

Year C - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 12:35-40

Be prepared.



Jesus said to his disciples:

"Be ready and keep your lamps burning just like those servants who wait up for their master to return from a wedding feast.

As soon as he comes and knocks, they open the door for him.

"Servants are fortunate if their master finds them awake and ready when he comes! I promise you that he will get ready and have his servants sit down so he can serve them.

Those servants are really fortunate if their master finds them ready, even though he comes late at night or early in the morning.

"You would surely not let a thief break into your home, if you knew when the thief was coming.

So always be ready! You don't know when the Son of Man will come."





Introduction • In today's Gospel, Jesus is urging us to always be ready because we never know when the bridegroom, that is Jesus, may return! In the Gospel, he uses the image of a lamp to help the listeners think about this.

Message

- Question: Have you ever been in a blackout, when all the lights go off unexpectedly and you are in the dark?
- Question: What do you have to do when this happens? (Get a torch, light a candle etc)
- Question: A blackout is something that doesn't happen very often so it's helpful if we are prepared for it! What sorts of things might your family do to prepare?
- In today's Gospel, Jesus is telling us to be prepared because one day he will return (you may need to remind the children about Jesus ascension after his death and resurrection to give this context).
- He says that it's a bit like keeping the lamps of our lives ready because we don't know when he will come.
- Look at these two lamps (see pictures on the following pages), which one is ready for something unexpected to happen? (The one that is full of fuel and has clean glass so that the light can shine through).

Discussion

- We are a bit like these lamps. We need to stay ready for Jesus. We need to stay full of fuel and with clean glass so that the light can shine through... but we don't really have glass or a space for fuel, do we?
- So, how do we stay ready for Jesus? (prayer, sacraments, hospitality, caring for others etc)



