Our Faith Journey

Preparing Young Children for Celebrating the Sacraments

LESSON PLANS YEAR ONE
January – June 2017
Cycle A – B

Developed by the Bishop’s Advisory Committee for Children’s Catechesis

Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria
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Epiphany (Cycle B)

(White Cloth)

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: *Open Our Hearts* (by Christopher Walker)

First Reading: “This is a reading from the prophet Isaiah.”

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 16*

“The Word of the Lord.”

Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: Children’s Response: “All the nations of the earth, rejoice to hear of the Saviour’s birth!”

Verse: “Proclaim salvation! God’s wonders done for the earth.”

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew”

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 16-17*

Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)

“The Gospel of the Lord.”

Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Today is a very special day. It is called ‘Epiphany’ and it means ‘showing’. We have celebrated Christmas, the birth of Jesus. Today we learned how God showed and shared this good news with others.”

“The first reading tells us that the light has come, a light to guide us all. In this ‘light’, the glory of God shines forth. What or who do you think the ‘light’ was?” (share – star, Jesus, God)

“In the Gospel, we hear the story about the Magi, the Wise Men. What light did they see?” (share – a star in the sky showed where Jesus was) “The Gospel tells us that this light shone in the East and
brought visitors from afar. The Magi, also called “The Wise Men” or “Three Kings”, brought precious gifts. One brought gold, one brought frankincense, and one brought myrrh. What gift would you have given Jesus?” (share)

“In the famous Christmas carol, the Drummer Boy, the boy played his drum for Jesus. What could we do for Jesus today?” (share – be nice to others, share, be kind, listen to parents, etc.) “We always want to try to do things to make other people happy, because showing we care for others, loving others is the best gift we can give to Jesus.”

Intentions: “Let us pray: (the intentions can be read by the children)
For the gifts and good times we shared during the Christmas season, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
For our families and friends, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
courage the children to share their own intentions

Song: Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing: Hand out the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week.
1. Do you think gold, frankincense, and myrrh were appropriate gifts to bring the baby Jesus? (Note: Frankincense and myrrh were dried tree saps used to make incense, something you would burn to make different smells.) Explain your answer.

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2. What gift would you have brought the baby Jesus? Why?

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3. Draw a picture of yourself presenting your “gift” to the baby Jesus.
Baptism of the Lord (Cycle B)

(White Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the Liturgy begins

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: *Open Our Hearts* (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children into performing the Sign of the Cross

First Reading: “This is a reading from Isaiah.”
*readings can be done by a parent*
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 18*
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: Children’s Response: “I praise you, O God, for your faithful love. I praise you, O God, for all that you do.”
Verse 1: “You free the oppressed and save the poor.”
Verse 2: “The hungry are fed, the blind can see.”
Verse 3: “Happy are all who hope in you.”

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”
*Children: “Glory to you, Lord.”* (three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 19*
“The Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Today is a special feast called ‘The Baptism of the Lord.’”

“The first reading was written long before the birth of Jesus. Isaiah told people that God would choose someone to be a light for the world. The person would open the eyes of the blind, free those in...
prison, and give light to those who live in darkness. Who do you think God was talking about?” (share - Jesus)

“In today’s Gospel we heard about the baptism of Jesus. “Who baptized Jesus?” (share - John) “What happened as soon as Jesus was baptized?” (share - the Spirit came down in the form of a dove and a voice from Heaven spoke)

“Water is so important and necessary for growth in plants and animals; it is a sign of life. During our baptism, water was poured on our foreheads as a sign of God’s life in us. When we were baptized, we received the Holy Spirit just as Jesus did. We then became sons and daughters of God. We also received a candle when we were baptized. Because we were baptized and received the Holy Spirit, we are like Jesus. We can be a light for other people. We are like Jesus; we can serve other people. How can we help people, as Jesus did, in our homes, classrooms, and neighbourhoods?” (share - be kind, share, obey, etc.) “Today is a wonderful day as we celebrate the baptism of Jesus.”

**Intentions:**

“Let us pray: *(the intentions can be read by the children)*

For calling us by name during our baptism, we pray to the Lord.

*Children*: "Lord, hear our prayer."

For being our Father and loving us so much, we pray to the Lord.

*Children*: "Lord, hear our prayer."

Encourage the children to share their own intentions.

**Song:** Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

**Closing:** Discuss the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week; all parents should be encouraged to read next week’s readings with their children.
1. Isaiah said that the person God sends would open the eyes of the blind. What do you think that means? (Think of how else a person could be 'blind'.)

   
   
   

2. Isaiah said that the person God sends would free those in prison. What do you think that means? (Think of a different kind of 'prison' a person could be in.)

   
   
   

3. Draw a picture of the Baptism of Jesus, as John baptizes him in the water.
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

(Green Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: Open Our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children into performing the Sign of the Cross

First Reading: “This is a reading from the first book of Samuel.”
(readings can be done by a parent)
The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 64-65
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: Children’s Response: “Here I am, O my God, I come to do your will.”
Verse 1: “I waited patiently. You turned your face to me.”
Verse 2: “I love your law, O God. It makes my heart rejoice.”
Verse 3: “A new song I will sing: your love is wonderful.”

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of John.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)
The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 66-67
“The Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “The readings today focus on being called by God and answering him.”

“In the first reading, we heard about Samuel. What was Samuel’s ministry - what was his job in the Temple?” (share - to keep the Temple light burning) “What did Samuel hear?” (share - his name being called) “Who did Samuel think was calling him?” (share - Eli) “Who was actually calling Samuel?” (share - God) “Samuel was called
by God to be a prophet to his people. A prophet is one who speaks for God and therefore must always listen to God. When Samuel finally recognized it was God's voice, he had faith and he listened to the voice.”

“In the Gospel, it was the disciples who had faith and recognized Jesus. After Jesus had been baptized by John, he began to tell people how much God loved them. Whenever people saw Jesus they could feel that he was very special. People were drawn to him. They loved talking to him and listening to him.”

“One day John saw Jesus in Bethany. What did John call Jesus?” (share - the Lamb of God) “Andrew and his friend decided to follow Jesus and stayed with him all day. Then Andrew invited his brother to meet Jesus. They believed he was the Son of God and they followed Jesus because they had faith. They dropped everything to follow Jesus. God wants us to believe and have faith in order to follow Jesus. What can we do to show that we believe in Jesus and want to follow him?” (share - pray, learn more about Jesus, share the story of Jesus with others, be kind to others, listen to parents) “Through this, Jesus will know that we want to follow him.”

**Intentions:**

“Let us pray: *(the intentions can be read by the children)*

Help us to be gentle and kind when we play with others, we pray to the Lord.

*Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”*

Help us to remember that you are always with us, we pray to the Lord.

*Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”*

encourage the children to share their own intentions

**Song:**

*Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.*

**Closing:**

Hand out Home Assignment and select readers for the following week
HOME ASSIGNMENT
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

1. Why do you think Samuel assumed it was Eli calling his name? Why would it be hard for Samuel to believe that it was God calling him?

2. What can you do to show that you believe in Jesus and that you want to “follow” him?

3. Draw a picture of Samuel sleeping and hearing the voice of God calling his name.
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)  
(Green Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the Liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: *Open Our Hearts* (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in the “Sign of the Cross”.

First Reading: “This is a reading from the book of Jonah.”
(readings can be done by a parent)
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 68*
“The Word of the Lord.”
*Children*: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: *Children’s Response*: “Show me your ways, O Lord. Teach me your paths.”
Verse 1: “You show me when I have sinned.”
Verse 2: “My Saviour, I hope in you.”
Verse 3: “O lead me in ways of truth.”

Alleluia: sing the Alleluia together

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”
*Children*: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses –Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 69*
“The Gospel of the Lord.”
*Children*: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Last week we heard about Samuel who was called by God and listened. This week, Jonah, the people of Ninevah, and some fishermen were called and had to decide whether to listen.”

“In the first reading, what did God ask Jonah to do?” (share - go to
Ninevah) “Do you know what message God wanted Jonah to give?” (share – tell the people that Ninevah would be destroyed in forty ays) “What did the people do when they heard that their city would be destroyed?” (share – they fasted and did penance, they changed their lives) “The people of Ninevah had such faith in God that they believed he would destroy the city and so they made the changes to save the city.”

“In the Gospel, we heard about others who had faith in Jesus. When Jesus lived in Nazareth he probably was a carpenter. But later on he started travelling and talking. What do you think he was talking about?” (share – how much God loved everyone) “Jesus also tried to heal people who were sick and he tried to make people feel happy. This was a lot of work and Jesus needed others to help him.”

“What were Simon Peter and Andrew doing when Jesus called them?” (share – fishing) “What did Jesus say to them?” (share – ‘Come and follow me’) “What were James and John doing when Jesus called them?” (share – fishing) “Jesus told them that they would now be gathering people instead of fish. They would be telling people all about God. Do you think it was easy for these four men to leave everything and follow Jesus?” (share) “Jesus called us to follow him when we were baptized. We learn how to follow Jesus by praying, listening to his word, coming to church where we are part of a community of people who also want to know and follow Jesus.”

Intentions: “Let us pray: (the intentions can be read by the children) Jesus, for inviting us to be your friends, we pray to the Lord. Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.” For loving us so much and for forgiving us always, we pray to the Lord. Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.” encourage the children to share their own intentions

Song: Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing: Hand out the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week
1. What do you think the fishermen had to give up in order to follow Jesus? How do you think their lives changed?

