



Wednesday 22nd June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Life is full of choices. God has created us with the ability and responsibility to choose – and he trusts us to choose well. Pope Francis reminds us: "Constantly make the right choice, the choice for good."

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus uses blunt language to grab the peoples' attention. Deciding to follow Jesus involved making some difficult choices. Some chose to reject Jesus, while others chose to follow him.

Choosing to follow Jesus greatly influences our life; it demands commitment but is rewarded with peace and eternal life. Making choices with the help of Jesus, leads us on life's right and joyful path.

Just follow the simple steps overleaf to spend a special five minutes enjoying hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **CHOICES**.

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 26th June 2022



As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out, and they went into a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the people would not receive him because he was making for Jerusalem. So they went off to another village. As they travelled along they met a man on the road who said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus answered, "Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." Another to whom he said, "Follow me," replied, "I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home." Jesus said to him, "Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Adapted from

Luke 9:51-62 (the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C)

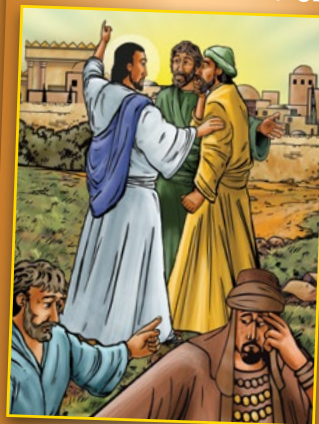
**Everyone can learn more about this Gospel
in Church – all are warmly invited.**

"Life is a time for making decisive, eternal choices. Trivial choices lead to a trivial life; great choices to a life of greatness." Pope Francis



In this Sunday's Gospel, the villagers missed out on a great opportunity through choosing not to welcome Jesus. God never forces us to welcome him into our lives - he always gives us choice. Choosing to welcome and follow Jesus helps our families to keep growing in love, and helps others to see the happiness that comes from choosing to love God and those around us.

Luke 9: 51-62



1 Enjoy reading the Gospel

As the time drew near for Jesus to go back to his Father in heaven, he headed for Jerusalem. Jesus sent messengers ahead to a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the villagers chose not to welcome Jesus. On his journey he met some people who wanted to follow him. Jesus told them that, if they chose to follow him, it would not be easy. If they were to be fit for God's Kingdom, following him should take first place in their lives.

Who chose not to welcome Jesus? Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? See the Sunday Gospel picture opposite. What does it make you think about?

2 Wednesday's Word is ...

CHOICES



3

Loving God & Each Other

Good choices are not always easy to make.

Ask your child what the word 'choices' means to them. Can your child remember a time when they made a good choice - something that would have pleased God? How does it make your child feel when they choose to do the right thing? How do they decide what is right and what is wrong? Who (or what) helps them to make good choices? It may help your child if you tell them about a time when you had an important choice to make and how you went about choosing well.

God loves us, and sent Jesus to help us make good and wise choices.

Whenever we have difficult or important choices to make, we can ask ourselves 'What would Jesus do?' - and then try to do the same ourselves. In this coming week, what else can we do to help us choose wisely - to do the right thing? Perhaps we can: pray for God's guidance; look for what the gospels tell us; consider what effect our choices might have on ourselves and others; choose to turn away from anything which we know is wrong or which feels wrong; always check important choices with our parents, carers, teachers or a wise and trustworthy person.



Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for being our friend - for being there to help us to **choose** wisely, even when a **choice** is difficult. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

F O Y L E S I W G W F
F R T F E G A L L I V
I E J H O J E S U S E
R J L E E L C S D E S
S E D L S R L Y E L O
T C J W W U S O L Y O
O T H E R S S G W O H
P E W H C H O O S E C
S D A C O T S R I F D
V I L L A G E D W Y G
F O L L O W E D E L F

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**



VILLAGE REJECTED



OTHERS FOLLOWED



CHOOSE WISELY



JESUS FIRST



SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

Whilst thinking about this week's Gospel, search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **f o m** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

fheaovemn oheafdedm dofremw obamckf

As the time _____ near for Jesus to go _____ to his Father in _____, he _____ for Jerusalem.



The villagers chose not to welcome Jesus because he was different from them (Jews and Samaritans were not friends).

This Gospel can remind us that we must always choose to do the right thing - to try our best to welcome and to care for others - even when they are different from us.

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....

.....

