



# Our Faith Journey

Preparing Young Children for  
Celebrating the Sacraments

## LESSON PLANS YEAR ONE

January – June 2017

Cycle C – A



DEVELOPED BY THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS

Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria



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## Mary Mother of God (Year A)

(White 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 prophet Isaiah."

*(Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 14*

"The Word of the Lord."

**Children:** "Thanks be to God."

**Response:** **Children Repeat:** "May God bless and keep you; may God's face shine on you." "May God be kind to you and give you peace."

*(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. 16*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "What does it feel like when a friend calls us by our name? Is it different than someone just saying "hi" or "come here" to us? (**share** - It feels special when we hear our name; when we are called by our name). Do you know that each name has a special meaning? (**share** - Sarah comes from the language Jesus spoke and means "princess"; Matthew means "gift of God"; Melissa comes from the Greek language and means "honey bee"). Would anyone like to share what



their name means? In the past people named their children for who they were or for their some special quality that they had. In the Old Testament, in the times of our first reading today, people's names often told about their special task in life or some special event that happened when they were born. In our first reading God speaks to Moses, Moses' name means "I drew you from the water", because Moses was saved from being drowned by his mother who put him in a basket that floated down the river Nile and was picked up by the King of the Egypt's daughter who cared for him. He grew up to be the leader of his people.

In the Gospel today we learn that Mary and Joseph take the baby Jesus to the Temple and give him the name the Angel Gabriel told Mary to call him - Jesus, which means "Saviour" a saviour is one who saves people from danger. So Jesus does what his name means, he "saves us" from danger and is always with us to help us. This week when we pray let us thank Jesus for always taking care of us, and let us remember to call Jesus' name whenever we need his help.

### Intentions:



"Let us pray: *(The intentions may 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 family and friends, we pray to the Lord.

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

For Jesus our friend who loves us and helps us and calls us by name

**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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*Mary Mother of God*



1. In the first reading, God gives Moses words of blessing for Aaron and the priests to use. To bless means to ask God to care for or help someone. What is so special about saying words like these?

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2. What does the name "Jesus" mean?

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3. Draw a picture of Mary and Joseph bringing baby Jesus to the Temple to be named.



## Epiphany (Year A)

(White 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 prophet Isaiah."

*(Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)*

*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 1: "Proclaim salvation! God has done wonders."

Verse 2: "Proclaim salvation! God's wonders are done for the earth."

*(Pause in silence for a moment)*

**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. 16*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "The birth of Jesus is the manifestation, the epiphany, of God in the world. God loved us so much that he sent his only Son to earth to help us."

"In the first reading, what has come to the world?" (**share** - light)

"There are often symbols of light associated with church, Christmas





and the birth of Jesus. What symbols come to mind?" (**share** - the star on the manger, Christmas lights, candles, halos on angels, etc.)

"Jesus is the light. The light has come, a light to guide us all. In this light, the glory of God shines. This light is called the Epiphany of God. The Gospel tells us that this light shone in the east and brought visitors from afar to see this sign of God's love. Who were the three special visitors?" (**share** - the wise men/three kings) "The Magi, sometimes called the "Three Wise Men" or the "Three Kings", brought precious gifts to Jesus. Do you know what they brought?" (**share**) "One brought gold, one brought frankincense, and one brought myrrh."

"What gift would you have given Jesus if you were there?" (**share** - a flower, a picture, a baby toy, a rattle, etc.) "Maybe you could have done something like the drummer boy. He played the drum for Jesus. Is there something you could have done for Jesus?" (**share** - play an instrument, dance, sing, etc.) "Sometimes a gift to Jesus can also be something we do for others. What could you do for someone else this week that would make Jesus happy?" (**share** - be kind, share, listen to parents, etc.) "Let's try to make Jesus happy this week by doing something special for someone else."

### Intentions:

"Let us pray: (*The intentions may 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 family and friends, 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.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*Epiphany (Cycle A)*

1. Jesus received some unusual gifts when he was born. Why do you think people did not bring him gifts of baby clothes, rattles, and toys?



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2. What gifts would you have brought to Jesus if you were there when he was born? Tell why you chose these gifts.

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3. Jesus is the light. Draw pictures of the different kinds of lights we see at Christmas that remind us what a special time of year it is.

A large, empty rectangular box with a blue border, intended for the student to draw pictures of different kinds of lights seen at Christmas.



## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

(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 prophet Isaiah." (*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 proclaim salvation. I will say to all, 'The Lord is great.'"  
Verse 2: "All will see your kindness. They will trust in you." (*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. 71*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "The readings today continue to focus on the Baptism of Jesus."

"In the first reading, Isaiah speaks about being a servant of God.