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2. Think of three of your most favourite toys. Would you be willing to stop playing with these toys if your mother or father called you to help them when you wanted to play? How would you feel?

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3. Draw a picture of two fishermen (Simon and Andrew, or James and John) and Jesus asking them to follow him.
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)  
(Green Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candles: Select one child to help light the candles.

Song: *Open Our Hearts* (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading: “This is a reading from the book of Deuteronomy.” *(Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 70*

“The Word of the Lord.”

Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: *Children’s Response*: “Here I am, O my God. I come to do your will.”

Verse 1: “I waited patiently. You turned your face to me.”

Verse 2: “I will tell everyone how you will save us all.”

Verse 3: “A new song I will sing: your love is wonderful.” *(Pause in silence for a moment)*

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together.

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”

*Children*: “Glory to you, Lord.” *(Three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 71*

“The Gospel of the Lord.”

*Children*: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “The readings today focus on the people who spread the Word of God.”

“In the early days, prophets were ‘the voice of God’. Prophets were people chosen by God to speak on behalf of God. In the first reading..."
today, God promises the people of Israel a future prophet, one of their own people. Who do you think God meant?” (share – Jesus) “God warns the people that they will need to listen to this prophet. Do you remember what God will do to anyone who doesn’t listen to the prophet?” (share – punish them) “God also says that he will punish any prophet who says things that God didn’t really say.”

“The Gospel talks about Jesus, the future prophet that was mentioned in the first reading. Jesus came to help us become God’s children. Because of what Jesus did and said, he showed us God’s love, God’s forgiveness, and God’s power. Sometimes we hurt others, even if we don’t mean it. How do we hurt others?” (share – teasing, not letting others join us in a game, lying about someone, cheating, etc.) “Sometimes we hurt ourselves, too. God loves us and wants us to be free from anything that is not good for us. If we are sorry for hurting others, Jesus forgives us, and asks us to try again, try harder to do the right thing.”

“In the Gospel today, the man in the synagogue had an evil spirit inside of him. Jesus helped him get rid of it. Jesus wants us to help others, too. Often when we help others, we use our hands. How can we help someone with our hands?” (share – sharing, giving something, praying, welcoming, etc.) “How can you help someone this week?” (share) “Let’s try to be more kind and more helpful this week as we keep trying harder to listen to what Jesus asks of us.”

Intentions: “Let us pray: (The intentions may be read by the children)
Help us to be kind to others, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
Help us to resist things that hurt us and others, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
Encourage the children to share their own intentions.

Song: Choose from Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing: Discuss the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week; all parents should be encouraged to read next week’s readings with their children.
1. Why would it be wrong for a prophet to teach things in God’s name, even though God didn’t really say them?

2. If you were chosen to be a prophet, to speak on behalf of God, what are the three things you would want to share with others? What are the most important things you know about God that others should know about?

3. Draw a picture of Jesus speaking in front of others, talking about God.
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

(Green Cloth)

Welcome: "Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!"

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candles: Select one child to help light the candles.

Song: Open Our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading: "This is a reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians." (Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)

The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 72

"The Word of the Lord."

Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: Children's Response: "Here I am, O my God. I come to do your will."

Verse 1: “Speak, Lord, I'm listening. I wait to hear your Word.”

Verse 2: “I love your law, O God, it makes my heart rejoice.”

Verse 3: "I will tell everyone how you will save us all." (Pause in silence for a moment)

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together.

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”

Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (Three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)

The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 73

"The Gospel of the Lord."

Children: "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."

Dialogue: "For the past few weeks, we've heard about prophets and people who spoke about God. The first reading is a letter that St. Paul wrote."

"Paul was a Jew – a Pharisee. He was very proud of his Jewish background and had studied Jewish law very carefully. He believed so faithfully in the Jewish law that he punished people who went against the law – which meant he thought people who followed Jesus were disobeying the law and sinning against God. He tried to stop people from believing in Jesus. Then one day Jesus
appeared to Paul and spoke to him. From that moment on, Paul's life was completely changed and he spent the rest of his life preaching about Jesus. "Do you think God forgave Paul for all the things he had done before? How do you know?" (share - God is always willing to forgive us. We know because that is what Jesus told us and showed us.) "Paul was very eager to spread the Good News of God's great love."

"In the Gospel, Jesus shares the Good News of God's love for each person, and one way he did this was by performing miracles. Jesus was always using his hands to help others. What did he do in today's story?" (share - Jesus healed people) "Jesus took Peter's mother-in-law by the hand and helped her get up. She had a fever. As soon as Jesus helped her, the fever was gone. Did you ever have a fever?" (share) "Jesus showed love and kindness to the lady. How did she say 'thank you' to Jesus?" (share - she served food to Jesus and the others) "She passed on the kindness. That's what we can do, too. When someone does something nice for us, we can pass it on by doing something nice for someone else. Jesus said, 'Whatever you do to others, you do to me.' Soon it will be Valentine's Day. When we make valentines for others and when we tell or show others that we love them, we are passing on Jesus' love and spreading the good news of God. How else can we pass on the love of Jesus?" (share - being kind, sharing, listening to others, forgiving, etc.) "This week, try to pass on the love of Jesus to others."

**Intentions:**

"Let us pray: *(The intentions may be read by the children)*

Thank you Jesus for loving us so much, we pray to the Lord.

**Children:** "Lord, hear our prayer."

Thank you for loving us through others, we pray to the Lord.

**Children:** "Lord, hear our prayer."

Encourage the children to share their own intentions.

**Song:**

Choose from *Catholic Book of Worship III*, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

**Closing:**

Discuss the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week; all parents should be encouraged to read next week's readings with their children.
1. Paul began preaching about Jesus once he met him. What do you think Jesus said to Paul to make him change his mind?

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________________________________________________________________________

2. Jesus did things for others to show love and kindness. List three things that you will do this week to show others that you love them. Check (✓) the boxes once you’ve done them.

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3. Draw a picture of Jesus healing Simon’s mother-in-law, who had a fever.
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

(Green Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: Open Our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading: “This is a reading from the book of Leviticus.” (Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)

The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 74
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: Children’s Response: “My God, my God, have mercy on me. For all my hope is in you, my God, all my hope is in you.”
Verse 1: “You see I am in trouble, you know what makes me sad.”
Verse 2: “O God, you are my strength, my life is in your hands.” (Pause in silence for a moment)

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together.

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (Three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)

The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 75
“The Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “The readings today deal with a dreaded disease called leprosy. Does anyone know what leprosy is?” (share)
“Leprosy was a terrible sickness. Those that had it were not allowed to live in the towns with other people. Lepers had sores all over their bodies: on their face, hands, and legs. People were afraid of lepers and they would certainly not touch them. They told them to go away. Do you remember what the law (in the first reading) said lepers had to do?” (share - wear torn clothes, cover their heads, live outside the camp, shout out 'unclean' when they were in town).

“But in today’s Gospel (called the Good News), we heard how Jesus didn’t tell the leper to go away. What did Jesus do instead?” (share - he touched the man and cured him) “Jesus used his hands to do good, to show that God cares and God loves us. The healing of the leper was a miracle. Miracles show God’s power and love. Sometimes we may have felt a little like the lepers. Have you ever felt left out, alone, or unwanted?” (share) “Sometimes we feel better when someone forgives us or tells us that we are loved. What do our parents do to show that they love us?” (share - kiss or hug us)

“Sometimes just a kiss, a hug or even a smile is all that is needed to make someone feel good. Jesus shows us that and wants us to do the same. What could we do this week to make someone else feel good?” (share - be kind, share, be helpful, be friendly, etc.) “Let’s try to do these things throughout this week.”

**Intentions:**

“Let us pray: (The intentions may be read by the children)

Thank you for our healthy bodies, we pray to the Lord.

*Children:* “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Thank you for our friends and families, we pray to the Lord.

*Children:* “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Encourage the children to share their own intentions.

**Song:**

Choose from *Catholic Book of Worship III*, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

**Closing:**

Discuss the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week; all parents should be encouraged to read next week’s readings with their children.
1. Lepers were treated very poorly. Can you think of people who are treated badly or who are picked on? (Hint: Think about children at school.)

2. If you saw someone being treated badly, what could you do to make them feel welcome? How could you make someone feel better when they are alone and unhappy?

3. Draw a picture of Jesus touching the leper and healing him.
Our Faith Journey

Season of Lent

Lesson Plans Year One
Lent – Passion / Palm Sunday
Cycle B
The Liturgical Season of Lent (Cycle B)

Making the Connection

The Sunday Readings for Cycle B, for the liturgical season of Ordinary Time of Lent, and the expectations covered in the Criteria for Catechesis for children age seven, serve as a guide in the lessons presented. As we continue developing the child’s appreciation and understanding of why we gather as a faith community, and listen to God’s Word found in Sacred Scripture, children grow in their ability to participate in the Introductory Rites and Liturgy of the Word, the Creed and the Prayers of the Faithful, and now in understanding of the preparation of the gifts. In these lessons, we help children make the connection between the Gospel message and their lives. The following themes should be covered:

Catechetical Outcomes

Reinforce the desired outcomes identified in the matrix that emphasize the catechetical focus (the Preparation of the Gifts).

