



Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 11, 2016

God's Overwhelming Forgiveness

Focus: To love as God loves.

Catechist's Context

This lengthy parable, the prodigal son, is familiar to us who have heard it many times but it will be new to the children. The overall theme of this parable is God's mercy. Children learn that God is a loving and forgiving God.

Note that the long form of the Gospel from the standard lectionary will include this parable. However, the short form from the standard lectionary will focus only on the lost sheep and the lost coin. You may wish to find out which form your parish will use to decide whether to adjust your Gospel Reflection discussion.

Gospel Acclamation

2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia.

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 15:11–32

Refer to page vi for citations to the standard lectionary.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

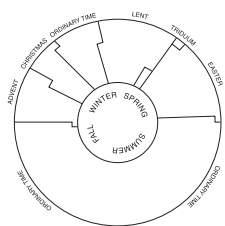
Jesus told the people this story:

“Once a man had two sons. The younger son said to his father, ‘Give me my share of the property.’ So the father divided his property between his two sons.

“Not long after that, the younger son packed up everything he owned and left for a foreign country, where he wasted all his money in wild living. He had spent everything, when a bad famine spread through that whole land. Soon he had nothing to eat.”

“He went to work for a man in that country, and the man sent him out to take care of his pigs. He would have been glad to eat what the pigs were eating, but no one gave him a thing.

“Finally, he came to his senses and said, ‘My father’s workers have plenty to eat, and here



Liturgical Calendar Connection

Show the children this Sunday on the liturgical calendar and to count the Sundays left in Ordinary Time. Point out the season of Advent, a time to prepare for Christmas. The color for Advent is violet, the color of preparation.

Sign of the Cross

All stand and make the Sign of the Cross.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.