What is a servant?" (**share** - a helper, someone who works for

others, etc.) "What does a servant do?" (**share** - whatever is asked of him/her or needed to be done) "What do you think it would mean

to be a servant of God?" (**share** - to do what God wants) "One way



we are able to 'serve' God is to help God's people. How could we do that?" (**share** - help others)

"Jesus was the most special servant of God. He always did what God wanted. Today in the Gospel we heard John the Baptist call Jesus by a special loving name. Do your parents call you by a special name or nickname?" (**share**) "John called Jesus the Lamb of God. Does that mean that Jesus is woolly and white? No! Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus is very special. Jesus is gentle, peace-loving, and kind. Do you think John picked a good name for Jesus?" (**share**) "There were lots of people around John when he said, 'Look, there is the Lamb of God.' Do you think the people listened, believed John and followed Jesus right away?" (**share** - some would not have been sure...would have questioned) "What would you have done?" (**share**)

"Today, the Church invites us to listen to Jesus, to believe in Jesus, to love Jesus and to follow him. How do we do that?" (**share** - pray, sing, be gentle, kind, forgiving, etc.) "This week, try to be servants of God and do things that God would want. Pray to God, try to be nice to others and help others whenever you can."

#### Intentions:



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

That we call others by names that will make them happy not sad, we pray to the Lord.

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

That we are gentle and kind when we play with others, 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



1. What does the word 'servant' mean to you? You may want to look up the meaning in a dictionary.

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2. Jesus is called the 'Lamb of God'. What do you think of when you hear Jesus called the 'Lamb of God'?

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3. Draw a picture of Jesus, the Lamb of God. Then draw a picture of a lamb, showing how kind and gentle it is.

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## 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

(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 can be done 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:** "I belong to Christ."

Verse 1: "I have been yours since the day of my birth."

Verse 2: "You have always been my God." (*Pause in silence for a moment*)

**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. 73*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "The readings today continue to focus on the servants of God, those chosen to pass along the Good News of God."

"In the first reading, Paul wrote a letter and reminded us that we are all united...that we all belong to Christ. What do you think that means?" (**share** - there are no other gods, we should devote ourselves to Jesus, who is God.) "This reminds us that we are



servants of God, we are meant to share the Good News about God's love for all"

"Jesus came so that all people would know and love God. Jesus helped people know and love God by teaching them about God's love, and by healing them. He asked other people - disciples - to help him do this. The disciples shared the Good News about God's love and were able to heal people."

"Where did the Gospel we heard today take place?" (**share** - by the Sea of Galilee) "Who was there and what were they doing?" (**share** - two sets of brothers were fishing; Peter and Andrew, James and John) "What did Jesus say to them and what did they do?" (**share** - 'come follow me', and they followed Jesus) "What did Jesus mean when he said, 'From now on, you will be fishing for people instead of fish'?" (**share** - instead of spending their time catching fish, they will be spending their time with people, teaching them about God's love for all people and inviting them to follow Jesus)

"We are all disciples of Jesus and he wants us to 'fish for people'. How can we do that?" (**share** - tell others about Jesus, and also be to others what Jesus asks us to be: kind, forgiving, helpful, etc.) "This week, let's try to spread the Good News of Jesus by doing all these things."

#### Intentions:



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

That we say 'Yes' and allow God's love to grow in our hearts, we pray to the Lord.

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

That we will be good followers of Jesus and try to live in peace and love with each other, 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)*



1. Why do you think the fishermen left their nets and decided to follow Jesus?

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2. If you have an opportunity to talk with friends or family about Jesus, how would you begin, and what would you say about Jesus?

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3. Draw a picture of two fishermen either using their nets (like Peter and Andrew) or in their boat (like James and John). You may want to add Jesus to the picture, calling them to leave their fishing and follow him.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for a drawing.





## 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

(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 prophet Zephaniah."

*(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:** "God loves and cares for all of us."

Verse 1: "You love the poor; you love the needy. You give them help; you care for them."

Verse 2: "Teach us to love the poor and needy, to give them help, to care for them."

*(Pause in silence for a moment)*

**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. 75*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "The readings today focus on people who are poor and humble."

"In the first reading, the prophet speaks on behalf of God. God told the people to be humble and treat people with justice. Do you know what 'humble' means?" (**share**) "Humble is not to be too proud, not to be arrogant, not to brag about yourself. If a hockey player scores a



goal and brags about it, he is not being humble. If a hockey player scores a goal and says that he did it with the help of his teammates, then he would be humble. Do you remember what would happen to people who were not humble?" (**share** - they would be punished) "God wants people to be humble, to be honest."

"In the Gospel, Jesus went up on a mountain to teach his disciples.

For each statement that Jesus made, tell me how you could act:

'blessed are people...

- ...who know they need God' (**share** - pray, ask for help)
- ...who are sad now' (**share** - live, have sad and happy experiences)
- ...who are humble' (**share** - don't brag, be thankful)
- ...who work for justice' (**share** - be fair, help those unfairly treated)
- ...who show mercy to others' (**share** - care about those in need)
- ...who have pure hearts' (**share** - love God and care for others)
- ...who make peace' (**share** - show friendship, don't argue)
- ...who suffer for doing what is right' (**share** - stand by your beliefs)

"It is not easy to do all that Jesus wants us to. Believing in God is not always easy. Jesus wants us to be loving, caring people. This week, try to do one or two things that you know is how Jesus would want you to be.

#### Intentions:

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

That we remember what Jesus asks of us...to be loving and caring, we pray to the Lord.

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

For those who are sad and lonely, 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)*



1. Describe a time when you did a good thing. Tell whether you were humble or whether you bragged about what you had done.

