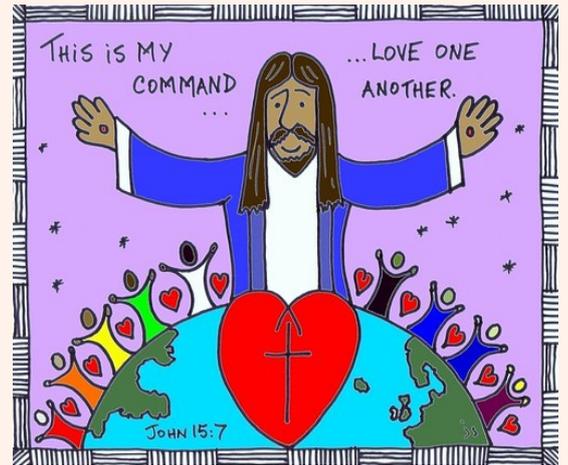


2020	OUR LADY OF SORROWS
S A C R E D H	The Children's Liturgy..... @ Home!



Welcome to the Sunday May 24th edition of 'The Children's Liturgy', devoted to our children. We have included activities that would normally take place during our Church celebrations. Instead, during our time of isolation, we all celebrate together in our homes. There is a guide for parents to discuss the gospel and the readings with your children. We would love to see what you have been up to! Please send photos of your activities to :

'Loaves and Fishes' our group on Facebook. If you don't have Facebook please send them to : shandolos@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Children's Prayer

God our Father,
you sent your Son Jesus
to show us how to love.
Help us learn to work together
in love, and to make
the world a better place
for everyone.
Amen.



At the Dance Party

Have a look at this video for
"Love one another and be
kind"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LYIkcoAflU4>



May is the month of Mary



7th Sunday of Easter

First Reading:

Acts 1:12-14

Second Reading:

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Gospel:

John 17:1-11

Lots of great resources
for Easter at these sites:

www.catholicicing.com/

[www.cafod.org.uk/
Education/](http://www.cafod.org.uk/Education/)

(Virtual Children's Liturgy)

[www.svp.org.uk/mini-
vinnies/activities](http://www.svp.org.uk/mini-vinnies/activities)

Reflecting on the reading with children

In the Gospel this Sunday, Jesus is telling us to be kind to everyone, not just our friends, but particularly our enemies.

This can be a very difficult thing to do – if someone is nasty to us, the temptation is to be nasty back, but Jesus tells us to be extra specially nice if someone is nasty. He actually says that we should give to everyone who asks us, and if someone takes something from you that they haven't asked for, don't try to get it back, but let them have it.

This is a very difficult command for our parents and carers to follow too, and there are lots of situations where it may seem impossible.

However, Jesus tells us that by doing this, and loving your enemies you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. If you only love those who love you, that is easy, and if you are only kind to your friends, how can you be different from anyone else? As Jesus says, even sinners love those who love them.

When Jesus tells us to love our enemies, what he is really saying is to have positive feelings about them. If we do that, we can try to understand them, and why they are doing what they are doing. In this way we can start feeling differently about them. This love that Jesus is talking about is a very one-sided love and is the love God has for us where he does not necessarily expect the love to be returned. Jesus loves the whole of mankind, and wants the fullest wellbeing of every single person, but he knows that his love will often be ignored or rejected. But. It is very hard to love someone who you know doesn't like you very much.

Can you think of an instance in the Bible where someone loved somebody who had hurt him, but forgave him everything because he loved him so much?

(The story of the prodigal son where his father loved him and forgave him even though the son had spent all his father's money and only come back when he had nothing).

So Jesus wants us to love one another and be united and together, just as Jesus and God the Father are together. What sort of things might we do if we are united?

We might spend time together. And be at peace with each other, listening to each other and helping each other. We would want what is best for the other person – loving one another as much as we love ourselves.

This coming week, what do you love to have, or to do? Would you be able to help someone else enjoy the same? Perhaps you have a favourite book and could read it to your little brother or sister. Perhaps you enjoy making music; you could invite a friend to do that with you over the phone or computer, as you can't be with them at the moment. The important thing is to give without expecting something in return.

Do you have any other ideas? How else could we come together with others at the moment? How else could we come together with others once we are allowed to meet our friends and family again?