- Children will understand the gifts we offer and receive are gifts from God.
- The gifts help us connect with the gift of earth and celebrate human work
- They will acknowledge bread and wine as God’s gift to us which in Eucharist are transformed by the Holy Spirit
- Children will be able to explain the meaning of passages of Scripture:
  * The narrative of Creation
  * He took bread…
  * …have dominion over the fish of the sea.
  * Bread from heaven; manna
  * Every perfect gift…from the Father

Cognitive, Practical and Affective Outcomes

- The children will KNOW
  * God as the creator of the gifts of the earth
  * That the gifts of bread and wine are prepared for the Liturgy of the Eucharist
  * The need to care for the earth as the source of the gifts
  * A prayer is said over the offerings praising God for them
  * By sharing gifts, we honour God, the giver of all gifts
- The children will be able to DO the following
  * Recognize bread and wine as gifts of the Creator
  * Give thanks for the gifts
  * Recognize that the offerings are for all people
  * Share gifts
- The children should demonstrate the following VALUES and ATTITUDES
* Appreciation for the earth and its gifts
* Appreciation for being part of the preparation of the gifts
* Understanding that gifts are also divine; God gives gifts
* Gratitude by giving thanks before meals
* Willingness to share the gifts given us with others.

**Specific Lectionary Based Outcomes**

- (1st Sunday of Lent) Lent is a special time in the church year when we think about how we can change our lives and follow Christ’s teaching more closely
- (2nd) Jesus was giving Peter, James and John a picture of what he would be like after the Resurrection and what we will be like when we live with him forever
- (3rd) We gather as God’s people in the Church, a house of prayer
- (4th) People who do good things never have to be afraid. They know God loves them and will live with them forever
- (5th) In the parable, we learn that we must stop being selfish and try to live for others by putting the wants and needs of others before our own
- (Passion/Palm Sunday) The Procession and reading of the Passion and Death of Jesus allows us to enter into the event in a personal way
1st Sunday of Lent (Cycle B)
(Violet Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: *Open Our Hearts* (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading: “This is a reading from the book of Genesis.” (Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 22*
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: Children’s Response: “Your love and your promises are true, O my God, are true!”
Verse 1: “You made a covenant long ago, a promise made in love.”
Verse 2: “You keep your promises forever. Your love will never end.”
(Pause in silence for a moment)

Alleluia: the Alleluia is omitted during Lent

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (Three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 23*
“The Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Today is the first Sunday of Lent. Lent is a getting-ready time. We are getting ready for Easter. After Jesus died on the Cross, God gave him new life. That’s what Easter is all about...God’s New Life. Lent usually takes place in the springtime. In spring, we see new signs of life. What things do you see?” (share - buds, baby chicks, pussy willows, etc.) “How does spring make you feel?” (share - remind children of warmer weather and longer days)
“The first reading is the conclusion of the story of the Great Flood and Noah’s Ark. God said he would put a rainbow in the sky as a sign of the promise he made to never flood the earth again. Why do you think God chose a rainbow as a symbol of the promise?” (share - bright, colourful, a sign of hope, miraculous, etc.) “When do we see rainbows?” (share - after it has rained)

“There is another kind of new life. We can give new life to others by doing what God wants us to do. What can we do for others?” (share - help, share, forgive, be kind) “Sometimes we are tempted not to do good things. In today’s Gospel, we heard that Jesus was also tempted. He did not give in to temptation. He said, ‘No, way!’ and told the devil to go away.”

“Sometimes we don’t feel like sharing and are tempted to lie or to take something that is not ours. What can we do when we feel tempted?” (share - resist, think of Jesus, remember to do what’s right) “We try to do our best, but when we are tempted and make mistakes, we can always ask God to forgive us. Let’s try to do good things and to think about others during Lent.”

**Intentions:** “Let us pray: *(The intentions may be read by the children)*
Help us to make good changes in our lives, we pray to the Lord.
**Children:** “Lord, hear our prayer.”
Help grown-ups make good changes in their lives, we pray to the Lord.
**Children:** “Lord, hear our prayer.”
Encourage the children to share their own intentions

**Hymn:** Choose from *Catholic Book of Worship III*, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

**Closing:** Discuss the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week; all parents should be encouraged to read next week’s readings with their children.
1. List at least five different things that take place in the spring.

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2. Lent is a special time in the Church when we think even more about changing our lives. What is one thing you could do this week to be a better son/daughter, brother/sister, or friend? (Note: Try to pick something you will really try to do during the week.)

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3. Draw a picture of Noah’s Ark.
2nd Sunday of Lent (Cycle B)

(Purple Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: Open Our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in the “Sign of the Cross”.

First Reading: “This is a reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans.”
(readings can be done by a parent)
The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 24
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: Children’s Response: “O God, nothing can take us from your love.”
Verse 1: “God, my light and my salvation, you are my help.”
Verse 2: “And when evil is around me, I have no fear.”

Alleluia: The Alleluia is omitted during Lent

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses – Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)
The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 25
“The Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Today is the second Sunday of Lent. Lent is a getting-ready time for Easter. With everything going on, we are reminded that God loves us.”

“Have you ever played a game where there were ‘sides’ or teams? What games have two ‘sides’?” (share – baseball, soccer, etc.) “What does it mean in the game if someone is ‘on your side’?” (share – they are your teammate, they help you, they support you, etc.)”In the first reading, Paul tells us that ‘God is on our side’. What do you
think Paul meant by that?" (share - God is with us, he'll help us, etc.)”God is on our side and we have nothing to fear. Nothing can ever separate us from God. God gave us his only son, Jesus, who was willing to die for us. Anyone who loves us that much will always love us and keep us safe.”

“In today’s Gospel, Jesus and his friends climbed up a very high hill. Did you ever climb to the top of a really high hill?” (share) "How did you feel up at the top of the hill/mountain?” (share) “What happened to Jesus at the top of the hill?” (share - his clothes became white, he ‘glowed’) “Jesus shared a secret with his friends. He showed them a little bit of his heavenly beauty. His face and clothing began to shine like the sun.”

“Have you every seen previews or coming attractions of a movie? Why do they show us previews?” (share - to show what the movie is like and help us look forward to seeing it) “Jesus was giving his friends a preview of what he will be like after he has risen from the dead. Jesus’ friends heard God’s voice that told them to listen to Jesus. We also need to listen to Jesus. What can you do this week to show that you are listening to Jesus?” (share - pray, be kind, share, obey parents, etc.) “This week, try to do your best to be a follower of Jesus.”

**Intentions:** “Let us pray: (the intentions can be read by the children)
That we listen to Jesus and follow him, we pray to the Lord.

**Children:** “Lord, hear our prayer.”
That we use this special time of Lent to pray more and think of ways we can do good things, we pray to the Lord.

**Children:** “Lord, hear our prayer.”
encourage the children to share their own intentions

**Song:** Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

**Closing:** Hand out the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week.
1. God loves us so much. Who else in your life loves you? List others that you can think of.

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2. What are some things you do to show others that you love them? Try to do at least one of these things this week.

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3. Draw a picture of Jesus on the mountain. (Note: Remember that “his clothes became a dazzling white, whiter than anyone could wash them”.)
3rd Sunday in Lent (Cycle B)

(Purple Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children into performing the Sign of the Cross

Song: *Open Our Hearts* (by Christopher Walker)

First Reading: “This is a reading from the book of Exodus.”
(Readings can be done by a parent)
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 26*
“The Word of the Lord.”
*Children*: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: *Children’s Response*: “Your law, O God, gives us happiness, gives us happiness and new life.”
Verse 1: “Your law, O God, is good and just. You help us all to follow your ways.”
Verse 2: “Your words teach us what is right. Your word, O God, gives joy to my life.”

Alleluia: The Alleluia is omitted during Lent

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of John.”
*Children*: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 27*
“The Gospel of the Lord.”
*Children*: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Today is the third Sunday of Lent. We are getting closer to Easter!”
“The first reading is a list of God’s laws, the Ten Commandments, as given to Moses in the Old Testament. Does anyone remember any of the commandments?” (share [as the children respond, try to discuss and rephrase each commandment to reflect their lives - focus on respecting God, obeying their parents, not lying or stealing; you don’t need to spend much time on being unfaithful or not killing as this may not be relevant to the children])

“Last Sunday we heard how God said, ‘Listen to my Son, Jesus.’ That’s what we do when we come to church. We listen. We praise God. We thank him and we ask him to help us. That’s praying.”

“In the Gospel today, Jesus went to the temple, the church, to pray. What did Jesus see inside the temple?” (share - people, animals, money) “What was going on?” (share - a market, people selling things) “How did Jesus react?” (share - Jesus was mad and chases the animals out) “Why was Jesus angry?” (share - the temple was for people to pray, not sell things)

“When we go upstairs, you’ll see a lot of people who came to church to pray. The church is a special place where we gather each week to listen to God’s word and pray together. Many times people pray for others who have hurt us or we have hurt. Many times we pray for people who are sick. It is our way to talk to God.”

**Intentions:** “Let us pray: *(the intentions can be read by the children)*

Jesus, help us to follow you by loving God, loving our neighbour and loving ourselves, we pray to the Lord.

