

LOVE IN ACTION



CALL TO COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION



Humans are social beings. We live in relation to others, learning from one another. We're called to live our lives engaged in the world, helping to transform society for the good of all, not just sit back, expecting others to do things for us, or complaining about the way things are.



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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Last week we heard about human dignity, and how we are all sisters and brothers of one another, and should respect each other, treating them as we would want to be treated.
- Today we're thinking about what it means to live in community.
- What communities do you belong to? Our family is a community. Our street where we live is a community. Our school, our parish are communities. We are part of the community of our town and country. We talk about the global community: all seven billion people who live all over the world, from England to the United States of America; from Spain to South Africa; from France to New Zealand.
- When we live in community, we have to think about other people. We cannot just have things our own way all of the time. We have to think about what others want and need, and treat them with respect.
- In the Gospel reading, Jesus says that when we help others – whether they're hungry and give them food, thirsty and give them a drink, or if they're sick and we visit them, when we help others, we're also helping Jesus.



Matthew 25:31-46

SCRIPTURE

Just as you did it to one of these members of my family, you did it to me.

- We all have a responsibility to help others and get involved.
- Pope Francis said, "don't be observers, but get involved... help build a better world".
- He was challenging us to not just look at what's happening, but to get involved. To volunteer. To make a positive difference to others.
- It's like when we're playing football or rounders. We can sit and watch and moan when our team isn't winning, or we can get on the pitch, join in, and get our team together.
- When we're asked to help at school, do we let others do it, or do we offer to help? If we see that something needs putting away at home, do we wait to be told to do it, or do we do it ourselves?
- This week, we're challenged to get involved.

ACTIVITY

- You may wish to draw all the communities you belong to.
- Helping out in the community: go into the playground/church grounds and pick up rubbish; help the younger children to read, etc.



For the times when we have not thought about the needs of others. **Lord, we are sorry. R/**

For the times when we have chosen not to do something we know needs to be done. **Lord, we are sorry. R/**

For the times when we have not included someone in our games. **Lord, we are sorry. R/**

Loving God, you teach us to share with others, and include them in what we are doing. Help me to include people, and to get involved in my community, to help make the world a better place. Amen.