



Children's Bulletin

Your Mission is Love!



In the Gospel today (Matthew 21:28-32), some people came to Jesus with a tricky question. They asked, "Teacher, what is the most important rule of all?"

Jesus didn't have to think hard. He told them to love God with all their hearts, all their souls, and all their minds. He also told them to love other people the way that they love themselves.

Jesus was saying that love is the biggest rule to follow in life.

Think about all the rules you know. Rules at home, rules at school, rules in sport, in games. Sometimes there can seem to be so many rules that it is hard to remember them all. Jesus gives us a secret that is much easier to remember. Most of the good rules

are about love. Why do we say sorry? Because we love the person we hurt. Why do we share? Because we love our friends. Why do we go to Mass and pray? Because we love God and want to spend time with him. Why don't we tell lies? Because love tells the truth.

When you're not sure what to do, you can ask yourself: "What would love do here?"

Loving God with "all your heart" means that God is important to you, not just on Sundays. You can talk to Him in the car, at bedtime, before a big test or game, or when you're feeling nervous or unsure. You don't need special words. God loves hearing from you, just like a friend who is glad to see you.

Loving others "as yourself" means treating them the way you would like to be treated. You probably like it when someone invites you to get involved, says something kind, or listens when you're sad. Jesus says to give that same kindness to others, even when it's hard. This might mean:

- At school: Playing with someone who has no one to play with. Being kind to the new kid. Not laughing when someone makes a mistake.
- At home: Helping without being asked. No fighting with brothers or sisters over the remote. Saying thank you to Mum, Dad or whoever is looking after you.
- With friends: Taking turns, being a good loser and a good winner, and saying sorry first.
- Online or on games: Using kind words, just like you would face to face.
- With creation: Looking after animals, plants and our world, because God made them too.

It's okay if it's hard. Sometimes loving is easy, like loving your pet or your best friend. Sometimes it is hard,

like when your sister or brother breaks something of yours, or a classmate is unkind. Jesus knows that. He asks us to try, and He promises to help us. Nobody gets it right every time, and God still loves us on the days we get it wrong.

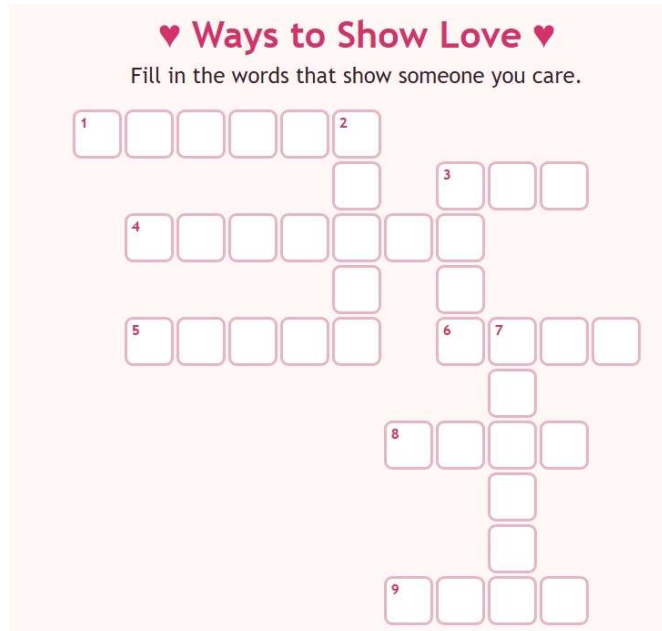
The Love Challenge for this week

Every day, do one secret act of love. Don't tell anyone, and don't wait to be thanked. It doesn't have to be anything big, the small things count too. If you can't think of things talk to one of your parents or a trusted adult to help you come up with ideas.

At the end of each day, say thank you to God for the chance to love someone. At the end of the week, talk to your parents or a friend about what you did and how it made you feel.

Prayer for this week

*Dear Jesus,
thank you for loving me.
Help me to love you with all my heart.
Help me to be kind at home, at school and when I play.
When it's hard to be nice, give me a brave and gentle heart.
Show me who needs a friend today.
Amen.*



Across

1. What you say to show you are grateful
3. Wrap your arms around someone
4. Let go of anger after someone says sorry
5. Give half of your snack to a friend
6. Spend time doing games with a friend
8. A little peck on Grandma's cheek
9. Being gentle and caring to others

Down

2. A happy face that says "I'm glad you're here"
3. Do a chore without being asked to
7. Pay attention when a friend is talking

To find the answers to the crossword puzzle use the numbers to find the letters and spell the words. For example, 5 would be e because e is the fifth letter in the alphabet.

Across.

1. 20, 8, 1, 14, 11, 19
3. 8, 21, 7
4. 6, 15, 18, 7, 9, 22, 5
5. 19, 8, 1, 18, 5
6. 16, 12, 1, 25
8. 11, 9, 19, 19
9. 11, 9, 14, 4

Down

2. 19, 13, 9, 12, 5
3. 8, 5, 12, 16
7. 12, 9, 19, 20, 5, 14