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2. What do you think is the hardest thing about believing in God? Does getting to know Jesus, who is God, help you to understand how God wants us to live?

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3. Draw a picture of a person doing something (like a hockey player scoring a goal) and bragging. Then draw the same person being humble.

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## 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

### (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 prophet Isaiah."

*(Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 76*

"The Word of the Lord."

**Children:** "Thanks be to God."

**Responsorial Psalm:** **Children's Response:** "You are the light that shines in our lives."

Verse 1: "We are blessed when we live by your Word."

Verse 2: "We are blessed when we give to the poor."

Verse 3: "We are blessed when we help those in need."

Verse 4: "We are blessed when we do what is just." *(Pause in silence for a moment)*

**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. 77*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "The readings today focus on doing good things for others."

"In the first reading, there are suggestions as to how we could help others. What should we do for the hungry?" (**share** - share our bread) "What should we do for the homeless?" (**share** - give them a place to live) "What should we do with our clothes?" (**share** - give



them to anyone who needs them) "God also asks us to be kind to our family. How could we do that?" (**share** - don't argue or fight with our brothers and sisters, do chores without complaining, do homework, etc.) "God asks us to be like the morning light, shining brightly after the darkness of night. So when things are difficult, we are asked to shine a light on the darkness and bring about something good. Light is often used when referring Jesus."

"Do you have a night light in your home?" (**share**) "Why do some children have a night light?" (**share** - they are afraid of the dark)  
 "Do you have lamps in your home? Why?" (**share** - so we can see in the darkness) "Have you ever used a flashlight?" (**share**)

"Jesus tells us that we are the light of the world. He tells us that we must let our light shine for others to see. When we were baptized, we received a baptismal candle. We received the light of Christ in our Baptism and now we can be light for others. Others will see our light shining when they see the good works we do. We need to be loving children for our parents and good friends with other children. This week, try to be a light for others."

#### Intentions:

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

For Jesus coming to be our light, we pray to the Lord.

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

For calling us to be lights for 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)*



1. Jesus is called the Light of the World. How do you think Jesus is like 'light'? How does Jesus act like 'light'?

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2. What is something that you can do this week that would help someone else - something that would make you a light for them?

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3. Draw pictures of different kinds of lights that are in your house. These lights prevent us from being in the dark.

A large, empty rectangular box with a blue border, intended for drawing pictures of different kinds of lights.



## 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

(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 Sirach."

*Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 78*

"The Word of the Lord."

**Children:** "Thanks be to God."

**Responsorial Psalm:** **Children's Response:** "With all my heart I turn to you."

Verse 1: "Teach me your ways and I will follow you."

Verse 2: "Your word, O God, is good and true."

Verse 3: "Help us all to follow you." (*Pause in silence for a moment*)

**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. 79*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "The readings today remind us to obey God's laws. Do you remember from the story of Moses, in the Old Testament, what God's laws were called?" (**share** - the commandments) "Do you remember any of the commandments?" (**share** - "remember the Lord's Day -Sunday", "honour your mother and father", "do not steal"... These are some of the ways God wanted his people to live.





"In the first reading, the prophet Sirach reminds us that it is our choice whether we listen to God or not. "Why do you think some people choose to do hurtful things?" (**share** - maybe they have been hurt by others. Maybe they don't know about God's love for them)

"In the Gospel we hear more about the commandments. Jesus tells the disciples that he came to explain the Ten Commandments. One of the commandments says that we shouldn't hurt anyone. But Jesus told us that we had to go further than that. Do you remember what he said?" (**share** - don't even stay angry at anyone) "Jesus wants us to do what is right, not only on the outside but inside our hearts. Jesus wants us to do more than just avoid being hurtful, we should live in peace with everyone. What do you think that means?" (**share** - don't argue with anyone, don't say bad things about others, don't make fun of people, etc.)

"Are there times when you have had arguments with your friends or somebody has said something mean about you?" (**share** - there are times when we are upset with our friends and sometimes we say mean things back to them because we are hurt and angry. Jesus wants us to avoid these situations and not let our hearts be filled with hatred. It's very difficult to be nice to people who have been mean to us. It's not easy to forgive people who say things that hurt our feelings. But Jesus wants us to try to always have love in our hearts - on the inside, not just the outside. Jesus will help us to do this. This week, try to show love and kindness to everyone."

#### Intentions:

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

That we choose to be like Jesus teaches us, to be loving.  
We pray to the Lord.

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

That we forgive those who hurt us, 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)*

1. Describe a time when someone was mean to you. How did you handle this situation and treat the person that was mean to you?



2. Why do you think "thou shalt not steal" is such an important law that it is one of the Ten Commandments?

3. Draw a picture of Moses coming down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets showing the Ten Commandments.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for the student to draw a picture of Moses coming down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets showing the Ten Commandments.



## 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

(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 Leviticus."

*(Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)*

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 80*

"The Word of the Lord."

**Children:** "Thanks be to God."

**Responsorial Psalm:** **Children's Response:** "I will stay close to you, my God."

Verse 1: "When I'm feeling angry."

Verse 2: "When I'm feeling hurt."

