger son said to his father,

'Give me my share of the property.'

So the father divided his property between his two sons.

"Not long after that,

the younger son packed up everything he owned

and left for a foreign country,  
where he wasted all his money in wild living.  
He had spent everything.

"He went to work for a man in that country,  
and the man sent him out to take care of his pigs.  
He would have been glad to eat what the pigs were eating,  
but no one gave him a thing.

"Finally, he came to his senses and said,  
I will leave and go to my father.

"The younger son got up and started back to his father.  
But when he was still a long way off,  
his father saw him and felt sorry for him.  
He ran to his son and hugged and kissed him.

"The son said,  
'Father, I have sinned against God in heaven and against you.  
I am no longer good enough to be called your son.'

"But his father said to the servants,  
'Hurry and bring the best clothes and put them on him.  
Get the best calf and prepare it,  
so we can eat and celebrate.  
This son of mine was dead,  
but has now come back to life.  
He was lost and has now been found.'  
And they began to celebrate.

"The older son had been out in the field.  
He called one of the servants over and asked,  
'What's going on here?'

"The servant answered,  
'Your brother has come home safe and sound,  
and your father ordered us to kill the best calf.'  
The older brother got so mad  
that he would not even go into the house.

"His father came out and begged him to go in.

"His father said,  
'My son, you are always with me,  
and everything I have is yours.  
But we should be glad and celebrate!  
Your brother was dead,  
but he is now alive.  
He was lost and has now been found.' "

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

## Reflection Notes

In today's bible story we heard how happy the dad was to have his son back in his family after he had hurt them by leaving home and wasting all his money while his dad and brother kept working hard. Just as the dad showed love and forgiveness to his son, Jesus loves us so much he wants us to love each other and look out for each other. He wants us to be safe, and not sad or worried. If someone hurts us by using hurtful words or touching us in a way that we don't like we should always talk to someone we trust and that we know will listen and believe us.

Jesus has given us people we can trust who will help us through difficult things that might happen in our lives.

## Discussion Questions

- What word or phrase did you hear (in the Gospel reading) that you thought was interesting?
- Why do you think the father had a party for his son?
- How do you show your friends and family that you love them?
- What could you do if you say or did something hurtful to someone and you wish you hadn't hurt them?
- How does your body feel when you are worried, upset or feel unsafe?
- Can you think of a person you trust and can talk to if you need some help because someone has hurt you by what they have said or done to you?

## Activities Attached – My Helping Hand and Kite decoration

### Prayer of the Faithful

Let us pray for the children of the world.

1. For children who have been hurt by others: May they also remember that Jesus loves them.  
Lord hear us.

**Response:** *Lord hears our prayer.*

2. For children who feel scared and alone: that because they know that Jesus does not want them to feel scared and alone, they will speak to a person they trust.

Lord hears us.

**Response:** *Lord hear our prayer.*

### Concluding Prayer

Loving God help us to be children who say sorry if we hurt someone and to ask help if someone hurts us and we do not know what to do. Amen.