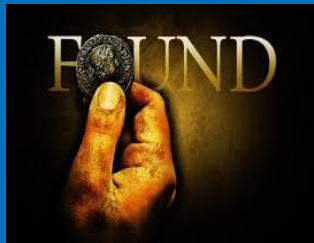




Our Lady of Peace

'With Christ in our hearts, together we grow'

Twenty-Fourth Week of the Year



Luke 15:1-3. 8-10- The lost coin.

Introduction

Have you ever lost something which is very important or precious? Perhaps a favourite book or toy. Today Jesus reminds us that God knows and loves each one of us, and will search until he finds us if we should lose our way.



Introduction



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia (all sing) x2

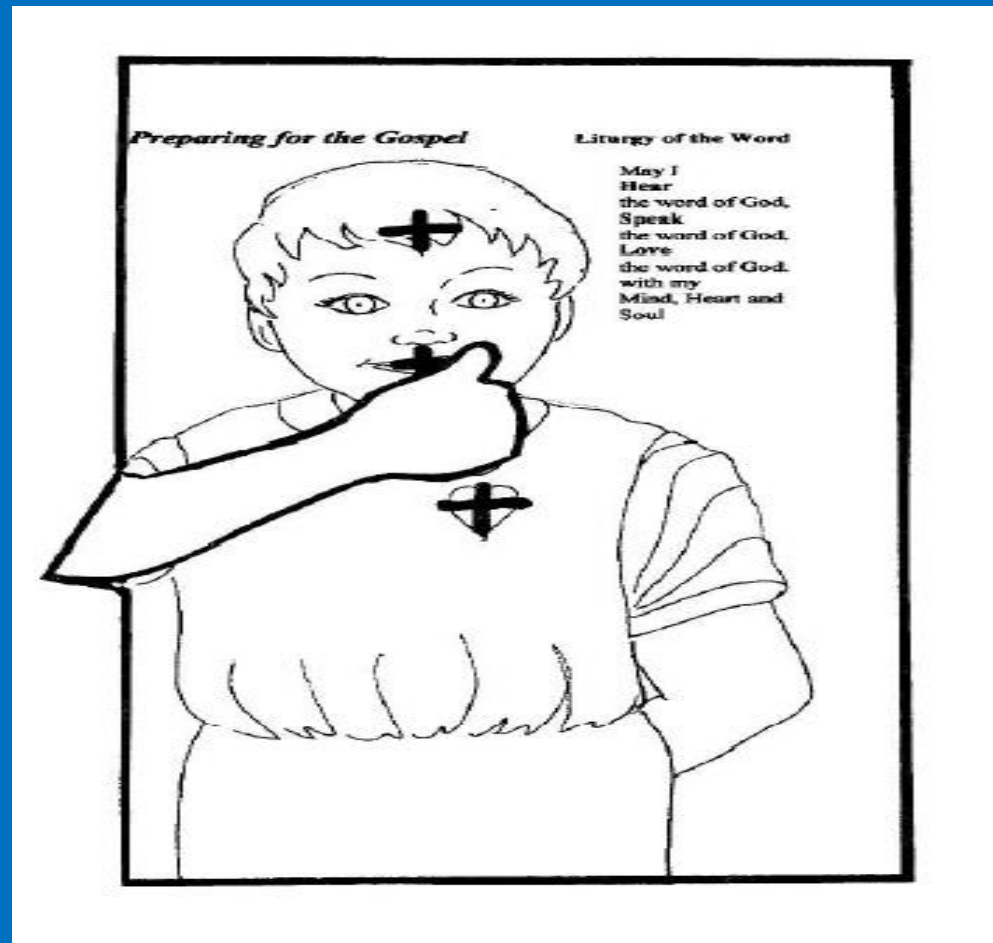
Jesus came to forgive sinners and share his love.

Alleluia! Alleluia (all sing) x2

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Response:

Glory to you, O Lord





Luke 15:1-3, 8-10

After overhearing the Pharisees complaining about him spending so much time with tax collectors and sinners, Jesus told a parable: 'Once there was a women who had ten silver coins. One day she counted her savings, she realised that one of her precious coins was missing! The women was poor and to lose even one small coin made her very sad. So she lit her lamp and looked under all the furniture. She swept every corner of the house and searched until she finally found it! Picking up the coin she ran to tell her friends the good news.' Then Jesus said, 'God will search for anyone who is lost, and rejoice when he finds them.'

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



Reflection

The Pharisees were very proud people and very proud of their 'Goodness', they did the right thing and obeyed the law and followed the rules. They would not associate themselves with people who they regarded as sinners, and yet Jesus welcomed sinners! The Pharisees thought that Jesus spent too much time with the 'sinners' instead of spending time with them.

Question: Why do you think Jesus spent more time with the 'sinners', people who did not follow the law and the rules of the land?

Answer: Jesus had come to forgive the sinners who had lost their way. When we sin and turn away from God's love, he is filled with sadness. This sadness turns to joy when we change our ways and come back to our heavenly Father. Jesus was trying to help these people to change their ways and return to God's love.

Question: What message do you think Jesus is trying to tell us from today's Gospel reading about the women and the lost coin?:

Answer: Just as the women never gave up on looking for one coin, God our Father will search for anyone who has wandered from his love because each and everyone one of us is precious to him. Jesus came to forgive the sinners who had 'lost their way' and welcome them back to God's love.

We must be ready to forgive others too, it is not easy to do this, especially if they have hurt you really badly. However, if we do not forgive, we will continue to carry that hurt inside us and we must release it by forgiving others, just as Jesus did.







Prayer



Closing Prayer

Dear God,

Help us to remember that if we do something wrong and wander away from God's love, he is always ready to forgive us and lead us back to him.

Each and everyone of us is precious to God and if we have lost our way and have not done the right thing, let us ask Jesus to forgive us and lead us back to his flock.

With Christ in our hearts,
Together we grow.

Amen

Acknowledgement

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