**THIRTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
**CHRIST THE KING**
**Cycle A**

**FIRST READING**

The Lord will shepherd his flock.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel 34:11-12, 14-16abce

The Lord says this:
"I, the Lord God, will look for my people
and take care of them myself.
As a shepherd looks for sheep that have wandered away,
I will search for my scattered people.
I will rescue them from all the places where they went
on that dark and gloomy day."

"My people will be like sheep grazing and resting
in good pastures and on Israel's mountains.
I, the Lord All-Powerful, will lead them there and watch over them."

"I will look for the lost sheep
and bring back the ones that have wandered off.
If any are hurt,
I will bandage their wounds.
If any are weak,
I will help them.
I will take good care of my people!"

The word of the Lord.



**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** 23:1-2ab, 2c-3, 5-6

*R. (1) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

You, Lord, are my shepherd.
I will never be in need.
You let me rest in fields
of green grass.

*R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

You lead me to streams
of peaceful water,
and you refresh my life.
You are true to your name,
and you lead me
along the right paths.

*R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

You treat me to a feast,
while my enemies watch.
You honor me as your guest,
and you fill my cup
until it overflows.
You kindness and love
will always be with me
each day of my life,
and I will live forever
in your house, Lord.



**SECOND READING**

Christ will hand over the kingdom to God the Father.

Brothers and sisters:
Christ has been raised to life!
And he makes us certain
that others will also be raised to life.

Just as we will die because of Adam,
we will be raised to life because of Christ.
Adam brought death to all of us,
and Christ will bring life to all of us.

But we must each wait our turn.
Christ was the first to be raised to life,
and his people will be raised to life when he returns.
Then after Christ has destroyed all powers and forces,
the end will come.

The word of the Lord.

**ALLELUIA** Mark 11:9, 10b

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Blessed is the one who inherits the kingdom of David our father;
blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*



**GOSPEL**

The Son of Man will sit upon his seat of glory
and he will separate all into two groups.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples:
"When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all of his angels,
he will sit on his royal throne."

"The people of all nations will be brought before him,
and he will separate them,
as shepherds separate their sheep from their goats."

"He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.
Then the king will say to those on his right,
'My father has blessed you!
Come and receive the kingdom that was prepared for you
before the world was created.
When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat,
and when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink.
When I was a stranger, you welcomed me,
and when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear.
When I was sick, you took care of me,
and when I was in jail, you visited me.'"

"Then the ones who pleased the Lord will ask,
'When did we give you something to eat or drink?
When did we welcome you as a stranger or give you clothes to wear
or visit you while you were sick or in jail?'"

"The king will answer,
'Whenever you did it for any of my people,
no matter how unimportant they seemed,
you did it for me.'"



"Then the king will say to those on his left,
'Get away from me!
You are under God's curse.
Go into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels!
I was hungry, but you did not give me anything to eat,
and I was thirsty, but you did not give me anything to drink.
I was a stranger, but you did not welcome me,
and I was naked, but you did not give me any clothes to wear.
I was sick and in jail, but you did not take care of me.'"

"Then the people will ask,
'Lord, when did we fail to help you when you were hungry or thirsty
or a stranger or naked or sick or in jail?'"

"The king will say to them,
'Whenever you failed to help any of my people,
no matter how unimportant they seemed,
you failed to do it for me.'"

Then Jesus said, "Those people will be punished forever.
But the ones who pleased God will have eternal life."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Children's Liturgy shared by the Adorers of the Blood of Christ**
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Adorers of the Blood of Christ
UNITED STATES REGION



**THIRTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
**CHRIST THE KING**
**Cycle A**

**Prayer:**
Dear Jesus,
Help me to see you in everyone. Help me to show your love and care to all.
In Your Name We Pray.
Amen

**Readings:**
Ezekiel 34:11-12,14-16abce
Psalm 23:1-2ab, 2c-3, 5-6
1 Corinthians 15:20-24a
Matthew 25:31-46

**Reflection/Discussion/Activity:**
Materials needed: TV, VCR or DVD player, The Movie *Beauty and the Beast.*

**Preparation:** As the children enter the room separate them into 2 groups each sitting on a separate side of the room. Do not tell them why they are being separated. Proceed with your introduction, prayers and readings. After the readings, continue with the following discussion/activity.

How many of you have seen the Disney movie, Beauty and the Beast? If you have, I want you to pretend like you don't remember the ending because we are going to use this movie to help us understand today's Gospel.

Jesus tells us that He is like a shepherd who separates the sheep and the goats. Everyone who is a #1 is a sheep. The #2s are the goats. Where did Jesus say that the sheep would be allowed to go? Why are they allowed to go there? Where do the goats get to go? Why? In the Gospel they all seem a little confused. The sheep don't remember ever helping the shepherd and the goats are sure that they never saw the shepherd in need. If they had, they certainly would have helped.

Let's watch parts of the movie and see if we can figure out who is like the sheep in today's gospel, who is like the goats and help them understand the reason they are confused about helping the shep-



herd.

[Play Scene 12 "Belle Tends to the Beast." Stop it after Belle's line "You are welcome." Approx. 45 seconds]

Before this scene how had the Beast treated Belle? Had he been nice to her? Did he look or act like someone that she would like or be friends with? Why do you think that Belle helped him? Would you have helped him?

[Play Scene 18 "Kill the Beast." Stop it at the invasion. Approx. 2 min. 45 seconds]

Has the Beast done anything to Gaston or the villagers to make them want to kill him? Has he harmed them or bothered them at all? Why do they want to kill him? There was a line in the song that may be a clue. It said, " We don't like what we don't understand, in fact it scares us." Have you ever had that experience when someone who was harmless scared you because of the way they looked or acted? Maybe a poor person who was dirty or a handicapped person who did not look or act like us? Why is it hard to be nice to people who are different from us?

[Play Scene 21 "Transformation." Stop it when the characters begin to turn human again. Approx. 2 min. 45 seconds]

Who does the Beast turn into? Do you think that Belle knew all along that inside the Beast was the Prince? Is that why she was nice to him? Do you think the villagers would have tried to kill him if they had known he was the Prince? How are they like the goats in the Gospel?

Belle is like the sheep in today's Gospel because she cares for the Beast even though he looks different, acts different and is mean to her. She didn't know he was the Prince. She did it because she is a loving person. Jesus is asking us to be like the sheep and like Belle. We are to care for EVERYONE no matter how they look or act because Jesus is inside every person. He is inside the nicest, cutest people as well as the people who are not always nice, who are not the cutest or the best athletes as well as the people who are very different from us including people in other countries, people without money, and people who have different abilities. He is in EVERYONE!

This week try to remember that EVERY person you see has Jesus inside of them and treat them the way that you would treat Jesus.

