



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 5: 23–24 (full reading: 5:17–37)

“So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”

Some things to think about...

- If you have an falling out or a disagreement with your sibling or your friend, who do you talk to about it? What can you do to make up with them?
- We can always go to God with our worries and ask Him for help to heal our friendships. In this reading, God is reminding us that the way we treat each other is important to Him. By showing love to each other, we are showing love to God.
- The best gift we can give to God, and to ourselves, is a kind and peaceful heart.

Activity

- Set up two areas in the room: “The Altar–Our Gifts to God” and “Make It Right”
- Place a basket of stones/pebbles at the back of the room.
- Each child chooses one stone.
- Ask children to write on their stone a gift they would like to offer God (e.g. kindness, honesty, fairness, love).
- Decorate these pebbles with the words you come up with.
- Remind the children of Jesus’ words: “First be reconciled... then come and offer your gift.”
- Give each child a small slip of paper and ask them to quietly write (no names): A way people sometimes hurt or upset others.
- Children place this slip in the “Make It Right” area.
- On the back of their stone, children write: “This week I will...” (One way they will put something right.)
- Children walk first to “Make It Right.”
- Then they place their stone at “The Altar.”
- End your activity with a short prayer on Forgiveness.

Materials needed

- Pebbles or small stones in a basket
- Pens
- Paints and paintbrushes
- Signs to identify two areas: “The Altar–Our Gifts to God” and “Make It Right.”

Teacher’s Notes

The full Gospel reading contains themes that may not be appropriate for children in this age group. It may be helpful to focus on the shorter extract provided, which centres on Jesus’ teaching about putting things right with others.

This passage offers a valuable opportunity to encourage pupils to talk through disagreements, seek forgiveness, and avoid holding onto hurt or resentment. It reminds them that resolving conflict peacefully is an important part of growing in kindness and maturity.

The message also encourages children to live out their faith through their actions, being honest, fair, and compassionate, and showing what they believe by the way they treat others.

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