

# PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

## SUNDAY LITURGY

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - 11 October 2020



**“Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.”**

### Something to Think About

God constantly invites us into deeper relationship. This requires of us a patient, open, listening heart. Through prayer, we can listen to God's invitation to life and to love.

### The Story

According to Jewish custom, invitations to an important feast or banquet typically did not state a time. It was simply a matter of when all the preparations were complete, the servants would be sent out to tell the guests to come.

The people who were invited to the wedding but refused to attend in today's story, represent the religious leaders - they were invited to believe in the Messiah, but refused. Those who accepted - who came from the street corners - represent the Gentiles.

### The Scriptures

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:1-10**

Jesus used this story to teach the people:

"The kingdom of heaven is like what happened when a king gave a wedding banquet for his son. The king sent some servants to tell the invited guests to come to the banquet, but the guests refused. He sent other servants to say to the guests,

'The banquet is ready! My cattle and prize calves have all been prepared. Everything is ready. Come to the banquet!'

"But the guests did not pay any attention.

Some of them left for their farms, and some went to their places of business. Others grabbed the servants, beat them up, and killed them.

"This made the king so furious that he sent an army to kill those murderers and burn down their city. Then he said to the servants,

'It is time for the wedding banquet, and the invited guests don't deserve to come. Go out to the street corners and tell everyone you meet to come to the banquet.'

They went out on the streets and brought in everyone they could find, good and bad alike. And the banquet room was filled with guests."

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

### Video

Click to watch the video.

[Happiness is helping others](#)



## Group Discussion

What is God's invitation? In this story it involved a community. The invitation was to come and be a part of a welcoming and celebrating community. Our families, schools and parishes are communities. Are they welcoming? What can you do in your communities to welcome others? Is your community marked by the spirit of joy? What can you do to bring joy and laughter into your community?

## 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 care for people of the world. Lord, hear us.

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

*Reader:* We pray for those who hunger for food, freedom or courage. Lord, hear us.

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

*Reader:* We pray for people who are too busy to care for themselves or for others. Lord, hear us.

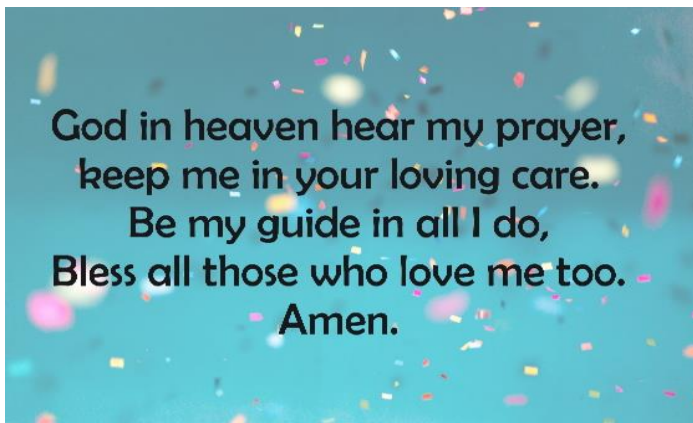
**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader:* We pray for faith to respond to God's invitations. Lord, hear us.

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

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

**All: Amen.**



## Prayer

Say this prayer together during the week.

## Group Activity

How wonderful it is to know that God invites each of us to a banquet in heaven. Put on some happy music and help to set the table for a dinner party. Spread out a tablecloth, set out plates, cutlery, napkins and perhaps even a party hat and balloon for each person. There may be some small treats to put on each plate too. Take some time to enjoy the party atmosphere and imagine what God's banquet in heaven might be like.

Maybe you could invite someone to dinner at your house this week!





**A KING HAD A BIG PARTY.  
'GO OUT INTO THE STREET', HE SAID,  
'AND TELL EVERYONE TO COME TO THE  
FEAST. EVERYONE'S WELCOME!**

DRAW ALL THE PEOPLE SITTING AT TABLE.

DRAW THE FOOD AND DRINK ON THE TABLE.