Verse 3: "When I don't understand what you want me to do." *(Pause in silence for a moment)*

**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. 81*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "The readings today continue the thoughts of the past weeks...that we should behave as God asks us to behave."



"In the first reading, God speaks to Moses again. Do you remember what God had given to Moses - something we talked about last week?" (**share** - the Ten Commandments) "What did God want Moses to tell the people this time?" (**share** - love God, don't stay angry with people, don't try to get even, etc.) "God wants us to love our neighbours as we love ourselves. When God says 'our neighbours', who does he mean?" (**share** - not just the people living next door, everyone in the world) "God wants us to love everyone and treat everyone the way we love and treat ourselves."

"In the Gospel, we hear more about loving our neighbours. But we also hear about loving our enemies. That is much more difficult. We often meet people in our lives who we don't like, usually because they are not nice to us. Can you think of a time when someone was mean to you?" (**share**) "It would be very hard to be nice to someone who is mean to us! But that is exactly what Jesus wants us to do."

"God loves all of us at all times, when we are nice and when we are not so nice. So, he expects us to do the same...love everyone, even the people who are mean to us. This can be very difficult. Jesus helps us to do this. This week, see if you can try to be the best person you can be and be nice to everyone."

### Intentions:



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

That we love our neighbours as we love ourselves, we pray to the Lord.

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

That we forgive those who hurt us and be kind to them, 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)*

1. God told Moses that we should tell people when they do something wrong. Give an example of when you could tell someone that they're doing something that you don't like.



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2. Jesus wants us to love those who hurt us. What do you think is the hardest part about being nice to those who hurt us?

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3. Draw a picture of someone doing something nice for "a neighbour".

A large, empty rectangular box with a blue border, intended for a drawing.



## 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

(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 prophet Isaiah." (*Readings may be proclaimed by a parent*)

*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 82*

"The Word of the Lord."

**Children:** "Thanks be to God."

**Responsorial Psalm:** **Children's Response:** "Like a child rests in its mother's arms, so will I rest in you."

Verse 1: "My God, I trust in you. You care for me; you give me peace."

Verse 2: "O Israel, trust in God; now and always trust in God." (*Pause in silence for a moment*)

**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. 83*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "The readings today focus on God's love for us."

"In the first reading, the people of Jerusalem were worried. Do you remember what they were worried about?" (**share** - that God had forgotten about them) "Do you remember what God said to them?" (**share** - that he would not forget them, he loves them like a mother)



"What things does a mother do to take care of her child?" (**share** - feed, clothe, make a comfortable home, etc.) "Do you think that made the people of Jerusalem feel better?" (**share**) "The people of Jerusalem would have been comforted by the fact that God would love them like a mother. A mother would never forget her child and would always do what was best for her child. That would surely have made the people of Jerusalem feel better."

"In the Gospel, Jesus spoke to his disciples. He tried to make them understand that God will always take care of us. He compared us to birds and flowers. Jesus said that they do not worry about things...they just live and be true to themselves, being a bird and being a flower. So with this, Jesus reminds us not to worry about things...trust that He will take care of us.

Jesus said all of these things so that we wouldn't spend time worrying, rather spend our time thinking of others, caring about others and loving others.

#### Intentions:



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

That we trust God so that we don't worry about things, we pray to the Lord.

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

That in our trust, we show others how to believe in Jesus love for us, 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.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)*

1. The people of Jerusalem thought God had forgotten them, so God said he was like a mother who never forgets her child. Do you think that made the people of Jerusalem feel better? Why?




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2. Jesus wants us to know that God loves and cares for us. How do you know that God loves and cares for you?

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3. God provides for us, just like he provides for birds and flowers. Draw a picture of a bird with enough food and a wild flower looking beautiful.