*Children:* “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Jesus, help us to say ‘I’m sorry’ when we hurt others or make a mistake, we pray to the Lord.

*Children:* “Lord, hear our prayer.”

encourage the children to share their own intentions

**Song:** Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

**Closing:** Hand out the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week.
Home Assignment
3rd Sunday in Lent (Cycle B)

1. The first four Commandments teach us to believe in God, to worship one God and not false gods or things. How and what were the people in Moses time worshipping? What things do you and your family do to show love for God? To show that we believe in God?

2. The 5th Commandment tells us to honour our parents. What things do you do to honour your parents?

3. Draw a picture of the temple where people were selling cattle and sheep and pigeons.
Note for Catechist

According to the Rite (RCIA), the Penitential Rite is “a proper occasion for baptized children of the catechetical group to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time” (#293).

This preparation session uses the images that emerge from the prayers and readings of the Second Scrutiny (celebrated on the Fourth Sunday of Lent). This session would take place on the Third Sunday of Lent. It is best if it is celebrated outside Mass.

Needed

- a prayer table
- cloth
- Cross
- Candle
- Lectionary

Introductory Rites

1. Song
2. Greeting
3. Opening Prayer

God of Power, look upon these, your children, as they deepen their understanding of the Gospel. Grant that they may come to know and love you with receptive minds and generous hearts. Teach them through this time of preparation and enfold them within your Church, so that they may share your holy mysteries both on earth and in heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN

Liturgy of the Word

My Story and God’s Story / Reflection on Darkness

Invite the children and adults to take a comfortable position on the floor on in the chairs.

Lead the group through a relaxation exercise of deep breathing and muscle stretching. Then move the group through a guided meditation.

Catechist:

I invite you to close your eyes and walk with me through an imagination exercise. First, welcome Jesus into your heart. Talk with Jesus for a little while, and tell Jesus how you are feeling today.

Invite Jesus to come and walk with you now.
You and Jesus are walking down a road. The road is lined with trees. Imagine yourself on the road with Jesus and anyone else you want to be there; maybe a parent, a godparent, a friend, or just you and Jesus. (pause)

It is early evening and it is starting to get dark as you walk down the road. You stop at a grassy hill and sit down with Jesus.

The sky has become dark. The darkness is all around you. You are not afraid because Jesus is with you. But you start to think about the things that make you feel uncomfortable.

(pause)

Maybe things at home. At school. In the world

(pause)

Talk to Jesus about yourself, now. There are things outside of us that we don’t like. Is there anything inside you that you need to change or work on? Tell Jesus about that now.

(pause)

Finally, talk with Jesus about the good parts you see in yourself. Tell Jesus about those parts of yourself. When you are finished talking to Jesus, you look up and see the bright moon and millions of stars. You feel as though you are surrounded by light. You feel the warmth of the light.

Catechist: Listen, now, to a reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (Eph 5:8–14)

Reader: “Live as children of light – for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, ‘Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you’."

The Word of the Lord.

(In small groups or in a large group) ask the group to share some of the things they told Jesus.

What in the world makes you uncomfortable or not feel right? What in themselves do they want to change?

Incorporate their responses into a litany as an adaptation of the intercession in the Scrutiny.

For example:

- that God may dispel darkness and be the light that shines in their hearts, let us pray to the Lord
- that God may gently lead them to Christ, the light of the world, let us pray to the Lord.
- That, freed by the power of the Spirit, they may put all fear behind them and press forward with confidence, let us pray to the Lord.
Catechist

- That we who are faced with the values of the world may remain faithful to the spirit of the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- That, as children of God, we may openly admit our weaknesses and faults, let us pray to the Lord.

**Connecting with the Rite**
Make reference to the upcoming Scrutiny being a time when the community will pray for the elect and candidates. It is a time when the community prays that God will take away the darkness and that Jesus will be their light.

**Closing Prayer**
Loving Father, we want to walk with Jesus, who gave his life for us. Help us to follow him.

Loving Father, free these young people from whatever could make them turn from you and help them always to walk in your light.

If they stumble on the way, help them up with the power of your hand, that they may rise again and continue on their journey to you, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Help us to walk with Jesus, who gave his life for us. Help us to follow him.

AMEN.
4th Sunday in Lent (Cycle B)

(Purple Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome.”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: Open Our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children into performing the Sign of the Cross

First Reading: “This is a reading from Paul’s letter to the Ephesians.”

(readings can be done by a parent)

The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 28
“The Word of the Lord.”

Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: Children’s Response: “O God, nothing can take us from your love, nothing can take us from your love.”

Verse 1: “God, my light and my salvation, you are my help.”

Verse 2: “And when evil is around me, I have no fear.”

Alleluia: The Alleluia is omitted during Lent

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of John.”

Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses - Lord in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)

The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 29
“The Gospel of the Lord.”

Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Today is the Fourth Sunday of Lent.”

“The first reading is a letter that St. Paul wrote. He tries to tell us how much God loves us. Do you earn money?” (share) “Do you pay for your food at home?” (share) “Do you pay to have a room in your
house?” (share) “Who takes care of all of these things? Why?” (share – our parents, because they love us) “Our parents don’t stop loving us or taking care of us even when we do something wrong. God is the same. He never stops loving us. Our parents show their love for us in so many ways. What things do we do at home to show our love for them?” (share – clean our room, take out the garbage, set the table, etc.) “What things could you do to show your love for God?” (share – be kind, helpful, etc.)

“Doing something kind for another person, telling them that you love them, saying ‘please’ and ‘thank you’, forgiving others, are all things we do to show our love. In today’s Gospel we heard that ‘God loved the world so much that he sent Jesus, to bring us the gift of “new life”. Why do you think he sent Jesus?” (share – he loved us)

“In today’s reading, too, we heard that Jesus is the Light of the World. Do robbers break into houses when all the lights are on? Why not?” (share – they’ll be seen and get caught) “When do they break in?” (share – when it’s dark) “Jesus said that people who do evil things like to be in the dark, but people who do good things like to come into the light. People who do bad things have to hide. People who do good things don’t have to hide. People who are evil stay away from Jesus. But people who do good things like to be with Jesus. Jesus asks that we be lights for others, by doing good and loving things and listening to him.”

**Intentions:**

“Let us pray: *(the intentions can be read by the children)*

Thank you, God, for loving us no matter what, and for showing yourself to us, in Jesus, we pray to the Lord.

*Children*: “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Thank you, Jesus, for being our Light, we pray to the Lord.

*Children*: “Lord, hear our prayer.”

encourage the children to share their own intentions

**Song:** Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

**Closing:** Hand out the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week.
1. What are some things you do at home to show your parents that you love them and you’re thankful for what they do for you?

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2. What are some things you do in your life to show God that you love him and you’re thankful for everything you have?

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________________________________________________________________________

3. Draw a picture of something that you could do this week to show your parents that you love them.
5th Sunday in Lent (Cycle B)

(Purple Cloth)

Welcome: "Good morning boys & girls. Welcome."

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book

Song: *Open Our Hearts* (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children into performing the Sign of the Cross

First Reading: "This is a reading from the prophet Jeremiah."

*(readings can be done by a parent)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 30*

"The Word of the Lord."

*Children: "Thanks be to God."*

Responsorial Psalm: *Children's Response:* "Your love and your promises are true, O my God, are true!"

Verse 1: "You made a covenant long ago, a promise made in love."

Verse 2: "You keep your promises forever. Your love will never end."

Alleluia: The Alleluia is **omitted** during Lent

Gospel: "This is a reading from the Gospel of John."

*Children: "Glory to you, Lord."* *(three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 31*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

*Children: "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."*

Dialogue: "Today is the Fifth Sunday of Lent, we are getting very close to Easter."

"The first reading talks about a covenant. Does anyone remember what a covenant is?" *(share - a promise)* "On the First Sunday of
Lent, God was going to give a sign to remind us about his covenant. Do you remember what the sign was?” (share - a rainbow)

“If from the first reading, do you remember what God’s promise is this time?” (share - [you might want to re-read parts of the reading] ‘I will be their God and they will be my people’) “God also promised to forgive all the wrong we have done. We continue to be reminded how much God loves us.”

“In the Gospel, Jesus tells a story about planting a grain of wheat. Have you ever planted a seed or watched someone plant seeds?” (share) “What happens after some time?” (share - a sprout appears, leaves grow, etc.) “What would happen if you left the seed in the package or on a shelf?” (share - it wouldn’t grow, it would stay the same) “Why would the seed not grow?” (share - it wouldn’t get water, dirt, sunshine, etc.)

“Jesus compares us to the grain of wheat, a seed. What kind of person do you think Jesus wants us to be?” (share - kind, helpful, loving) “Jesus said ‘those who are willing to give up their lives will live forever’. Jesus asks us to put other people first. What could we do to put other people first?” (share - help them, be kind, say ‘thank you’) “This week, try to put other people first.”

Intentions: “Let us pray: (the intentions can be read by the children)
That we try to make others happy this week, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
That we will forgive those who hurt us, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
encourage the children to share their own intentions

Song: Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing: Hand out the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week.
1. What are all of the things that a seed needs to grow into a healthy plant?

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2. What are all of the things you need to grow into a healthy person? What do you need to do to make the world around you a healthy place?

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3. Draw a picture of a seed left on the shelf and a seed that has been planted in the ground.
Passion / Palm Sunday (Cycle B)

(Violet Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: *Open Our Hearts* (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading: “This is a reading from Paul’s letter to the Philippians.” *(Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 33*

“The Word of the Lord.”

*Children:* “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: *Children’s Response:* “Glorify God, glorify God, glorify God with me. Let us praise God’s holy name. Glorify God, glorify God’s holy name!” *(Pause in silence for a moment)*

Alleluia: The Alleluia is **omitted** during Lent.

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”

*Children:* “Glory to you, Lord.” *(Three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 32*

“The Gospel of the Lord.”

*Children:* “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Today is called Passion Sunday or Palm Sunday. It is a special celebration that reminds us that Easter is one week away!”

“The first reading is another letter written by St. Paul. He talks about the life of Jesus. Do you remember anything from his letter?” *(share)* “Jesus lived a humble life as a human being and obeyed everything God said. What happened to Jesus in the end?”
(share – he died on a cross)”Jesus loved God so much that he did what God wanted even though it meant he would eventually die on a cross.”

“In the Gospel today, we heard how Jesus came into the city of Jerusalem. How did Jesus enter the city?” (share – riding a colt)”The people heard he was coming and welcomed him. What did they do?” (share – spread their coats on the ground, waved branches)”We carry branches today because we also want to honour Jesus as our King and welcome him into our hearts and lives.”

“But Jesus had enemies. They were jealous and hated him. They made him suffer very much. This week is called Holy Week. We think about the last days of Jesus before he died. On Holy Thursday we remember when Jesus ate his last supper with the Apostles. On Good Friday we remember when Jesus died on the Cross. Jesus’ enemies had crucified him on the Cross. He prayed for his enemies and asked God to forgive them. The story of how much Jesus suffered makes us sad.”

“On Holy Saturday some people will come to church at night. The church will be dark. Father _______ will light a big candle that will stand for Jesus’ New Life, the resurrected Jesus. Holy Week is very special. Take time to remember Jesus throughout this special week.”

**Intentions:**

“Let us pray: *(The intentions may be read by the children)*

For loving us so much, we pray to the Lord.

*Children:* "Lord, hear our prayer."

For the Good News of Easter, we pray to the Lord.

*Children:* "Lord, hear our prayer."

Encourage the children to share their own intentions.

**Song:**

Choose from *Catholic Book of Worship III*, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

**Closing:**

Discuss the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week; all parents should be encouraged to read next week’s readings with their children.
1. What were some of the things that Jesus did in his life that showed his love for God? And for us?

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2. What are some of the things that you do in your life to show Jesus that you love him and have faith in him?

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____________________________________________________________________

3. Draw a picture of Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a colt as people spread their clothes on the ground and waved branches.
Year 1 Cycle A/B Scope and Sequence Review
Chart: Lent
The Liturgical Season of Lent
(Cycle B)

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<td>1st Sun. of Lent Mk 1:12–15 2nd Mk 9:2–10 3rd Jn 2:13–25 4th Jn 3:14–21 5th Jn 12:20–33 Passion/Palm Sunday Mk 15:1–39</td>
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Our Faith Journey

Easter Season to Body and Blood of Christ

LESSON PLANS YEAR ONE
April 1 (Easter) – May 20, 2018 (Pentecost)
Cycle B
The Liturgical Season of Easter

Making the Connection

The Sunday Readings for Cycle B, for the Liturgical Season of Easter to Pentecost, and the expectations covered in the Criteria for Catechesis for children age seven, serve as a guide in the lessons presented. The Scriptures presented help children make the connection between the sacrifice on the cross and the sacrifice of the Mass by focusing on the Concluding Rites of the Mass. In these lessons, we help children make the connection between the Gospel message and their lives. The following themes should be covered:

Catechetical Outcomes
Reinforce desired outcomes identified in the matrix that emphasize the catechetical focus (the Liturgy of the Eucharist and the Communion Rite):

- Children will recognize the Eucharistic Prayer as one of blessing and praising God for gifts
- They will understand the essential role of the priest
- They will remember and thank God for what Jesus has done
- They will know that the Our Father asks for daily bread and forgiveness
- They will reflect on Jesus feeding us and respond with prayer and adoration
- They will be able to explain the meaning of passages of Scripture:
  - Pentecost: the coming of the Spirit
  - The Our Father
  - Apprehension, trial, death and burial of Jesus
  - The washing of the feet
  - The Resurrection of Jesus
  - Feeding of the five thousand

Cognitive, Practical and Affective Outcomes
- The children will KNOW
  - That in the Eucharistic Prayer...we give thanks to the Father, with and in Christ for the gifts of creation and salvation...we remember what Jesus did on the night before he died...we believe bread and wine are transformed into Christ’s gift of his Body and Blood for us and that through Jesus, God gives himself to us.
  - The Our Father is a prayer of forgiveness
  - Communion makes us one with God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit
• The children will be able to DO the following
  * Grasp that Jesus becomes present in the bread and wine; that the bread and wine are changed into Christ
  * Recite the Lord’s Prayer
  * Recognize that in the ‘breaking of the bread’ we find an image of Jesus giving himself
  * Forgive others
  * See the need for reconciliation and participate in the Sacrament of Penance

• The children should demonstrate the following VALUES and ATTITUDES
  * Reverence before the Blessed Sacrament
  * Appreciation of what it is to receive communion
  * Forgiveness
  * Pray the Lord’s Prayer
  * Likes being part of the parish community
  * Makes friends and brings people together

Specific Lectionary Based Outcomes
• (Easter Sunday) The women were the first disciples to witness the empty tomb and receive the Good News that Jesus is risen; Jesus really died and was buried but he rose from the dead and lives forever. Alleluia!
• (2nd) Sometimes, like Thomas, we find it difficult to believe what we cannot see. People come to believe in Jesus by what we say and do by seeing Jesus in our lives
• (3rd) Jesus rose from the dead to bring us peace and forgiveness; he wants us to bring peace and forgiveness to others and, in that way we show that Jesus is here with us
• (4th) Jesus, like a true shepherd will not leave us if we listen to his voice through others who teach us about him
• (5th) We must stay attached to Jesus and have his life in us so we will bear good fruit
• (6th) We are commanded to love (serve) in the way Jesus loved and we will know true joy
• (Ascension) Because we received the Holy Spirit at Baptism, we can share the Good News about Jesus’ resurrection with the whole world
• Jesus prayed for us because he truly wanted us to be true to God, united as one and share in his joy
• (Pentecost) We have the power of the Holy Spirit to free people by being forgiving and when we do this we will experience peace
Easter Sunday (Cycle B)

(White Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Alleluia, Happy Easter!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: Open Our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading: “This is a reading from The Acts of the Apostles.”
(readings can be done by a parent)
The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 40
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: Children’s Response: “You have given me life. I will proclaim the wonders you do.
Verse 1: “You have shown mercy and power. You have given me life.”
Verse 2: “You opened the gates of heaven. You have given me life…”

Alleluia: The Alleluia is sung for the first time since before Lent

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (Three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)

…”
Children: “This is the Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Jesus’ tomb or grave was hollowed out from the side of a rocky hill and could be visited. In front of the entrance was a large stone. When Mary visited the tomb, what did she discover? (share - the stone had been moved) “What else was wrong?” (share - Jesus’ body was gone) “What did this mean?” (share - Jesus was dead, but now he is alive again) “What special things do we do on Easter?” (share -}
special Easter clothes, Easter eggs, Easter bunny, etc.) “Bunnies, chicks, and eggs are all signs of newness - new life. We see signs of new life in nature - new grass, flowers, buds on trees, etc. Are any of you going to visit someone today?” (share) “Our visit can bring new life to that person. Easter is a time to celebrate new life. Jesus had died and was buried in the tomb. But he rose from the dead and lives forever. The young man in the tomb said, 'Go and tell others so that they will see him.' How do we 'see' Jesus today?” (share - in the kindness of others, in miracles of nature, etc.) “How can we 'go and tell others'?” (share - by doing what Jesus wants us to do: be kind, nice, share, etc.) “This week celebrate Jesus' New Life.

Intentions: “Let us pray:
That we will say ‘thank you’ to Jesus for the new life he wants to share with us, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
For people who do not know the Good News about Jesus, we pray...
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Song: “Rejoice in the Lord Always”, Ultimate Kids Song Collection

Take-Home Activity: Children colour the Home Assignment, “Alleluia! He is Risen!”

Closing: Discuss the Home Assignment and select readers for the following week; all parents should be encouraged to read next week’s readings with their children.
Alleluia He is Risen!

"I have seen the Lord." *John 20:18*
2nd Sunday of Easter (Cycle B)

(White Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

(Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)

(Pause in silence for a moment)

First Reading: (Readings are taken from the SUNDAY Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p 42, These readings may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist)

“This is a reading from the Acts of the Apostles.”

…. “The Word of the Lord.”

Children: “Thanks be to God.”

(Pause in silence for a moment.)

Responsorial Psalm: Leader: This day was made by the Lord, let us rejoice, let us be glad. This day was made by the Lord. Let us rejoice in salvation (All repeat)

Verse 1: “You have shown your mercy and power; you have given me life (repeat italics)

I will proclaim the wonders you do.”

Verse 2: “You opened the gates of heaven! you have given me life (repeat italics) I will proclaim the wonders you do.”

