

# AT HOME WITH ALIVE-O

# 8



**TERM 1 No. 2**  
**(October/November)**

To \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_

## Help your child to memorise...

We sin when we refuse to love God our Father and to love our neighbours as Jesus taught.

Jesus asks us to be sorry and to repent because he wants us to return to God.

In the sacrament of Reconciliation God our Father forgives us through the words and actions of the priest.

'Everybody who drinks this water will get thirsty again. But no one who drinks the water I give will ever be thirsty again. The water I give is like a flowing fountain that gives eternal life.' (John 4:13-14)

## Try a Bible Search with your child...

*The Wedding at Cana* (John 2:1-11)

*Jairus' Daughter* (Mark 5:21-43)

*The Centurion's Servant* (Matthew 8:5-13)

*Micah* (based on Luke 9:10-16)

*Ishvah* (based on Luke 18:15-17)

*The Woman at the Well* (John 4:7-43)

*A woman anoints Jesus' feet* (Luke 7:36-39 and 44-47)

*A woman anoints Jesus' head* (Mark 14:3-6)

## Pray together...

God here.  
God now.  
God always.  
God everywhere.  
Amen.

## Act of Sorrow

O my God, I thank you for loving me.  
I am sorry for all my sins,  
For not loving others and not loving you.  
Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again. Amen.



## Consider with your child...

- a cross is just two pieces of wood arranged in a certain way, but to Christians it is much more than that – why?
- a church is just a building, but to Christians it is much more than just a building – why?
- a Bible is just a book with pages, but to the followers of Jesus it is much more than that – why?
- a congregation is just a group of people, but to those in the congregation it is much more than that – why?

## Background reading for parents...

Remember words are life;  
Child, husband, mother, wife:  
Remember, and I'm done:  
Words taken one by one  
Are poems as they stand –  
Shore, beacon, harbour, land,  
Brook, river, mountain, vale,  
Crow, rabbit, otter, quail:  
Faith, freedom, water, snow.  
Wind, weather, floor, and floe.  
Like light across the lawn  
Are morning, seas, and dawn:  
Words of the green earth growing –  
Seed, soil, and farmer sowing.  
Like wind upon the south.  
Amen. Put not asunder  
Man's first word: 'wonder... wonder...'  
(William J. Bausch)

\* \* \* \* \*

Youngsters shouting their heads off in a field  
As the light dies and they kept on playing  
Because by then they were playing in their heads  
And the actual kicked ball came to them  
Like a dream heaviness, and their own hard  
Breathing in the dark and skids on grass  
Sounded like effort in another world...  
It was quick and constant, a game that never need  
Be played out. Some limit had been passed,  
There was fleetness, furtherance, untiredness  
In that time that was extra, unforeseen, and free.  
(From 'Markings' by Seamus Heaney)

\* \* \* \* \*

We know that God is carefully holding each one of us  
– and all that fills the spaces between us.  
From time to time, we allow things that shouldn't  
really be there to get into the spaces between us, e.g. an  
unkind word, the wrong action.  
At such times we know that something is 'out of place'  
and 'in the wrong space'.  
God always offers us forgiveness and shows us how to  
mend damaged relationships.  
God wants to put right whatever has disturbed the  
spaces in our relationships.  
God offers us forgiveness and all that we need to be the  
best we can be, right here, right now.

\* \* \* \* \*

### *In Baptism we are Reborn*

A church is a building, but to the people who gather in  
it to celebrate, it is more than just a building – it is a  
symbol of God's presence in the world. The word  
'Church' is also used to describe the people who make  
up this special community. We can enter the church  
building through the door, but in a more meaningful  
way we enter the Church community through  
Baptism. We are reborn into the Church and into the  
world of its signs and symbols and meanings.

\* \* \* \* \*

### *Two Sons* (Luke 15:11-32)

Once a man had two sons. The younger son said to his  
father, 'Give me my share of the property.' So the  
father divided his property between his two sons.

Not long after that, the younger son packed up  
everything he owned and left for a foreign country,  
where he wasted all his money in wild living. He had  
spent everything, when a bad famine spread through  
that whole land. Soon he had nothing to eat.

He went to work for a man in that country, and the  
man sent him out to take care of his pigs. He would  
have been glad to eat what the pigs were eating, but no  
one gave him a thing.

Finally, he came to his senses and said, 'My father's  
workers have plenty to eat, and here I am, starving to  
death! I will go to my father and say to him, "Father, I  
have sinned against God in heaven and against you. I  
am no longer good enough to be called your son. Treat  
me like one of your workers."'

The younger son got up and started back to his father.  
But when he was still a long way off, his father saw him  
and felt sorry for him. He ran to his son and hugged  
and kissed him.

The son said, 'Father, I have sinned against God in  
heaven and against you. I am no longer good enough  
to be called your son.'

But his father said to the servants, 'Hurry and bring the  
best clothes and put them on him. Give him a ring for  
his finger and sandals for his feet. Get the best calf and  
prepare it, so we can eat and celebrate. This son of mine  
was dead, but has now come back to life. He was lost  
and has now been found.' And they began to celebrate.

The elder son had been out in the field. But when he  
came near the house, he heard the music and dancing.  
So he called one of the servants over and asked, 'What's  
going on here?'

The servant answered, 'Your brother has come home  
safe and sound, and your father ordered us to kill the  
best calf.' The elder brother got so angry that he would  
not even go into the house.

His father came out and begged him to go in. But he  
said to his father, 'For years I have worked for you like  
a slave and have always obeyed you. But you have  
never even given me a little goat, so that I could give a  
dinner for my friends. This other son of yours wasted  
your money. And now that he has come home, you  
ordered the best calf to be killed for a feast.'

His father replied, 'My son, you are always with me,  
and everything I have is yours. But we should be glad  
and celebrate! Your brother was dead, but he is now  
alive. He was lost and has now been found.'

\* \* \* \* \*

### *Symbols have Meaning*

People from different countries can have national  
symbols like a flag. A group can have a symbol like a  
certain combination of colours, or a certain song, or  
place. For the members of that group, it is not just a  
song, or colour combination, or place; it is much more  
than that. The word symbol means 'thrown together'.  
In a symbol, what the thing is and the deeper meaning  
we give to it come together. When we look at the  
symbol we see 'more than just' the external  
appearance; we see the deeper meaning.