# Year 1 Cycle C/A Scope and Sequence Review Chart

## The Liturgical Season of Advent / Christmas (Year A)

Catechetical Focus: Eucharist and the Eucharistic Community	Thematic Scriptural References that support the Catechesis of the Mass	Knowledge and Understanding: (Cognitive Level)  <i>The child knows...</i>	Skills: (Practical Level)  <i>The child can...</i>	Values and Attitudes: (Affective Level)  <i>The child...</i>	Lectionary Readings Cycle A
<b>Liturgy of the Word:</b> <u>Advent</u> Mary and John the Baptist are examples of how we should hear and respond to God's word  <u>Christmas</u> Jesus is the Word of God, a gift of the Father by the working of the Holy Spirit  <b>Creed</b> Reflecting on the narrative of God: Father, Son and Spirit  <b>Prayers of the Faithful</b> Praying together for those in need	<b>Advent</b> <b>Luke 1:26-38</b> <i>The Annunciation: the Holy Spirit comes upon Mary</i>  <b>Romans 8</b> <i>Mary ponders...</i>  <b>Luke 1:39-56</b> <i>Visitation</i>  <b>Luke 3:10-14</b> <i>The proclamation of John the Baptist</i>  <b>Christmas</b> <b>Luke 2:1-20</b> <i>The Birth of Jesus; shepherds and angels</i>  <b>Epiphany</b> <b>Mt 2:1-12</b> <i>The narrative of the visit of the Magi</i>	The narrative of the Annunciation and the Birth of Jesus  The Creed is about God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  The liturgical season of Advent, Christmas and the Epiphany  The meaning of the Prayer of the Faithful	Recite the three parts of the Creed: I believe in God the Father almighty; I believe in Jesus Christ; I believe in the Holy Spirit  Listen to the Word of God announcing and celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ  Demonstrate the meaning of "changing one's heart"  Recognize the Prayer of the Faithful as the prayer of the community in the power of the Holy Spirit	Appreciates this season as a sacred time  Prays for the needs of others and ourselves  Can pray the Hail Mary  Shows joy in taking part in the feasts	<b>Gospel Reading (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent)</b> Mt 24:37-44 <b>(2<sup>nd</sup>)</b> Mt 3: 1-12 <b>(3<sup>rd</sup>)</b> Mt 11:2-11 <b>(4<sup>th</sup>)</b> Mt 1:18-24 <b>Christmas</b> Jn 1:1-18 <b>Holy Family</b> Mt 2:13-15, 19-23 <b>Mary, Mother of God</b> Lk 2:16-21 <b>Epiphany</b> Mt 2:1-12  <b>Baptism of the Lord</b> Mt 3:13-17 <b>(2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time)</b> Jn 1:29-34 <b>(3<sup>rd</sup>)</b> Mt 4:12-23 <b>(4<sup>th</sup>)</b> Mt 5:1-12 <b>(5<sup>th</sup>)</b> Mt 5:13-16 <b>(6<sup>th</sup>)</b> Mt 5:17-37 <b>(7<sup>th</sup>)</b> Mt 5:38-48 <b>(8<sup>th</sup>)</b> Mt 6:24-34 <b>(9<sup>th</sup>)</b> Mt 7:21-27



# Our Faith Journey

Season of Lent

## LESSON PLANS YEAR ONE

Lent – Passion / Palm Sunday  
Year A





# The Liturgical Season of Lent (Year A)

## MAKING THE CONNECTION

The Sunday Readings for Year A, for the liturgical season 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 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
  - \* Recognizes that gifts are also divine; God gives gifts
  - \* Gives thanks before meals
  - \* Shares with others the gifts given us

### 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 (Year A)

**(Purple 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 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:** "In your kindness, O my God, help me to be wise."  
 Verse 1: "I know that sometimes I make wrong choices."  
 Verse 2: "O God, make my heart true and always loving you."  
*(Pause in silence for a moment)*

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



**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. 23-24*  
 "The Gospel of the Lord."  
**Children:** "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."

**Dialogue:** "Today is the first Sunday of Lent. It's a getting-ready time. We are getting ready for Easter. Lent means springtime. Spring will soon be here and we'll see signs of new life everywhere. What do you think of when you think of spring?" (**share** - buds, pussy willows, baby chicks, etc.) "How does it make you feel when you see all this new life?" (**share**) "We also give new life to ourselves and others. Every time we help someone, share, forgive, and are kind, we give happiness and joy to others and to ourselves. But sometimes we are not as loving as we should be."



"In the first reading, what had God asked Eve NOT to do?" (**share** - to NOT eat the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden) "Who, or what, suggested that Eve take the fruit?" (**share** - the serpent) "Why do you think Eve took the fruit?" (**share** - Eve thought she would gain knowledge from the tree) "Eve chose not to listen to God when she saw how beautiful the tree was and how good the fruit looked. But once Eve and Adam had eaten the fruit, they knew, and were ashamed of themselves, that they had not listened to God."

"In the Gospel, we hear how Jesus was tempted but he did NOT give in. The devil wanted Jesus to do certain tasks. Do you remember what they were?" (**share** - turn stones to bread, jump off a temple, worship the devil in order to gain kingdoms) "Jesus was able to resist the devil. Why do you think Jesus was able to resist the devil's temptations?" (**share** - Jesus wanted what was good...Jesus did not want to choose something that was not good) "Do you remember what happened to Jesus when the devil left him? (**share** - the angels took care of Jesus)"

"There are times when we want to do something that we know is wrong. We are tempted to lie, to steal, to yell, and to scream when we don't get our way. These are temptations but we don't have to give in to them. If we do, we can ask God and others to forgive us. God will always forgive us because He loves us so much. But let's try not to give in. Let's try to be more like Jesus...choose the good!"

#### Intentions:

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

That we become strong and wise and live as Jesus would like, we pray to the Lord.

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

That we try always to what is best for ourselves and for 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





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*1st Sunday of Lent (Year A)*

1. In the Garden of Eden, Eve took fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden. Why do you think Eve did not listen to God?



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2. In the desert, Jesus was tempted by the devil to perform certain tasks. Why do you think Jesus resisted?

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3. Draw a picture of the beautiful tree in the middle of the Garden of Eden, with delicious fruit hanging from the tree.

A large, empty rectangular box with a blue border, intended for the student to draw a picture of the tree in the Garden of Eden.



## 2nd Sunday of Lent (Year A)

### (Purple 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 Genesis."  
*(Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)*  
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 25*  
 "The Word of the Lord."  
**Children:** "Thanks be to God."