(Pause in silence for a moment)

Gospel Acclamation: Sing the Alleluia together

We have seen the risen Lord, Alleluia. I believe my Lord and God.

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of John.”

Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses – Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)

The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 46

“This is the Gospel of the Lord.”

Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Last week we heard how Jesus died but then rose from the dead. We sang ‘Alleluia’ as a cheer and an expression of praise. We were so happy that Jesus has risen from the dead. Today we heard how
Jesus went to see his friends. Where were the Apostles?” (share - in a room upstairs) “Why had they locked the door?” (share - they were afraid of Jesus’ enemies) “What did Jesus say when he came in?” (share - ‘Peace be with you’) “What did Thomas say when the others told him what had happened?” (share - ‘I’ll never believe it’)

“Thomas did not believe Jesus had appeared. He said he would not believe unless he saw it for himself. What happened the next week?” (share - Jesus came again) “Why did Thomas now believe?” (share - because he saw Jesus for himself) “Sometimes it is difficult to believe in things we haven’t seen. Jesus said ‘how blessed are people who have not seen me and still believe’. We believe in Jesus because of what others say and do, not because we have seen him. In the same way, people come to believe in Jesus by what we say and do. We need to continue to show Jesus to others this week by being good and kind to others, as Jesus would want.”

**Intentions:**

“Let us ask Jesus to bless us as we pray: (The intentions may be read by the children)

For those who find it hard to believe, we pray to the Lord.

*Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”*

That the peace of Jesus may touch all hearts, we pray to the Lord.

*Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”*

**Song:**

* Taken from *Catholic Book of Worship III*, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

**Closing:**

* Discuss and clarify the home assignment
* Select readers and proclaimers for the following week
* Parents should be encouraged to pre-read next week’s readings with their children some time during the week
1. What things can you do to show others that you love Jesus?

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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. What will you do this week to show your love for Jesus?

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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. Draw a picture of yourself sharing your love for Jesus by helping someone.
3rd Sunday of Easter (Cycle B)

(White Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome! Alleluia.”
Announcements: - Review with the children the Psalm response
- Make any necessary announcements before you begin
Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.
Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross
First Reading: (Readings are taken from The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p 44,
and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)
“This is a reading from the Acts of the Apostles.”

…. “The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

(Pause in silence for a moment)
Responsorial Psalm: Leader: This day was made by the Lord, let us rejoice, let us be glad.
This day was made by the Lord. Let us rejoice in salvation (All repeat)
Verse 1: “You have shown your mercy and power; you have given me life
(repeat italics) I will proclaim the wonders you do.”
Verse 2: “You opened the gates of heaven; you have given me life
(repeat italics) I will proclaim the wonders you do.”

(Pause in silence for a moment)
Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together
Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Luke.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses – Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in
my heart)
The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 44
“This is the Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “Every Sunday we listen to a story about Jesus. We listen with our
ears (place hands over ears) and we keep what we hear in our minds
(place hands on head) and in our hearts (place hands on heart). Then
during the week we try to remember what we heard. Just like last
Sunday, the friends of Jesus were sitting together when Jesus came
to them. Do you remember what he said?” (share - ‘Peace be with
you!’) ”How did the disciples react?“ (share - frightened) “Why were
the disciples frightened?” (share - they thought Jesus was a ghost) “Jesus was really there. He asked for something to eat.

What did his friends bring him?” (share - fish) “Jesus came to bring peace to his friends and he asked them to bring peace and forgiveness to others. This is what we should be doing, too. In church, Fr. ________ asks us to share a sign of peace with each other. What do we say to these people?” (share - ‘Peace be with you.’) “How can we bring peace to others during the week?” (share - be kind, nice, share, say sorry, say thank you, etc.) “Let’s make an effort this week to bring peace to the lives of others.”

Intentions: “Let us pray:
For people who are lonesome, we pray to the Lord.
For people who are lonely, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
For people who are sick, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
Encourage children’s intentions...

Song: - Taken from Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing: - Discuss and clarify the home assignment
- Select readers and proclaimers for the following week
- Parents should be encouraged to pre-read next week’s readings with their children sometime during the week
1. Name three things you can do this week to show you want to make peace with others.

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________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

2. Who can you bring peace to this week?

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________________________________________________________________________________

3. Draw yourself sharing peace with someone
4th Sunday of Easter (Cycle B)

(White Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome. Alleluia!”
Announcements: - Review with the children the Psalm response
       - Make any necessary announcements before you begin
Candle(s): - Select child to light the candle(s), if appropriate
Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross
First Reading: (Readings are taken from The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p 46, and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)
“This is a reading from the Acts of the Apostles.”
......
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”
(Pause in silence for a moment)
Responsorial Psalm: Leader: This day was made by the Lord, let us rejoice, let us be glad.
       This day was made by the Lord. Let us rejoice in salvation” (All repeat)
       Verse 1: “You have shown your mercy and power; you have given me life
       (repeat italics) I will proclaim the wonders you do.”
       Verse 2: “You opened the gates of heaven: you have given me life
       (repeat italics) I will proclaim the wonders you do.”
(Pause in silence for a moment)
Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together
Gospel: “This is a reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words and in my heart)
......
“This Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”
(Pause in silence for a moment)
Dialogue: “Is there anyone here who has a pet?” (share) “What do you do to take care of your pet?” (share - feed, clean, walk, etc.) “What is a
shepherd?” (share) Jesus knew a lot about sheep and shepherds and so did the people he spoke to. Maybe when Jesus was a boy he had to take care of sheep. What do you think he had to do as a shepherd? (share - help them find food, protect them from wild animals, find lost sheep)

Jesus, like a good shepherd, will never leave us. He will always care for us, even when we are in danger. When we are afraid, he is not afraid. He is even willing to die rather than leave us. A good shepherd leads his flock by the sound of his voice. In today’s Gospel, Jesus says he wants everyone to listen to his voice. How do we listen to Jesus today? (share - coming to church, listening to the readings of the liturgy)

“Who talks to you about Jesus?” (share - Fr. _____, parents, liturgy teachers) These people are shepherds in the church today. Jesus continues to be our Good Shepherd through these people. This week, try to be a good listener and try to love as Jesus asks us to love.”

Intentions: “After each prayer, we’ll say: ‘Thank you, Jesus, our Good Shepherd.’:
For caring about us so much...

Children: “Thank you, Jesus, our Good Shepherd.”
For leading us with your word...

Children: “Thank you, Jesus, our Good Shepherd.”

Song: - Taken from Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing: - Discuss and clarify the home assignment
- Select readers and proclaimers for the following week
- Parents should be encouraged to pre-read next week’s readings with their children sometime during the week.
1. Why is Jesus called the Good Shepherd?

2. The sheep know and listen for the voice of their shepherd. Who helps you to find your way?

3. Draw a picture of people who act like Jesus the Good Shepherd
5th Sunday of Easter (Cycle B)

(White Cloth)

Welcome: “Good Morning boys and girls. Welcome! Alleluia!

Announcements: - Review with the children the Psalm response
- Make any necessary announcements before you begin

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross

First Reading: (Readings are taken from The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p 48 and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)
“This is a reading from the Acts of the Apostles.”

……..
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”
(Pause in silence for a moment)

Responsorial Psalm: Leader: “This day was made by the Lord, let us rejoice, let us be glad.
This day was made by the Lord. Let us rejoice in salvation” (All repeat)
Verse 1: “You have shown your mercy and power; you have given me life
(repeat italics)I will proclaim the wonders you do.”
Verse 2: “You opened the gates of heaven: you have given me life (repeat
italics)I will proclaim the wonders you do.”

(Pause in silence for a moment)

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of John.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words,
and in my heart)
The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 49
“This is the Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: [if possible, bring in a plant and use it to demonstrate as you
discuss]
“In today’s Gospel, Jesus compares himself to a vine/plant and we are the branches. What do you know about plants?” (share -
they’re beautiful, they need water/light, they sometimes give us
food, they give off carbon dioxide) "What will happen if I take a leaf off the stem?" (share – it will wilt) "Why?" (share – because it’s no longer attached to the stem) "What happens to the other leaves?" (share – they will live) "Why?" (share – because they are attached) "Today Jesus talks about a vine. He calls himself the vine and he says that we are like the branches, or leaves. If we do not stay connected to Jesus, we are like dried up leaves and branches that no longer get their food from the vine. But if we stay part of Jesus and live by his words, we will grow like a leaf still attached to the plant. We can do good things when we are united with Jesus, when we stay close to him and live by his words. It’s important for us to spend this week living like we are connected to Jesus."

Intentions: "After each prayer answer: 'We thank you, Jesus.‘:"

For taking care of us…

**Children:** "We thank you, Jesus."

For being the vine for our branches…

**Children:** "We thank you, Jesus."

Song: - Taken from Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing: - Discuss and clarify the home assignment
- Select readers and proclaimers for the following week
- Parents should be encouraged to pre-read next week’s readings with their children sometime during the week
1. What can you do this week to stay close to Jesus?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. Name one thing that you will do to show your family or friends that you want to act like a friend of Jesus would.

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________________________________________________________________________

3. Draw a healthy vine with lots of branches and grapes
6th Sunday of Easter (Cycle B)

(White Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome! Alleluia!

