

Wednesday 8th October 2014

THE WEDNESDAY WORD

The Sunday Gospel through School on Wednesday



A Gift to you from your Catholic School Sharing Sunday's Gospel with Parents and Families

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the 'Little Way Week 2014' edition of The Wednesday Word – a week which is inspired by the life of St Thérèse of Lisieux. The theme we have chosen from this Sunday's Gospel is 'invitation'. St Thérèse knew that God's invitation is not just for heaven – it's for right here – right now!

At different times throughout our lives, we and our children will receive various invitations – some more important than others. However, the most important invitation is the one that is offered to us in the Gospel below.

Throughout the Bible the joyful images of weddings are often used to describe how much God loves us. When Jesus told this story he was thinking of the Chosen People, the people of Israel, but many of their leaders did not respond to God's invitation when Jesus came.

Every moment God is inviting us into a loving relationship with him. God's banquet starts here on earth and continues right into heaven. Following Jesus ensures that we won't miss out.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



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



Adapted from

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH SUNDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2014



Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like when a king held a wedding feast for his son. He sent his servants to summon those who had been invited, but they didn't want to come. He sent other servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared the meal, everything is ready, come to the feast.' Some of those invited took no notice, but others seized the king's servants and killed them. The king was very angry and sent his soldiers; he destroyed the murderers. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Go out into the streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding feast.' The servants went out and gathered together everyone they could find, both bad and good alike. The wedding hall was now filled with guests."

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 12th October 2014
Matthew 22: 1-14 (the 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A)

Everyone can learn more about this
Gospel in Church ~ all are warmly invited.

THE WEDNESDAY WORD CONNECTING HOME, SCHOOL AND PARISH THROUGH SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Parents and children can find out more about the Catholic faith at: www.wednesdayword.org & www.catholicchurch.org.uk

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St Thérèse of Lisieux accepted God's invitation to be part of God's family: to share love and joy with all around. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that God's invitation is for all of us. We are invited to share in God's life: to celebrate belonging to the family of God, both here in this world and also forever in heaven – just like St Thérèse.



A Special 5 Minutes Together

See the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

Enjoy Reading Sunday's Gospel



1 Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like when a king held a wedding feast for his son. He sent his servants to summon those who had been invited, but they didn't want to come. Then the king said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Now go out into the streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding feast.' The servants went out and gathered together everyone they could find, until the wedding hall was filled with guests."

What did Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven to? Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? See the picture opposite. What does it make you think about?

2 This Wednesday's Word



INVITATION

"Jesus invites us to be part of this people, the People of God!" Pope Francis

Ask your child what the word 'invitation' means to them. Then each of you tell one another about the best invitation that you've ever had. What was good about it? Have you ever refused an invitation? How does it feel when you invite someone to a party? How does it feel when someone invites you for tea or to play? Which invitation would you most like to receive, and why?

3 Loving God & Each Other

As we celebrate 'Little Way Week', each of you choose some little, simple thing to do which will help love to grow in school, the community, or at home this week.

Perhaps we can: volunteer to give someone a helping hand; serve our parents and teachers by cheerfully doing what we are asked to do at home and at school; let someone know that we have said a prayer for them. Is there someone that you can invite for a meal, or to play, and make them feel especially welcome - maybe a relative who lives on their own, or maybe a friend from school?



Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to be like St Thérèse: to remember that every moment of the day you are **inviting** us into your love, to be with you in happiness and peace. Amen.



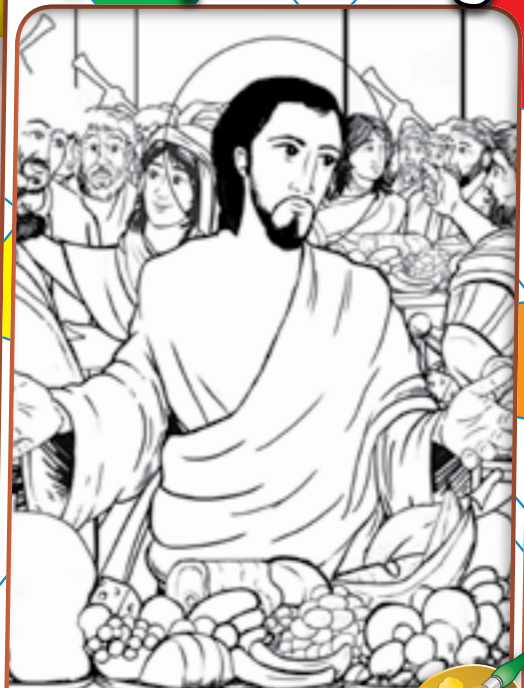
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Sunday Search Gospel Gallery

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THE 8 WORDS BY SEARCHING EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

- KINGDOM HEAVEN [A]
- WEDDING FEAST [B]
- UNWORTHY GUESTS [C]
- EVERYONE INVITED [D]

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE SAME WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY



"Now go _____ into the _____ and invite _____ you find to the _____ feast."

1. wedding 2. everyone 3. streets 4. out



Everyone is invited to join in with...
 Little Way Week: 4th - 10th October 2014



Little Way Week takes its inspiration from St Thérèse of Lisieux who gave the Church a teaching called the Little Way: an invitation to do small tasks, every day, with love. Find out more about St Thérèse and see the special feature in the children's section at www.wednesdayword.org (see 'SAINT FACTFILES').

FINDING THREE

Spot three differences between this picture and the colour picture. Then draw the missing parts before colouring in.