**Responsorial Psalm:** **Children's Response:** "Lord, be with us. All our hope is in you."  
 Verse 1: "For your faithful word and all you do, all your works, we trust in you."  
 Verse 2: "We are chosen, God, by you. Bless us all; we trust in you." (*Pause in silence for a moment*)

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



**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. 26*  
 "The Gospel of the Lord."  
**Children:** "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."

**Dialogue:** "Today is the Second Sunday of Lent. Lent is the getting-ready time for Easter. It is a time of prayer and good works. Have you heard people talk about Lenten promises? What did they promise to do during Lent? (**share**) "What could you do during Lent? (**share** - pray more, share with others, go to bed without complaining, help with chores, remember to say 'please' and 'thank you' and 'I'm sorry', help others, be kind, eat what is put on the table)



"It isn't always easy to do these things, but Lent is a good time to practice. It's like a runner who gets in shape for a race...he or she has to practice every day even if it is hard."

"In the first reading, Abraham was also asked to do something that was hard. Do you remember what God asked Abraham to do?" (**share** - leave his country) "Although Abraham was already 75 years old, he took his family and moved away from his home. Why do you think Abraham did this?" (**share** - he believed in God and he trusted God) "Why do you think this might have been hard for Abraham?" (**share** - he had to leave his friends, he was comfortable at home, he didn't know what he would face when he moved, etc.) "Abraham's faith in God must have been very strong for him to move away from his home."

"In the Gospel today, Jesus and his friends climbed a very high mountain. What happened when they were there?" (**share** - Jesus shone like the sun and his clothes became white) "Jesus shared a secret with them. He showed them what he will be like in heaven. Just as Abraham had faith, Jesus' friends also had faith. But they believed even more now that they had a glimpse of what Jesus would be like after he was raised from the dead."

"Being faithful is not easy. But if we believe in Jesus, trust in Jesus, we will be blessed."

#### Intentions:



"Let us pray: (*The intentions may 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 to act more lovingly, 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*2nd Sunday of Lent (Year A)*

1. God told Abraham to move. What would have been the **MOST DIFFICULT PART** about Abraham having to leave his country and his home?

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2. What would have been the **EASIEST PART** about Abraham having to leave his country and to move away?

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3. Draw a picture of Jesus and his friends on the mountain. Jesus shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.

A large rectangular box with a blue border, intended for drawing a picture of Jesus and his friends on the mountain.



## 3rd Sunday in Lent (Year A)

(Purple 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 Exodus."  
*(Readings can be done by a parent)*  
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 27*  
 "The Word of the Lord."  
**Children:** "Thanks be to God."

**Responsorial Psalm:** **Children's Response:** "You are the light, the fountain of life."  
 Verse 1: "Your love is true and sets us free."  
 Verse 2: "You give us water that lets us live."  
*(Pause in silence for a moment)*



**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. 28-29*  
 "The Gospel of the Lord."  
**Children:** "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."

**Dialogue:** "We are still in Lent, our getting-ready time for Easter, when God gave Jesus new life after he died. Did you remember to do something special last week?" (**share**)

"The readings today focus on water. In the first reading, the people are getting upset with Moses. Why are they upset?" (**share** - they are



thirsty) "What does God tell Moses to do?" (**share** - hit a rock with a rod)  
 "When Moses hit the rock, water flowed out for the people."

"In the Gospel, we again hear about the power of water. Jesus lived in a very hot and dry country. Water was very important. There were only a few wells and the people had to come there to get water."

"In today's story, Jesus was hot, tired and thirsty. What did he do?" (**share** - he asked a woman who had come to the well for some water) "Then Jesus spoke to her about 'living water'. We often see and hear about water in church. When do you see water in church?" (**share** - at the entrance of the church, during baptisms, the water with the wine) "The holy water at the entrance to the church is a symbol of the water used for Baptism. When we use this to make the sign of the cross, we remind ourselves that we are baptized. This water reminds us of the 'living water' that Jesus mentioned."

"Have you ever been really thirsty? How does it feel to get a drink when you're so thirsty?" (**share** - refreshing, a relief) "Not only our bodies, but our hearts can be thirsty, too. What can the heart thirst for?" (**share** - friendship, peace, joy, understanding, forgiveness, love, etc.) "Jesus satisfies this thirst when we pray. When we listen to his word and do what he asks of us, love and joy come into our hearts and it is like getting a good glass of cool, clear water. This week, let's celebrate this 'living water' from Jesus."

#### Intentions:



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

That the living water of Jesus' love will fill our hearts, we pray to the Lord.

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

For the sick and lonely who are "thirsty" for someone to visit them, 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.



