

A classical painting of a cherub with curly hair, wearing a brown garment, holding a white dog. The background is a soft, hazy grey.

Getting Ready for Sunday!

3 November 2021

**Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B**

Mark 12:28-34

The First Commandment



Can you name any of the Ten Commandments?

If you can't you might take time to look them up.

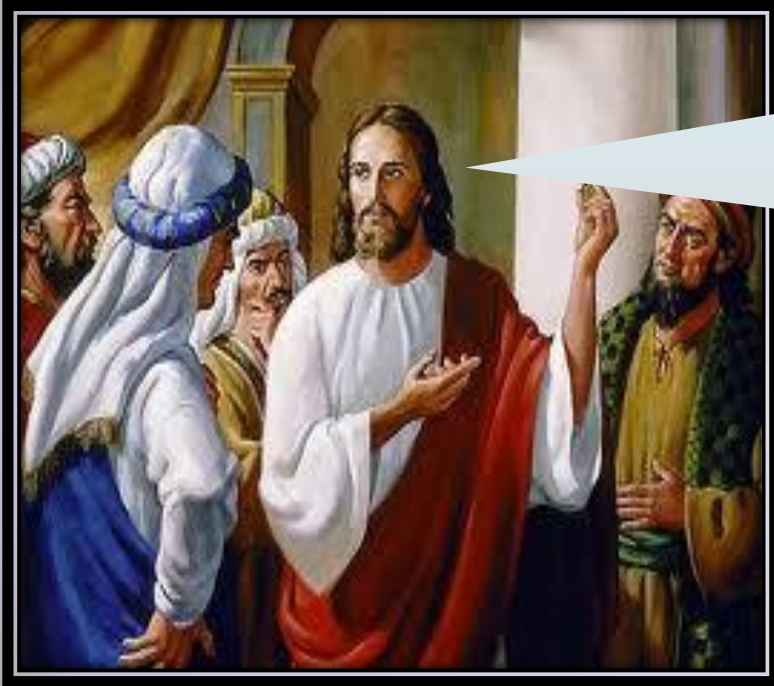
One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him –

Which commandment is the first of all?



The scribes set out to test Jesus and to catch Him out!

Jesus answered -



The first is - Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.

Love



The second is this, You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no other commandment greater than these.

How do we show love to people we live with, work with, go to school with.....?

Then the scribe said to him -

You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that he is one, and besides him there is no other; and to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbour as oneself.



Then the scribe said to him -

—this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.

There is no point praying and going to Mass if we don't try to live loving lives as well!



When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him -

You are not far from the kingdom of God.



Could you be accused of being a Christian because of how much you show love?

After that no one dared to ask him any question.



Jesus gave them a lot to think about! What are you thinking about after reading this Gospel passage?



Bible Search

Read Mark 12:28-34 in your family Bible-this is the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.

Then you might like to read the accounts of the same story in Matthew 22:36-40 & Luke 10:25-28.

Activity

Write out the Gospel passage putting yourself into some part of it and then see how it feels to be there. Or you may prefer to draw a picture!



Consider

Do you love yourself as one who is created as unique and special by God and loved completely by him?

What particular efforts are you going to make today to be a loving person? – to be like Jesus.



Praying to Jesus



Thank Jesus for giving you all the people who love you and care for you.

Do you need to ask Jesus to help you to be more loving to any particular person in your life?