32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 25: 1-13
"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Some things to think about...
- Reflect on this year. What's been your biggest achievement so far? What would you still like to achieve?
- How have you followed in Jesus' footsteps this year?
- How can we make sure we make time to listen to God?

Activities
- Draw a yellow brick road and plot out from January to December the most exciting things, or events that happened in your life this year. It might be a birthday, a trip with your family or winning a sporting competition.
- Tum to the person next to you and finish this sentence: "Next year I am going to..."
- What journey might be ahead this year? What is something exciting that might happen?
- Is there anything that is worrying you about next year?

Teacher's notes
Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz had many distractions, adventures and challenges during her journey to visit the Wizard of Oz but eventually she made it with the help of her companions. Each character had different strengths and weaknesses that they had to use andovercome to complete their journey.

Christ makes himself present when we least expect it, therefore we must always be ready and open to opportunities.
Frédéric Ozanam sets an example for us by putting his faith into action by helping people in need on the streets of Paris.
Frédéric displayed many Christ-like qualities. Just as Christ is a role model for each and every one of us, Frédéric sets a great example on how we can be Christ-like to other people through the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Our challenge is to try and emulate those Christ-like qualities amongst our friends, our families, to people we don't know in our schools, to people we find difficult to like (to everyone).