Gospel Action
of the Week

This term, we will spend time at school looking at the gospel reading for each Sunday and think about what we can do to bring the message of Jesus alive for each of us. We encourage you to pay close attention to the gospel reading at Mass this Sunday, and pray with this reading during the week, perhaps at a meal time or during the evening. Below is a prayer you can use at home.

Prayer for the Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sign of the Cross

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

Reading

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (25:1-13)

Jesus told his disciples this story about the kingdom of heaven:

"The kingdom of heaven is like what happened one night when ten girls took their oil lamps and went to a wedding to meet the groom. Five of the girls were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps, but no extra oil. The ones who were wise took along extra oil for their lamps.

"The groom was late arriving, and the girls became drowsy and fell asleep. Then in the middle of the night someone shouted, 'Here's the groom! Come to meet him!'

"When the girls got up and started getting their lamps ready, the foolish ones said to the others, 'Let us have some of your oil! Our lamps are going out.'

"The girls who were wise answered, 'There's not enough oil for all of us! Go and buy some for yourselves' "While the foolish girls were on their way to get some oil, the groom arrived. The girls who were ready went into the wedding, and the doors were closed.
Later the other girls returned and shouted,  
'Sir, Sir! Open the door for us!'  

"But the groom replied, 'I don't even know you!'"  

"So, my disciples, always be ready!  
You don't know the day or the time  
when all this will happen."

**Reflection**

(Provide time after each question for thinking)

Why is it important to be honest with people?  
If I say one thing, but do something different, what will people think of me?  
How am I going to be honest with myself and others this week?

(You might want to invite the children to name any things they wish to pray for)

**Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come;  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

**Closing Prayer**

Gracious and loving God,  
May we be honest with ourselves and others,  
living as Jesus wants us to in word and deed.  
We ask through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

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**This Week's Gospel Action:**

**Be Honest**