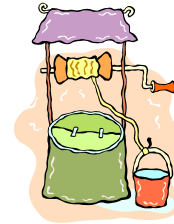
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

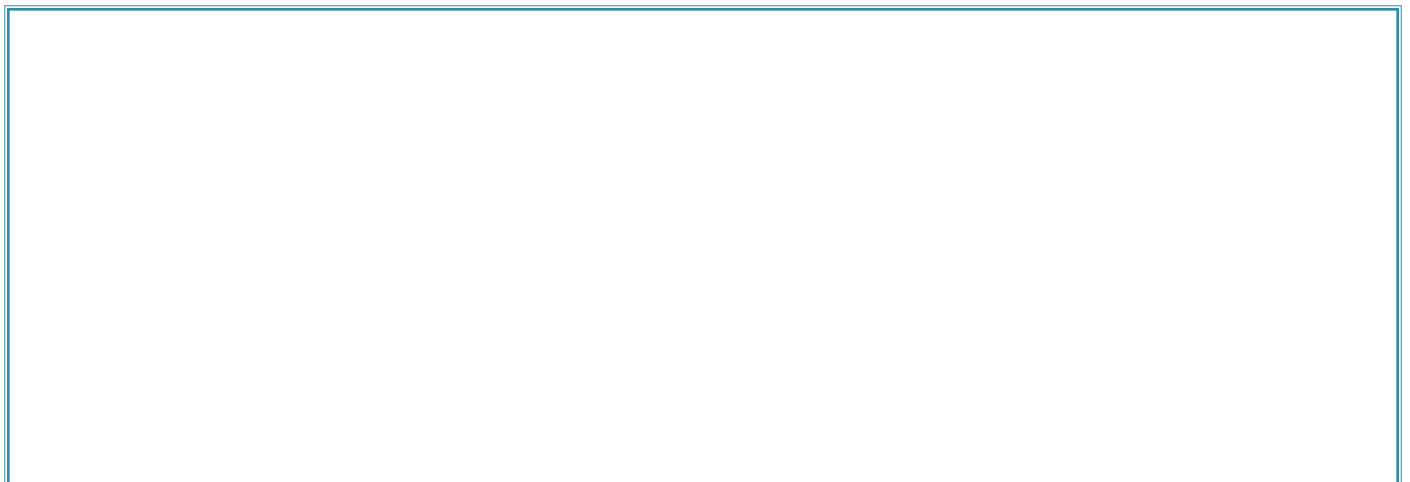
*3rd Sunday in Lent (Year A)*

1. Water is an important symbol in the Church. List some of the times you see and hear about water in church or in the Bible.



2. We can survive without a lot of things, but not water. Why do you think 'living water' is a good symbol for our faith in God?

3. Draw a picture of Jesus at the well with the Samaritan woman as he asks her to give him some water.







# The Penitential Rite (Scrutiny)

## 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT: PREPARATION SESSION

### 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 or 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)

Catechist:

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.

Catechist:

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.



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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 (Year A)

(Purple 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 letter to the Christians living in Ephesus."

*(Readings may be proclaimed 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:** "You are the light, the fountain of life."

Verse 1: "Your love is true and sets us free."

Verse 2: "You give us light that lets us see."

*(Pause in silence for a moment)*

**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. 31-32*

"The Gospel of the Lord."

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

**Dialogue:** "The readings for this Fourth Sunday of Lent focus on the changes from darkness to light."

"In the first reading, Paul reminds the people that they used to live in darkness. Now that they know Jesus, they are living in the light. As we are also baptized, we must live as children of the light, doing what is good and right and honest. Paul believed that baptism made a big difference in our lives, bringing us closer to Jesus."





"In the Gospel, Jesus met a blind man. What happened to the man after he met Jesus?" (**share** - he could see) "How do you think he felt when he could see the sun, the birds, his friends, and Jesus?" (**share** - overjoyed, amazed, thankful)

"Close your eyes. What would it be like if we couldn't see at all? What are some of the things you don't like about the dark?" (**share** - can't recognize people, feelings of being alone and afraid) "Whenever we are afraid, we can pray to God and thank him for being with us. God is always with us. When we were born, we had the gift of seeing with our eyes. And when we were baptized, our family and parish community celebrated the gift of faith. Through faith, we are able to see things in a new way. We are able to see things the way Jesus wants us to see. The blind man in the Gospel received a wonderful gift - to be able to see with his eyes. He also received the wonderful gift of faith. Jesus wants us to see with our eyes and our hearts.

"What can you do this week that comes from the heart?" (**share** - be kind, help others, clean up, listen to our parents, our teachers, etc.) "Jesus always wants us to do good things for others from our hearts. We have the ability to see the light...and the light of the world...Jesus."

#### Intentions:

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

That we will try to see the good in ourselves and in others, we pray to the Lord.

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

That we will often thank God for light and for our eyes, 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*4th Sunday in Lent (Year A)*

1. Light is an important symbol in the Church. List sometimes you see and hear about light in church or in the Bible.

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2. If you had been the blind man healed by Jesus, what would you be most excited to see for the first time? Explain.

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3. Draw a picture of Jesus healing the blind man, allowing him to finally experience the light.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for a drawing.



## 5th Sunday in Lent (Year A) (Purple 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 prophet Ezekiel."  
*(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:** "You are the light, the fountain of life."  
 Verse 1: "Your love is true and sets us free."  
 Verse 2: "You give us life that makes us rise." *(Pause in silence for a moment)*

**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. 33-35*  
 "The Gospel of the Lord."  
**Children:** "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."

