



Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is telling his Father in heaven that he has now completed what was asked of him. Then, Jesus prays for his friends. This reminds us that Jesus prays for all his friends, which includes you and me too.

This takes place after the last supper and, very soon, Jesus will be arrested. So before leaving his friends he is preparing them for the difficult time to come. Jesus wants his friends to stay united with one another and with God - forever.

Wednesday 13th May 2026

Friendship is one of life's great blessings and Jesus' friendship is also offered to each one of us. When we have good friendships, we can support each other, have fun together, and share our joys and challenges. We can also learn from each other and grow in our faith.

Enjoy a special time together hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **FRIENDSHIP**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



**A Word from
the Saints**

*"There is nothing on this earth more to be
prized than true friendship." St Thomas Aquinas*

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH **Sunday 17th May 2026**



Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and prayed: 'Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you; and, let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him. And eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I have glorified you on earth and finished the work that you gave me to do. I have made your name known to those you gave me. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have obeyed your word. I have given them the teaching you gave to me, and they have truly accepted it. They know that I came from you and believed that it was you who sent me. I pray for them; for those you have given me, because they belong to you.'

*Adapted from John 17:1-11
The 7th Sunday of Easter, Year A*

**Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your
local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.**

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf

**Good News
for Everyone**

When we have good friendships, we feel happy and fulfilled because we know that we're loved and supported. Growing in friendship with Jesus helps us to know how much he loves us. This makes us happy and helps us to be kind and loving to others too.



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



1

READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

One day, Jesus prayed to God in front of his friends, the disciples. He raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, I have made your name known to those you gave me. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. They believed that it was you who sent me and now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. I have given them the teaching you gave to me, and they have truly accepted it. I pray for them; for those you have given me, because they belong to you."

Who was Jesus praying for?

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.



Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

2

SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"If Jesus calls us to be friends, let us not leave this call unheeded. Let us welcome it, let us take care of this relationship." Pope Leo XIV

Jesus needed friends to help him with his mission, just like we need friends to help us in our daily lives. Through friendship, we can show that we are part of God's family, loving and working together to make the world a better place. Ask your child what the word 'friendship' means to them. Which friends do they spend the most time with? What is it that they like about them? Who is their best friend?



As a family, name ways in which you can deepen your friendship with Jesus, who loves and supports us always. Perhaps it's through: reading the gospels; receiving the sacraments; sitting with Jesus in prayer, alone or with others. Share any stories of when you felt loved and supported by your friends and talk about the qualities that make a good friend (e.g. kindness, honesty, trust, loyalty). In what ways can we be a better friend to others this week - could you reach out to someone who may be feeling lonely? Which friends can you especially pray for at this time?

FRIENDSHIP



3

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for your friendship and for all our friends. Help us to choose our friends wisely and to become better friends to them. Amen.



F A T H E R I L S V T N
J F G T T E A T K Y P V
E G I V E N F E G C R J
S T N T R Y G A E V A H
U L E A A I D C T D Y E
S L T A V K G H E E E A
N E I E C N F I R Y D V
E F N F X H F N N A I E
V L J H E A I G A R V N
A Z S U S E J N L P Q P
E O P G Y V G S G X Y J
H L I F E R E H T A F D

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**



JESUS
PRAYED



FATHER
HEAVEN



GIVEN
TEACHING



ETERNAL
LIFE



SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

Cross out the letters **o b r** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

o h a r v e b t o h e r m b t e r a c h b i n g o m o r e b

Jesus said, "I _____ given _____ the
_____ you gave to _____."

This week, don't forget the power of prayer.

Pray for your friends and family, and remember that many of them will be praying for you too.



This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley