



## This Sunday's Gospel

### 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

(Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23)

**You put aside the commandment of God, to cling to human traditions**

**The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:**

**This people honours me only with lip-service,  
while their hearts are far from me.**

**The worship they offer me is worthless,  
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.**

**You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'**

**This is the Gospel of the Lord**

# Prayer One

## The Sign of the Cross

Let us remember that everything we do is  
In the name of the Father, and of  
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

### *Reflection:*

*Our theme this week (New Beginnings) is inspired by the fact that we are starting a new school year, and it links to this week's Gospel reading too...*



**In this week's Gospel, Jesus is talking about rules. Something we often talk about at the start of the school year.**

**He highlights the idea that is what you think (what is within you) that can cause you to sin ("be unclean"). So it important to be aware of our inner selves, our inner thoughts, this is what prayer is all about, connecting our inner thoughts and feelinds to God...**

**Some thoughts for the year ahead:**

- **What are you looking forward to about the term ahead?**
- **What are you nervous about?**

# **Final Prayer**

## **LOVING FATHER...**

**A lot is going to happen this year, but we ask you to make our relationship with you the most important thing. May it give meaning to everything we do, may it keep us on the right path, and may it enrich our lives with your love.**

**IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.  
AMEN.**

# Prayer Two

## The Sign of the Cross

**Let us remember that everything we do is  
In the name of the Father, and of  
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

### *Reflection*

- *In our first week of this academic year lets take some time to look at and pray our school prayer together...*
- *Think about each line, what it means to you and what it means to pray it together as a community...*
- *How does it relate to and reflect Catholic Social Teachings*

*(The prayer has been colour coded with suggestions, but maybe you can discuss this further and suggest different ways of relating our school prayer to CSTs)*



# Wilfrid's School Prayer

Loving Father, when You created me, You had  
a definite plan;

You didn't make me to be average, but to be  
beautiful, great and talented;

You want the best, from me and the best for me.

Lord, I ask you with hope and joy to give me a  
strong faith in You;

to give me a heart transformed with Your  
amazing love;

to give me a spirit of courage and generosity;

to give me a mind full of brilliant ideas;

to give me the will to make a difference in the  
world;

to give me the grace to love You and those  
around me in all that I do,  
through Christ our Lord.

Amen



# Final Thought...

AND SUDDENLY  
YOU KNOW: IT'S  
TIME TO START  
SOMETHING NEW  
AND TRUST THE  
MAGIC OF  
BEGINNINGS

- MEISTER ECKHART

*Next Week: **Equality***