

# The Gospel at Home

## This Sunday's Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that God's love is not reserved just for them or for any "in" group. Everyone belongs in the embrace of God's love. Jesus wants his followers to be ready to accept others, work with them, learn from them, and appreciate the gifts they have to share.

### Exploring the Gospel Message

**Seeds (Preschool):** Children learn to pray by following the example of others. Spend some moments with your child teaching him or her how to give thanks for food and friends or to praise God for the beauty of a sunrise. Remember how important it is for your young child to see and hear you pray.

**Promise (Grades K-1):** Your child learned how important it is that we gather together for Mass. As a family, you can play the game on pages 2 and 3 of this week's lesson. If you get a chance, visit the church during the week. Take the list on page 4 with you and have your child help you find each item.

**Good News (Grades 2-3):** Your child learned that Jesus wants all to belong to his family. He or she also learned that the Scripture readings at Mass are a message for all the members of Jesus' family. During the week, take time to put your family Bible in a special place. Then talk about ways your family can share yourselves with others.

**Venture (Grades 4-6):** This was a busy week in your child's class. First, your child learned about three saints from the Americas: Oscar Romero (to be canonized on October 14th), Marianne Cope, and Kateri Tekakwitha. From them, the class learned that Jesus calls all to live in solidarity with one another. The class also learned that the readings at Mass are from the Bible. Ask your young person how to make people feel welcome.

**Visions (Grades 7-8):** Your youngster spent a good amount of time this week learning about Pope Francis and his time serving the Church. Ask your son or daughter to describe how Pope Francis views the poor as part of the Church. The class also learned that God's love is for all. Talk about how every human being has the right to respect. How can your family show respect to others?

### Pray Together

When you have completed this week's conversation, pray together for the continued success of Pope Francis's leadership. It has been three years since Pope Francis visited the United States. Pray that his words will inspire all Americans to follow the ways of Christ.