

# Resources on the Sunday Readings – Trinity 1

Picture Reflection (p1), Bible Reading & Study Questions (p2)

See separate families' sheet.

## Picture Reflection



## The in-crowd - Mark 3: 20-35

Spend a few minutes with this group of masked adults...notice the emotions and feelings that may surface in your mind...

How does this image express the idea of 'community' that we have been experiencing during the covid pandemic?

What are the positive and negative aspects of wearing masks? How can any negative aspects be overcome?

Hand over to God your feelings about those who have refused to wear masks and/or have refused the opportunity to be vaccinated...remembering that we are all God's beloved children...

We are approaching a time when we will no longer be wearing masks in public places...What feelings emerge at that suggestion? Offer those feelings to God as we pray for safety and health security both now and in the future...

*Loving God, you sent your Son into the world to gather us all into the community of your kingdom. Be with us as we hear and respond to your call within our local community. Amen*

# Bible Study Questions

## Mark 3:20-end Good News Translation

<sup>20</sup> Then Jesus went home. Again such a large crowd gathered that Jesus and his disciples had no time to eat. <sup>21</sup> When his family heard about it, they set out to take charge of him, because people were saying, "He's gone mad!"

<sup>22</sup> Some teachers of the Law who had come from Jerusalem were saying, "He has Beelzebul in him! It is the chief of the demons who gives him the power to drive them out."

<sup>23</sup> So Jesus called them to him and spoke to them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan? <sup>24</sup> If a country divides itself into groups which fight each other, that country will fall apart. <sup>25</sup> If a family divides itself into groups which fight each other, that family will fall apart. <sup>26</sup> So if Satan's kingdom divides into groups, it cannot last, but will fall apart and come to an end.

<sup>27</sup> "No one can break into a strong man's house and take away his belongings unless he first ties up the strong man; then he can plunder his house.

<sup>28</sup> "I assure you that people can be forgiven all their sins and all the evil things they may say. <sup>[a]</sup> <sup>29</sup> But whoever says evil things against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven, because he has committed an eternal sin." (<sup>30</sup> Jesus said this because some people were saying, "He has an evil spirit in him.")

Jesus' Mother and Brothers

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside the house and sent in a message, asking for him. <sup>32</sup> A crowd was sitting around Jesus, and they said to him, "Look, your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, and they want you."

<sup>33</sup> Jesus answered, "Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?" <sup>34</sup> He looked at the people sitting around him and said, "Look! Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup> Whoever does what God wants is my brother, my sister, my mother."

Footnotes [Mark 3:28](#) evil things they may say; or evil things they may say against God.

*We are told that Jesus went home and the crowds gathered in number – Mark sets this incident after Jesus named his disciples and the 12 are there with him*

*Why do some of the people say that Jesus has 'lost his mind'?*

*What is Jesus accused of doing?*

*Who are his accusers & where are they from?*

*Look at v24: can you name countries currently divided by civil unrest and internal fighting?*

*Look at v25: do you know of families divided and falling apart through disagreements and fighting?*

*Pray for an end to the disputes*

*Does Jesus reject his mother and his brothers and call others to be his family in their place?*

*Or is Jesus' relationship with his mother and his brothers strengthened as others are welcomed?*

*Who do you think Jesus welcomes as members of his family?*

*What are brothers and sisters in Christ called to do?*

*What lesson can church communities learn from Jesus' message of Good News when he says:*

*'Whoever does what God wants is my brother, sister, mother?'*

*Hear Jesus calling you his brother or his sister – what might God be calling you to do?*