



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF
BOGNOR REGIS AND SLINDON

We are followers of Jesus, on fire with his love,
sharing that love with each other and with the world.

The Beatitudes

All the content below is for you to make your own, please do read through it, pick what would work best for your children and would best engage them.

Rest assured of our prayers for your family and you this coming week!

This week, in the gospel according to Matthew Jesus gives us a vision of what it means to follow of Him.

MATTHEW 5:1-12

1Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. 2And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. 7"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. 8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. 9"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. 10"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11"Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Some conversation pointers, when talking at home about this –

1. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

The poor include both literally poor people, in need of basic necessities, and figuratively poor people, who are aware of their spiritual poverty, people who acknowledge their need and utter dependence upon God. The reward mentioned here is nothing less than the kingdom of heaven. What do we consider to be our family's greatest riches?



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2. “Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.”

Those who mourn could be anyone who is sad or experiencing a loss of any kind. Jesus promises comfort for those who suffer. When we suffer we have a choice to make: we can become bitter, or we can become more compassionate to others in pain. How do we find comfort in our family?

3. “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.”

The meek are people who are humble and patient. A person who chooses other ways to resolve conflicts without resorting to violence is meek. The reward is great wealth. How do we resolve conflict in our families?

4. “Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.”

This blessing is for people who hunger for justice in our world. Children have a great capacity to see wrongs and often possess a simple view of complex issues. Perhaps our kids can use their creativity to solve some of the local injustices in schools and communities.

5. “Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.”

Mercy is a word that holds many meanings: forgiveness, kindness, compassion. It is easier to extend mercy to others when you begin with yourself. In our family, rather than keeping track of mistakes, we try to see God’s grace among us. With mercy, you receive back the more you give.

6. “Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.”

Who better to be clean or pure of heart than little ones? They lack malice and have such innocence, at least during the first few years. Of course, they see God, because there is nothing clouding their vision! The clean of heart can also be people who single-mindedly see God first in all situations and people.

7. “Blessed are the peacemakers, they will be called children of God.”

What risks do we take to make peace? Jesus asks us all to be peacemakers; we are, after all, children of God. As his children, we must continue to work for unity and understanding. Our families are microcosms of the world in which we learn peacemaking skills. Peace begins at home.

8. “Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

It can be difficult to do what is right, such as standing up to someone who is acting like a bully. But we learn from Jesus, and, through practice in our family, we see that doing the right thing is what it really means to be a follower of Jesus.



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 <p>Help me to rely on God and trust Him more</p>	 <p>Help me to speak to God when I am sad or upset</p>
 <p>Help me to think more about other people and what they'd like</p>	 <p>Help me to be fair to other people</p>
 <p>Help me to forgive people when they hurt me.</p>	 <p>Help me to think about what God would want</p>
 <p>Help me not to fight back when people upset me.</p>	 <p>Help me to stand up for the right thing</p>

**Activities to remind us
about this message from
Jesus**

Draw a picture grid on
each of the
beatitudes.

Jesus tells us to share
His good news with
others, we can share
how He changes our
lives with others!

**Finish your time
together focusing
on this piece of
scripture with
prayer**