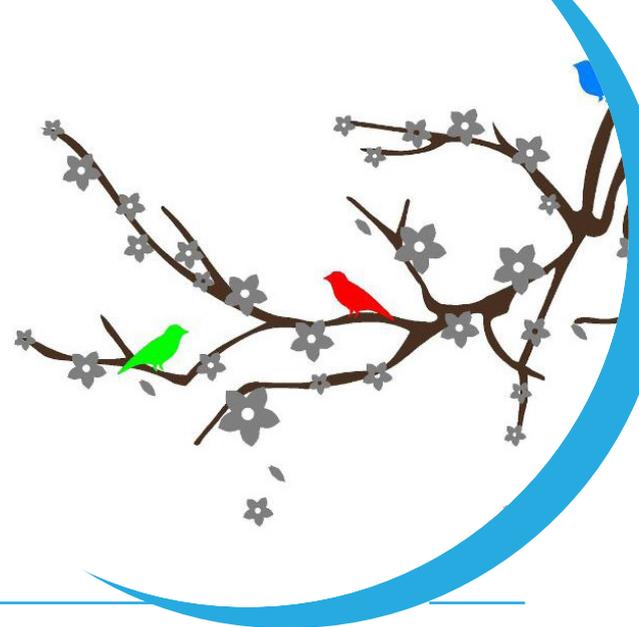


Life to the Full:

Living faith within our families



Monthly newsletter for parents: **June 2018**

The Kingdom of God

Jesus said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.' Mark 4:26-34

In the Gospel for Sunday 17 June, Jesus describes the Kingdom of God as a place where love reigns and there is peace and plenty for everyone. This is yet to be established over the earth and we still face poverty of all kinds. For many of our brothers and sisters, fear and danger are a daily reality.

This Gospel falls at the start of Refugee Week and it provides a good opportunity for us to pray as a family for refugees around the world and for God's Kingdom to come.

What is a refugee?

You may like to share these simple details with your children.

A refugee is a person who:

- has fled their home because it's no longer safe there

- has been allowed to stay in the country that they have arrived in
- has probably made a journey lasting months and covering hundreds of miles
- may have nothing other than what they have carried with them

So, you can imagine that refugees are also:

- Frightened
- Confused
- Lonely
- Unable to plan for the future
- Dependent on others making decisions for them
- Vulnerable

Many refugees are children and many children have become separated from their families during their journey.



5 Prayers for Refugees

After each daily prayer, say The Lord's Prayer together, pausing prayerfully after '... thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.'

Monday

Dear Father,
Some children face danger every day,
Some children have never known a peaceful home,
Help me to be welcoming and loving as you are.
Amen

Tuesday

Dear Father,
Please guide those who make decisions about refugees.
Guide them to act with wisdom and love.
Amen

Wednesday

Dear Father,
We are glad that there are ways to help refugees.
Bless those who work to help them and bless those who make us aware of their needs.
Amen

Thursday

Dear Father,
Help me to imagine what the Kingdom of God will be like:
A place where people of all countries live in peace and no one has to leave home out of fear.
Amen

Friday

Dear Father,
Give me the courage to go out to others in little ways – to speak to those who seem sad, to smile at everyone, to think the best of other people.
Amen