

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Sirach 15:15-20
Resp. Psalm: Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34
Second Reading: 1Corinthians 2:6-10
Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

[Full Readings can be found here!](#)

1. HEAR

Grab your bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries you can find the Gospel reading by clicking [HERE](#).
(Bishop O'Connell's Gospel Reflection page.)

As an alternative to reading the Gospel, you can watch a short video with the proclamation for adults by clicking [HERE](#).
(YouTube, WOG channel, 4:27 min.)

Children can also watch a video proclamation of the Gospel by clicking [HERE](#).
(YouTube, Holy Heroes channel, 2:03 min.)

2. TALK

Gather with your family or a friend in a comfortable room in your home. One of the adults can lead the conversation by reading the following:

In this Sunday's gospel we hear Jesus talk about different laws contained in the law God has given us, and how he came to bring that same law to its fullness.

For Jesus, just obeying the law isn't enough. He invites us to obey the law and to do everything with love, not fear. Jesus is our best example of how to follow the law of God with love.

All followers of Jesus are called to live by God's laws and statutes, but God does not ask us to do this on our own. We have received the gift of the Holy Spirit, who dwells within us from the time of our baptism.

The Spirit gives us gentle guidance and grants us wisdom, especially when we are in prayer.

Ask all who are gathered to take a moment to reflect on the questions provided below. Indicate that there will be 2 or 3 minutes of silent reflection.

- Which of the laws we heard in today's Gospel sounds difficult to you? Why?
- Have there been times when you thought about not following God's laws? Did you go through with that thought and why?
- Share with the group one of the laws from today's Scripture that touches your heart and makes you want to follow Jesus more.



Once all had time to reflect, initiate a conversation around one or two or all three questions, by asking each person to share their reflections.

(If you have small children, ask them to draw how they feel about following God's laws and have them share their artwork with all who are gathered.)



3. PRAY

Create a prayer space in the room where all are gathered by placing a small piece of fabric (green is the liturgical color of this Sunday), a Bible, a cross or crucifix, and a lighted candle. Invite all to a moment of prayer by following this script.

Leader: In faith, we do our best to discern the will of God and to follow his laws. When we do this, we are responding to God's will, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

All: Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Leader: We are called to be a light for the world by following the laws of God with our lives and demonstrating love and justice in the ways we live.

All: Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Leader: We ask the Holy Spirit to give us the gift of Wisdom as we strive to be good disciples of Jesus and practice the law of God in our dealings with those who are in need.

All: Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Conclude this time of prayer by reciting together the following prayer:

All: Heavenly Father, you are a righteous God, and we are so thankful the laws you provided to your people, which helps us to live as your children.

Help us etch Your precious law into our hearts and give us the courage to stand firm in our convictions and stand up for what is true and right.

Give us the wisdom and words to speak out against the evil surrounding us daily and lead us back to Your side!

Help us act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly while submitting to Your will and ways.

Forgive us when we fail, Lord, and direct Your Church to live in the truth in Your laws. We love you, Lord, and praise your Holy name.

Amen.