[72] SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

FIRST READING

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians 10:31 -- 11:1

Brothers and sisters:

When you eat or drink or do anything else, always do it to honor God.

Don't cause problems for Jews or Greeks or anyone else who belongs to God's church.

I always try to please others instead of myself, in the hope that many of them will be saved. You must follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

32:1, 5ab, 11

R. (7a) I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble.

Our God, you bless everyone whose sins you forgive and wipe away.

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble.

So I confessed my sins and told them all to you.

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble.

And so your good people should celebrate and shout.

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble.

ALLELUIA Luke 7:16

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

The leprosy left him, and he was cured.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

1:40-45

A man with leprosy came to Jesus and kneeled down. He begged, "You have the power to make me well, if only you wanted to."

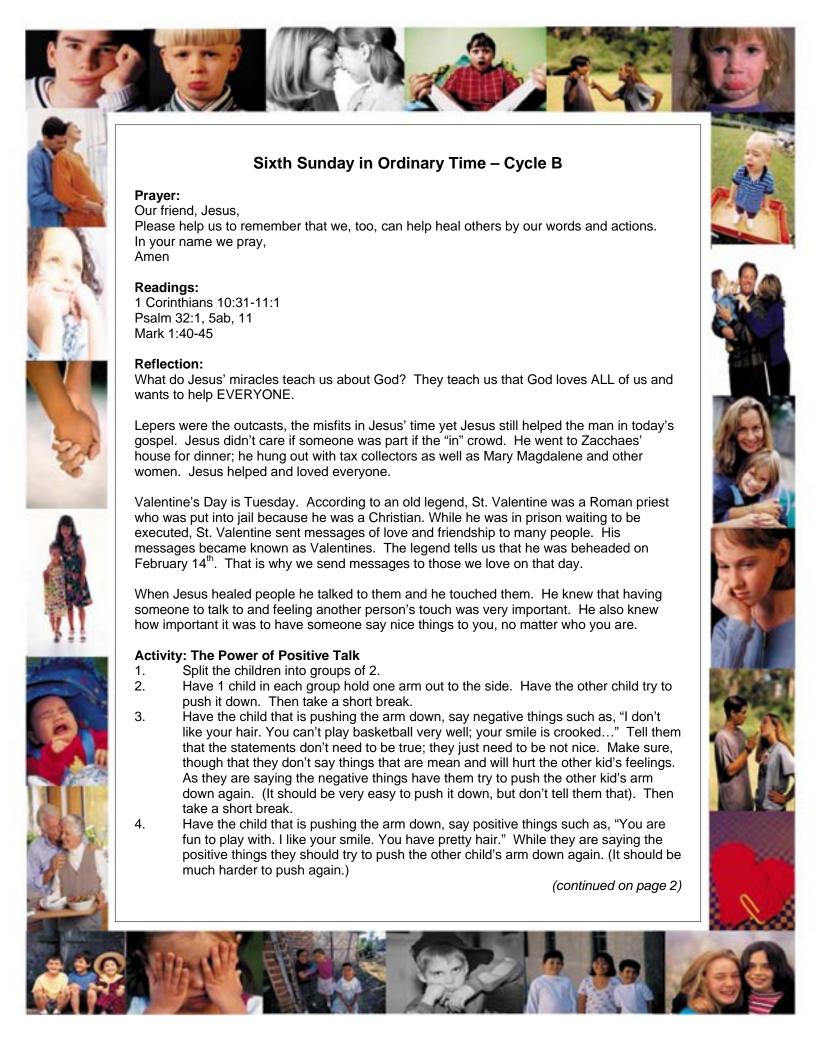
Jesus felt sorry for the man.
So he put his hand on him and said, "I want to!
Now you are well."
At once the man's leprosy disappeared,
and he was well.

After Jesus strictly warned the man,
he sent him on his way.
He said, "Don't tell anyone about this.
Just go and show the priest that you are well.
Then take a gift to the temple as Moses commanded,
and everyone will know that you have been healed."

The man talked about it so much and told so many people, that Jesus could no longer go openly into a town.

He had to stay away from the towns, but people still came to him from everywhere.

The gospel of the Lord.



- 5. Have the children switch roles.
- 6. Allow them to try it again if they want.

Discussion:

- 1. What happened?
- 2. Did hearing certain things effect how strong you were? The children should respond that when negative things were being said to them it was harder to hold up their arm. When positive comments were said they were stronger. Our words can affect others. Just like Jesus, we should use our words and actions to bring love and healing to others.
- 3. What do you think happens to people when others are constantly saying negative things to them?

For the older kids:

Think about some of the people who are not part of the "in" crowd at school. How are they treated? Do they have many friends? How do you think they feel when they don't get asked to play kickball at recess? What can you do to make sure everyone feels accepted, loved and included?