Announcements: - Review with the children the Psalm response
- Make any necessary announcements before you begin

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross

First Reading: (Readings are taken from The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p 54, and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)
“This is a reading from the Acts of the Apostles.”

“... The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

(Pause in silence for a moment)

Responsorial Psalm: Leader: “This day was made by the Lord, let us rejoice, let us be glad. This day was made by the Lord. Let us rejoice in salvation” (All repeat) Verse 1: “You have shown your mercy and power; you have given me life (repeat italics) I will proclaim the wonders you do.” Verse 2: “You opened the gates of heaven: you have given me life (repeat italics) I will proclaim the wonders you do.”

(Pause in silence for a long moment)

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together

Gospel: (Readings are taken from The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p 50 and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)
“This is a reading from the Gospel of John.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)

... “The Gospel of the Lord.”
Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

... 

(Pause in silence for a moment)
Dialogue: "Last Sunday Jesus told us that he loves us and cares for us like a gardener cares for the plants. Today Jesus is saying to each one of us that we are his friends. Think of your friends. What makes a good friend?" (share - they are kind, helpful, share, comforting) "Are you a good friend? How do you know?" (share - people want to be around you) "Friends feel close to one another. Jesus also wants to be our friend. He loves us and wants the best for us. Jesus wants us to be happy, healthy, loving and joyful. How can we do that?" (share - be kind to others, share, etc.) "Jesus loved others so much that he healed them when they were sick and helped them when they were in trouble. Jesus wants us to help and care for others. What could you do at school this week to make someone else feel better?" (share - include everyone in a game, talk to someone who seems alone, help someone even if it means missing play time, etc.) "Jesus loves everyone and he wants us to try to be kind to others. That's a very hard thing to do. Do your best."

Intentions: "Let us pray:
For families, that they be united in love, we pray to the Lord.
Children: "Lord, hear our prayer."
That we will listen to God's word, we pray to the Lord.
Children: "Lord, hear our prayer."

Song: - Taken from Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing: - Discuss and clarify the home assignment
- Select readers and proclaimers for the following week
- Parents should be encouraged to pre-read next week's readings with their children sometime during the week
1. What kinds of things would Jesus want you to do to be a good friend to someone?

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

2. How can you help someone at school to feel better this week?

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_________________________________________________________________________

3. Draw a picture of you helping someone this week.
Ascension Sunday (Cycle B)

(White Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome! Alleluia!”

Announcements:
- Review with the children the Psalm response
- Make any necessary announcements before you begin

Candle/Book:
Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Sign of the Cross:
Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading:
(Readings are taken from The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p 52, and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)
“This is a reading from the Acts of the Apostles.”

(Turn page)
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

(Pause in silence for a moment)

Responsorial Psalm:
Leader: This day was made by the Lord, let us rejoice, let us be glad.
This day was made by the Lord. Let us rejoice in salvation” (All repeat)

Verse 1: “You have shown your mercy and power; you have given me life
(repeat italics) I will proclaim the wonders you do.”
Verse 2: “You opened the gates of heaven: you have given me life
(repeat italics) I will proclaim the wonders you do.”

(Pause in silence for a moment)

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together

Gospel:
(Readings are taken from The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p 52 and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)
“This is a reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.”
Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words and in my heart)

...
“The Gospel of the Lord.”

Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

(Pause in silence for a moment)

Dialogue: “The friends of Jesus think that he is giving them sad news when he tells them that he is going to leave them. Where is Jesus going?” (share - to Heaven) “Is it a sad thing that Jesus was going to Heaven?” (share - yes because he wouldn’t be with them, but no because he was going to be back where he came from) “Jesus looked at them and told them they had a job to do. Do you remember what the job was?” (share - to tell the Good News about God and his love for everyone) “What did the apostles do after Jesus left?” (share - they preached) “What can we do to spread the Good News about God?” (share - talk about how good God is) “One way to show that God is good is by acting as Jesus taught us. How should we act at home and at school?” (share - be kind, nice, share, listen to our parents and teachers, etc.) “This week, spread the Good News about Jesus, who is God, by trying to be the best person you can.”

Intentions:

“Let us pray:
That we show the good news by our actions, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
That we share the good news with others, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
encourage children’s intentions...

Song: - Taken from Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing:

- Discuss and clarify the home assignment
- Select readers and proclaimers for the following week
- Parents should be encouraged to pre-read next week’s readings with their children sometime during the week
1. What can you do this week at school to spread the Good News about God?

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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. What can you do this week at home to spread the Good News about God?

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________________________________________________________________________
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3. Draw a picture of you doing something good this week to spread the Good News about God.
Pentecost Sunday (Cycle B)

(Red Cloth)

Welcome:  “Good Morning boys and girls. Welcome ALLELUIA!!

Announcements:  Review with the children the Psalm response
Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book:  Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song:  Open Our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross:  Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading:  “This is a reading from the Acts of the Apostles.”  (Readings may be
proclaimed by a parent)
The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 56
...
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children:  “Thanks be to God.”
(Pause in silence for a moment)

Responsorial Psalm:  Children’s Response:  “Send us your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face
of the earth!”
Verse:  May your glory last forever. May you rejoice in all we do!

Alleluia:  Sing the Alleluia together.

Gospel:  “This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.”
Children:  “Glory to you, Lord.”  (Three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in
my heart)
...
“The Gospel of the Lord.”
Children:  “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”
(Pause in silence for a moment)
Dialogue: “Do you remember what happened to Jesus in last Sunday’s Gospel?” (share – Jesus went to Heaven) “Jesus asked the apostles to spread the Good News. In this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus gives the apostles another gift. He gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit. How did Jesus give the Holy Spirit to the apostles?” (share – He breathed on them) “The Holy Spirit gave them the power to forgive others. When we were baptized, we were also blessed with the Holy Spirit. We also have the power to forgive others. What does it mean to forgive someone?” (share – when someone does something wrong, we can say ‘it’s okay’) “Many times when someone does something to hurt us, they feel badly. What happens when we forgive them?” (share – they will feel better) “This week, try not to hurt anyone. And if they hurt you, try to forgive them.”

Intentions: “Let us pray: (The intentions may be read by the children)
For loving us so much, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
For the Good News of Easter, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
Encourage the children to share their own intentions.

Song: Choose from Catholic Book of Worship III, your parish hymnal, or other sourced song book. Be sure it is related to the theme of today.

Closing: - Discuss and clarify the home assignment
- Select readers and proclaimers for the following week
- Parents should be encouraged to pre-read next week’s readings with their children sometime during the week
1. How did Jesus pass on the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. What does the Holy Spirit help us to do?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

3. Draw a picture of you showing someone that you forgive them.
### Year 1 Cycle A/B Scope and Sequence Review Chart: Easter Sunday – Pentecost
#### The Liturgical Season of Easter: Easter Sunday – Pentecost (Cycle B)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catechetical Focus</th>
<th>Thematic Scriptural References that support the Catechesis of the Mass</th>
<th>Knowledge and Understanding (Cognitive Level)</th>
<th>Skills (Practical Level)</th>
<th>Values and Attitudes (Affective Level)</th>
<th>Lectionary Readings</th>
<th>Gospel Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eucharist and the Eucharistic Community</strong></td>
<td>Acts 2:1–41 Pentecost: the coming of the Spirit&lt;br&gt;Luke 11:1–4 The “Our Father”&lt;br&gt;Luke 22:47, 23:57 Apprehension, trial, death and burial of Jesus&lt;br&gt;John 13:1–15 The washing of the feet&lt;br&gt; Mt. 28:1–10 The Resurrection of Jesus&lt;br&gt; John 6:1–14 Feeding of the five thousand&lt;br&gt; John 6:35, 51–71 Bread of life</td>
<td>In the Eucharistic Prayer … we give thanks to the Father, with and in Christ for the gifts of creation and salvation … we remember what Jesus did on the night before he died … we believe bread and wine are transformed into Christ’s gift of his Body and Blood for us. Through Jesus God gives himself to us&lt;br&gt;The Our Father is a prayer for forgiveness&lt;br&gt;Communion makes us one with God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit</td>
<td>Grasp that Jesus becomes present in the bread and wine; that the bread and wine are changed into Christ&lt;br&gt;Recite the Lord’s Prayer&lt;br&gt;Recognize that in the ‘breaking of the bread’ we find an image of Jesus giving himself&lt;br&gt;See the need for reconciliation and participate in the Sacrament of Penance</td>
<td>Is reverent before the Blessed Sacrament&lt;br&gt;Appreciates what it is to receive communion&lt;br&gt;Is forgiving&lt;br&gt;Prays the Lord’s Prayer&lt;br&gt;Likes being part of the parish community&lt;br&gt;Makes friends and brings people together</td>
<td>Easter Sunday&lt;br&gt;2nd&lt;br&gt;3rd&lt;br&gt;4th&lt;br&gt;5th&lt;br&gt;6th&lt;br&gt;Ascension&lt;br&gt;7th&lt;br&gt;Pentecost</td>
<td>Mk 16:1–8&lt;br&gt;Jn 20:19–31&lt;br&gt;Lk 24:35–48&lt;br&gt;Jn 10:11–18&lt;br&gt;Jn 15:1–8&lt;br&gt;Jn 15:9–17&lt;br&gt;Mk 16:15–20&lt;br&gt;Jn 17:11b–19&lt;br&gt;Jn 20:19–23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Feasts of the Lord and Sundays in Ordinary Time:
Trinity to 23rd Sunday (Cycle B)

