



Celebrating Liturgy of the Word with Family 27th Sunday Ordinary Time

Preparation – allow some time to prepare

- Read through the outline beforehand
- Arrange seating and set a prayer focus in the centre. Include candles, cross, children’s art, something from nature.
- Open links. Beginning, psalm, ‘reflection’ after the gospel, after prayer of faithful and at the end.
- Share the reader role. Encourage your readers to practice beforehand and pause for commas and full-stops. Don’t correct children as they are reading or during the Liturgy.

Light candles. SIGN OF THE CROSS: Ki te ingoa...

READER: Tēnā Koutou Katoa – Good morning and welcome. Today is the 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time and in Aotearoa New Zealand. Our Bishops have asked us to celebrate the life of Suzanne Aubert today. It is also the Feast of St Francis and the final Sunday of the Season of Creation.

READER: SONG – Let’s sing Laudato si together <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T8gkVwFeUwo>

READER: Let us pray – ka inoi tatou.

We your people are like a vineyard to you, Lord have mercy
You care for us and make us grow Christ have mercy
You help us to be loving, Lord have mercy

(All) Lord have mercy
(All) Christ have mercy
(All) Lord have mercy

READER: *Suzanne Aubert came to NZ Aotearoa from France. She cared for many people. She said many things that people remembered. This is one thing she said.*

Prayer is simply the speech of the heart to God. We always find something to say to [others], why should we not always find something to say to God?

DISCUSS: What do you think this saying of hers means?



COLLECT/OPENING PRAYER: Thank you for your thoughts. Let’s remember all the things we want to pray for and put these into the care of Jesus. *(Allow silence - 1 minute)*

Wonderful God, you are full of kindness. Forgive us when we are not loving and kind. Help us to do what is right. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

READING: Isaiah 5:1-7 Good News Translation

Reader 1 Listen while I sing you this song, a song of my friend and his vineyard:

Reader 2 My friend had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

Reader 1 He dug the soil and cleared it of stones; he planted the finest vines.

Reader 2 He built a tower to guard them, dug a pit for treading the grapes.

Reader 1 He waited for the grapes to ripen, but every grape was sour.

Reader 2 So now my friend says, “You people who live in Jerusalem and Judah, judge between my vineyard and me. Is there anything I failed to do for it? Then why did it produce sour grapes and not the good grapes I expected?”

Reader 1 “Here is what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge around it, break down the wall that protects it, and let wild animals eat it and trample it down.”

Reader 2 I will let it be overgrown with weeds. I will not trim the vines or hoe the ground; instead, I will let briars and thorns cover it. I will even forbid the clouds to let rain fall on it."

Reader 1 Israel is the vineyard of the LORD Almighty; the people of Judah are the vines he planted.

Reader 2 He expected them to do what was good, but instead they committed murder.

Reader 1 He expected them to do what was right, but their victims cried out for justice.

The Word of the Lord – Ko te kupu a te Ariki

ALL: Thanks be to God – **Whakamoemiti ki te Atua**

Silence – *Let's be quiet for a few moments and let God's Word settle inside us.*

Discuss: The owner of the vineyard was angry because the vines didn't produce fruit even though he gave them everything that was needed. What do you think this story is trying to tell us?

REFLECTION: *Join in – God is the Vine*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gET4P4ZOscO&list=RDgET4P4ZOscO&start_radio=1&t=32

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-43 Good News Translation

Reader 1 "Listen to another parable," Jesus said.

Reader 2 "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a hole for the wine press, and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to tenants and left home on a trip.

Reader 1 When the time came to gather the grapes, he sent his slaves to the tenants to receive his share of the harvest. The tenants grabbed his slaves, beat one, killed another, and stoned another.

Reader 2 Again the man sent other slaves, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way.

Reader 1 Last of all he sent his son to them. 'Surely they will respect my son,' he said.

Reader 2 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the owner's son. Come on, let's kill him, and we will get his property!' So they grabbed him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

Reader 1 "Now, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" Jesus asked.

Reader 2 "He will certainly kill those evil men," they answered, "and rent the vineyard out to other tenants, who will give him his share of the harvest at the right time."

Reader 1 Jesus said to them, "Haven't you ever read what the Scriptures say?

'The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all. This was done by the Lord; what a wonderful sight it is!'

Reader 2 "And so I tell you," added Jesus, "the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce the proper fruits.

The Gospel of the Lord - **Ko te rongopai a te Ariki**

ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ - **Kia whakanuia rā koe e Hēhu Karaiti.**

After the reading - silence. Let some words go over and over in your mind.

Discuss: What is this story about? Why do you think Jesus told this story?

3 minute talk by 'Douglas' Love Your Neighbour – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2JB_ul7YhA

Discuss: How does Douglas's message help us understand what 'producing good fruit' really means?

Prayer of the Faithful – we pray for the needs of the Church and the whole world.

For the Church – that the people of God bear good fruit.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

For nations struggling with civil unrest – that they listen to the cries of the poor, the marginalized, the overlooked and seek justice for all their citizens.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

For an end to the Covid-19 pandemic – that give will support each other in this difficult time.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

For Aotearoa New Zealand this election year – that people will think carefully about who they vote for.
(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

For people who are wealthy – that they will be generous and remember people who have little.

For us – that we keep learning how to produce 'good fruit.'
(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

In thanksgiving for the life of venerable Suzanne Aubert – that her faith, her courage and her unconditional love will live on in us and she will one day be recognised as a Saint.
(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

God of hosts we ask you to look upon us and have regard for our needs and the needs of all. We ask this through ... *AMEN*

A Prayer *This is a prayer for the beatification of Suzanne Aubert. Together we pray ...*

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us that as often as we show compassion to the least of your brothers and sisters, we show it to you. Hear our prayers that Venerable Suzanne Aubert, who loved the Māori people and devoted her life to the poor, the sick and the underprivileged, and whom the Church has declared to be one of your true and humble followers, may soon be recognised as a saint.

Discuss: *What does beatification mean?*

We Pray the Our Father

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.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

COLLECTION: READER: Something that Christian people do is support people who need help. There are lots of people who need help. Let's talk about who needs help and then think about a way we might be able to help.

Thank you for your kindness. Thank you for your participation in today's Liturgy of the Word. Let us go in peace to love and serve God. Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou – Peace be with you.

All: Thanks be to God.

SONG: Laudato si Revolution Rap song - You can dance along with this
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dejPXwKqYnM>

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Resource suggestion: Saint Grandma - The Story of Suzanne Aubert by Joy Cowley, illustrated by Donald Morrison