

Yr 2 31st Sunday Post-Pentecost Blind Man, Lesson Luke 18:35-43

Opening Prayer: The Jesus Prayer - *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God have mercy on me a sinner* - may be repeated a number of times, either saying it or chanting it. Find an audio version of it here: <https://eeparchy.com/2019/02/20/jesus-prayer-sung-english-video-mp3/>

Gospel: [Luke 18:35-43](#) - Click Here to read the Gospel or listen to it here: https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/letusattend/january_15_2012_luke_1835_43_told_for_younger_children

If you have puppets, this is a great story that can be acted out. Have one person narrate it and the assistant/s use the puppets to tell the story.

Lesson: We ask God to heal us and love us and we trust that He will.

Did you notice what the blind man said to Jesus as he was passing by? It is the same thing that we say in the “Jesus Prayer” that we prayed at the beginning of the lesson! Talk about prayer, the man was calling to Jesus - he was praying to him. Prayer is talking to God. When we ask for mercy, it means we are asking God to love us, to heal us, to comfort us. We are opening our hearts to be healed by him and to be filled up with love by him. (Contrary to what was sometimes understood, as a plea not to punish us). We are saying that we love him and that we want to be closer to him and that we believe in him as our king.

The Jesus Prayer is a prayer that expresses this and it can be prayed at any time of the day or night. Whenever it pops into your head!

Notice what Jesus said at the end: “Your faith has saved you.” Wow! It is very important for us to listen to Jesus, to learn and to trust in him. Faith is another word for trust. Talk about what it means to trust someone - i.e. our parents - we know that they will do what is best for us, even though sometimes we don’t like the rules they give us. Jesus says he will save us but only if we say yes and truly trust in him.

Craft: Blind Man Paper Bag Puppet

In the Church: Listen to the words we sing. How many times can you hear “Lord have Mercy” or “Господи помилуй”? Pray/sing it along with everyone.