

## SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES

#### Dear Parents and Carers.

God is love and all love comes from God. When we invite Jesus, as a loving friend, into our family life then love grows and life becomes more joyful.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus entrusts his friends, the disciples, with his message of unconditional love, and asks them to carry it to the whole world - not just in their words but also in their actions.

### Wednesday 5th May 2021

Love is life's greatest blessing and Jesus' message is for us too. By loving as Jesus loves, we too become his friends and we experience the harmony and peace which comes from following his command - to love.

Enjoy a very special time together this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **LOVE**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough

To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: wednesdayword.org - Parents' Pages - Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

#### THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 9th May 2021



Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be

in you and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants anymore, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another."

> Adapted from John 15:9-17 The 6th Sunday of Easter, Year B

You are warmly invited to learn more about the Gospel through your local parish church.

"Let us ask the Lord for the grace to love everyone."

Pope Francis



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In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus gives his friends, the disciples, a new commandment - they must love one another as Jesus loves them, with whole-hearted and unlimited generosity. Everyone likes to be loved and family and school life become more joyful when we follow Jesus' command to love one another.

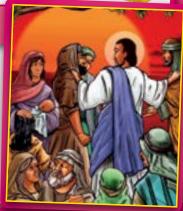


#### Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

Jesus said to his friends, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you do as I ask, then you will remain in my love and you will be completely filled with my joy. I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father in heaven. You did not choose me, no, I chose you. You are my friends if you do what I tell you. The command I am giving you is this: love one another, as I have loved you."

What did Jesus tell his friends, the disciples, to do? Which word or words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? See the picture opposite. What does it make you think about?



# Wednesday's LOVE Word is ...

Loving God & Each Other

"The family's strength lies in its capacity to love and to teach how to love." Pope Francis

Jesus wants us to love each other with just as much care and concern as we have for ourselves. Ask your child what the word 'love' means to them. Who makes your child feel especially loved: a) at home? b) at school? c) at Church or in the community? When did your child last show love towards someone? How did they show their love?

"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others." St Augustine of Hippo

When we follow Jesus' command to 'love one another', we can be sure that God is with us. Each of you decide on something you can do in the coming days to share your love - to love as Jesus loves. Perhaps you can: as a family, call someone who may be sick or lonely; forgive someone and be friends again; be peacemakers; be extra helpful by putting others' needs first. Come and learn more about Jesus' law of love in Church this Sunday. All are warmly invited.

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for being our loving friend. Please help us always to love you and to keep growing in love for one another, Amen.

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Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Jesus' life is a lesson in how we are to be kind and loving to all people - even those people who don't love us in return. In this way we show our own love for God, by doing what Jesus asks of us.

"The command I am \_\_\_\_\_ you is this: \_\_\_\_

one \_\_\_\_\_ you."

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