Making the Connection

The Sunday Readings for Cycle B, for the Liturgical Season of Easter to Pentecost, and the expectations covered in the *Criteria for Catechesis* for children age seven, serve as a guide in the lessons presented. The Scriptures presented help children make the connection between the sacrifice on the cross and the sacrifice of the Mass by focusing on the Concluding Rites of the Mass. In these lessons, we help children make the connection between the Gospel message and their lives. The following themes should be covered:

Catechetical Outcomes
Reinforce desired outcomes identified in the matrix that emphasize the catechetical focus (the Concluding Rites and the Dismissal):

- Children will explore the meaning of being sent forth: Mission
- Experiencing God’s blessing as we go forth
- They will be able to explain the meaning of passages of Scripture
  - Doubting Thomas
  - Two disciples on the road to Emmaus
  - Jesus, the Good Shepherd
  - I will not leave you orphaned

Regarding the Cognitive, Practical and Affective Outcomes

- The children will KNOW
  - Jesus as God, as the one whom we meet in the Eucharist, as the Good Shepherd and as one who is always with us
  - We are sent forth with the Holy Spirit to be like Jesus
  - How important it is to participate in the prayer of the Church
  - To be good (moral) is to follow the example of Jesus in his relationship to God and to others
- The children will be able to DO the following
  - Speak about ways we are ‘sent forth’
  - Enter into the celebrations each Sunday with deeper understanding of the meaning
  - Pray and translate his/her friendship with Jesus into action
- The children should demonstrate the following VALUES and ATTITUDES
  - Knowledge of Jesus more through feeling than through articulated knowledge
  - Appreciates the action of the Holy Spirit
  - Seeks to become more like Jesus
  - Shows reverence for the Blessed Sacrament
  - Tries to follow Jesus’ commands in his relation to God and others
Specific Lectionary Based Outcomes

- (Trinity Sunday) Jesus told his disciples to preach, baptize and teach as we share the experience of God in our lives
- (Corpus Christi) Jesus is the One who satisfied our hunger and thirst. This is symbolized in the body and blood we share in Eucharist
- (10th) God gives us free will to choose good over evil and God promises to give us strength to do that
- (11th) When we pray the Our Father we ask that God’s kingdom come. It is already ‘here and now’ when we act as Jesus did
- (12th) When we are afraid, we need to remember that Jesus is always with us and has the power to calm these storms
- (13th) We saw Jesus power over evil spirits, over sin, over wind and water and now over death
- (14th) At times when we feel rejected because we spoke the truth, we remember that Jesus too experienced that feeling
- (15th) We must be true to God’s message even if people don’t want to listen to God’s word
- (16th) Jesus is the Good Shepherd who is always with us
- (17th) It doesn’t matter about the numbers in the story, the message is what is important, that is, God did, and does provide for all that we need
- (18th) Jesus tells us we should work for the bread of life which is the name he called himself
- (19th) Jesus is both a human being and God. This mystery is at the heart of our faith. We nurture faith by receiving the Bread of Life which is Eucharist
- (20th) Jesus wants to be with us and share his life with us in the Eucharist. When we do this, he is really present with us
- (21st) We must choose whether or not we will follow Christ. God does not force anyone to be a disciple
- (22nd) God does not want us to be hypocrites who say one thing but act the opposite
- (23rd) When we refuse to listen to what Jesus wants, we are deaf to his word. We must ask Jesus to touch us and help us hear his Word
Trinity Sunday (Cycle B)
(White Cloth)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!”

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: *Open Our Hearts* (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading: “This is a reading from The Letter of Paul to the Romans.”
(readings can be done by a parent)
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 60*
“The Word of the Lord.”
Children: “Thanks be to God.”

Responsorial Psalm: *Children’s Response*: “My God How great, how great you are!
Verse 1: “You made the earth and set it in place.”
Verse 2: “You made the waters cover the earth.”
Verse 3: “You made the oceans, rivers and seas.”
Verse 4: “You made the rivers run from the hills.”
Verse 5: “Rain from the sky falls down on the earth.”
Verse 6: “All who are thirsty drink from the streams.”
Verse 7: “All of the earth is filled with your love.”

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew.”
*Children*: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses – Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 60*
“This is the Gospel of the Lord.”
*Children*: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “In today’s Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples to do two things. Does anyone remember what he said?” (share – preach and baptize) “Are we still doing this today? Who do you know who teaches about
Jesus?” (share - Fr. _____, liturgy leaders, parents) “Do we still baptize people? When do we normally baptize people?” (share - usually babies, sometimes others) “When you are baptized, the priest says ‘I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.’ What do people usually do when they say those words?” (share - touch hand to forehead, chest and shoulders; show handout) “We have a prayer called The Sign of the Cross. When we pray this prayer we can think of our baptism and we tell God that we believe in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. During Mass we make the Sign of the Cross and bless ourselves.”

**Intentions:**

“Let us pray:

That we praise God always, we pray to the Lord.

*Children:* “Lord, hear our prayer.

“That we pray to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we pray to the Lord

*Children:* “Lord, hear our prayer.”

(Encourage children's intentions...)

**Closing:**

- Discuss and clarify the home assignment
- Select readers and proclaimers for the following week
- Parents should be encouraged to pre-read next week’s readings with their children sometime during the week.
See if you can you clip out the three hearts and make one Shamrock!
(Here’s a hint)
Body and Blood of Christ (Cycle B)

Welcome: “Good morning boys & girls. Welcome!

Announcements: Make any necessary announcements before the liturgy begins.

Candle/Book: Choose a child to process with the candle and a parent the book.

Song: Open Our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

Sign of the Cross: Lead the children in making the Sign of the Cross.

First Reading: “This is a reading from Paul’s letter to the Corinthians.” (Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)
   The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 56
   ...
   “The Word of the Lord.”
   Children: “Thanks be to God.”
   (Pause in silence for a moment)

Responsorial Psalm: Leader: “You are the one who feeds us, giving us food from your hand” (All repeat)
   Leader: “You are the one who feeds us, giving us all we need” (All repeat)

Alleluia: Sing the Alleluia together

Gospel: “This is a reading from the Gospel of John.”
   Children: “Glory to you, Lord.” (three crosses - Lord be in my thoughts, in my words, and in my heart)
   The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 62
   “This is the Gospel of the Lord.”
   Children: “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”

Dialogue: “When we celebrate special events, we often share a special food or meal. Is there a special food that you share with your family for birthdays?” (share - cake) “Is there a special food that you have at Christmas?” (share - turkey, ham, etc.) “When we think of these foods, we remember past celebrations. Sharing these meals brings us closer together. The last meal that Jesus ate with his apostles, was a
very special meal. Do you know what they had?” (share - bread and wine) “Jesus told them that from then on whenever his disciples

shared that meal they would remember him and he would be there in a special way. When we come together for the Eucharistic celebration, on Sundays and weekdays, (also called the Mass) we remember what Jesus said and did. When we share the bread and wine and it brings us closer together. At every Mass, the priest says the same words that Jesus said at the Last Supper. Today, when you go upstairs, listen carefully to the words Jesus said when he shared the last special meal with his friends. It reminds us that Jesus is always with us.”

Intentions:

“Let us pray:
For all those who receive Jesus, that they may become more and more like him, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”
For all parents, especially our moms and dads, we pray to the Lord.
Children: “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Closing:
- Discuss the home assignment
- Parents should be encouraged to continue discussing each week's readings with their children over the summer months.
Name: ___________________________________  Date: ___________________________

HOME ASSIGNMENT

Body and Blood of Christ Sunday (Cycle B)
### Year 1 Cycle A/B Scope and Sequence Review

**Chart: Feasts – 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time**

**The Feasts of the Lord and Sundays in Ordinary Time – Trinity to the 23rd Sunday (Cycle B)**

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<td><strong>The Concluding Rites</strong></td>
<td><strong>John 20:24–29</strong> Doubting Thomas</td>
<td>Jesus as God, as the one whom we meet in the Eucharist, as the Good Shepherd and as one who is always with us</td>
<td>Speak about ways we are ‘sent forth’ Enter into the celebrations each Sunday with deeper understanding of the meaning Pray and translate his/her friendship with Jesus into action</td>
<td>Knows Jesus more through feeling than through articulated knowledge Appreciates the action of the Holy Spirit Seeks to become more like Jesus Shows reverence for the Blessed Sacrament Tries to follow Jesus’ commands in his relation to God and others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Dismissal</strong> Exploring the meaning of being sent forth – Mission Experiencing God’s blessing as we go forth</td>
<td><strong>Luke 24:13–35</strong> Two disciples on the road to Emmaus <strong>John 10:1–10</strong> Jesus, the Good Shepherd <strong>John 14:1–12</strong> “Lord, show us the Father…” <strong>John 14:15–21</strong> “I will not leave you orphaned…” <strong>1 Cor 12:3</strong> “…and no one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ except by the Holy Spirit.”</td>
<td>We are sent forth with the Holy Spirit to be like Jesus How important it is to participate in the prayer of the church To be good (moral) is to follow the example of Jesus in his relation to God and to others</td>
<td><strong>Gospel Reading</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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