**Dialogue:** "The readings today focus on rising from the dead and beginning a new life."

"In the first reading, God promises that there will be new life after death. He suggests that he will open up graves and raise people from the dead. Does this remind you of something from the New Testament about Jesus?" *(share – Jesus is raised from the dead)* "This Old Testament writing gives us a hint of what was going to happen to Jesus."





"In the Gospel, we hear the story of Lazarus and his new life. Lazarus was a friend of Jesus and Jesus loved him very much. Jesus also loved Lazarus' two sisters. Who remembers their names?" (**share** - Martha and Mary) "How do you think Martha and Mary felt when their brother died?" (**share** - sad, disappointed that Jesus hadn't come)

"Lazarus had been dead for four days. Then, at Jesus' word, Lazarus was raised to life. How do you think Martha and Mary and their friends felt when Jesus brought Lazarus back to life?" (**share** - amazed, excited, joyful) "Why do you think Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead?" (**share** - he felt sorry for Martha and Mary, Lazarus was his friend, he wanted people to know who he was...God made visible as a human...God Incarnate) "Jesus gave Lazarus new life."

"There are only two weeks until Easter when we hear of Jesus' new life. How many signs of new life have you seen this week?" (**share** - green grass, pussy willows, etc.) "When we help someone or cheer them up, we also bring new life to that person. We bring joy and happiness to them and it makes us feel happy, too. How can you bring joy and happiness to others this week?" (**share** - be kind, helpful, do a good deed for someone, etc.) "This week, make a real effort to bring happiness to someone, to bring them new life."

### Intentions:

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

That we will remember to pray and do good things this week, we pray to the Lord.

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

For those who have no one to care for them, 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*5th Sunday in Lent (Year A)*



1. Many people had died during the life of Jesus.  
Why do you think Jesus decided to raise Lazarus from the dead?

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2. Lazarus had been dead for four days. How do you think Martha and Mary felt when Lazarus walked out of the tomb alive?

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3. Draw a picture of Lazarus walking out of the tomb alive, his hands and feet and face wrapped in pieces of white cloth.



## Passion / Palm Sunday (Year A)

**(Red 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 letter to the Philippians."  
*(Readings may be proclaimed by a parent)*  
*The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children, p. 37*  
 "The Word of the Lord."  
**Children:** "Thanks be to God."

**Responsorial Psalm:** **Children's Response:** "Glorify God; glorify God's holy name!"  
 Verse 1: "Let us praise God's holy name."  
 Verse 2: "Glorify God; glorify God with me." *(Pause in silence for a moment)*

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



**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. 38-41*  
 "The Gospel of the Lord."  
**Children:** "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."

**Dialogue:** "Today is a special feast day called Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday. During the Gospel reading, we hear how Jesus came into the city of Jerusalem riding on a donkey. When the people and the children heard he was coming they spread their clothes for a carpet and waved branches in the air. Today we carry branches or palms because we also want to honour Jesus and welcome him into our hearts and lives."



"In the first reading, Paul suggests people should think and live like Jesus. How do you think Jesus wants us to live?" (**share** - be kind, be nice, share, forgive others, etc.) "Jesus always obeyed God the Father, even when it meant that he was going to die on the Cross. And because Jesus obeyed the Father, in everything, Jesus was raised up from death to new life."

"The Passion tells the story of the last days of the life of Jesus on earth. The people had taken Jesus to see Pilate and demanded that he be crucified. How do you think Jesus felt when the people wanted him to die?" (**share** - alone, sad, betrayed)

"Every year Pilate always set one person free. Why didn't he let Jesus go free?" (**share** - the people wanted Jesus to die, the people said Barabbas should go free) "Do you remember how the people treated Jesus?" (**share** - hitting him, spitting at him, making fun of him) "How do you think that made Jesus feel?" (**share** - sad and disappointed) "Jesus made the supreme sacrifice...he died on the Cross for us, so that we would have new life with him, forever. The Passion is a very intense description of the last days of Jesus' life on earth. Do you have any thoughts about what you just heard?" (**share**)

"This week is called Holy Week, because of what Jesus did for us. Try to think about Jesus this week, his obedience to God, and his faith in the love of the Father."

#### Intentions:



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

That we try to live our lives in love, like Jesus asks of us, we pray to the Lord.

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

That we have faith in Jesus, and trust that he is with us all our lives, 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.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*Passion / Palm Sunday (Year A)*

1. How do you think Pilate felt when he was forced to release Barabbas instead of Jesus? Explain.

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2. How do you think Barabbas felt after being released, knowing that Jesus was going to die instead? Explain.

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3. Draw a picture of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey as people spread their coats and branches on the road in front of him.

A large, empty rectangular box with a blue border, intended for a drawing of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey.



# Year 1 Cycle C/A Scope and Sequence Review Chart

## The Liturgical Season of Lent (Year A)

<b>Catechetical Focus:</b> <b>Eucharist and the Eucharistic Community</b>	<b>Thematic Scriptural References that support the Catechesis of the Mass</b>	<b>Knowledge and Understanding: (Cognitive Level)</b>  <i>The child knows...</i>	<b>Skills: (Practical Level)</b>  <i>The child can...</i>	<b>Values and Attitudes: (Affective Level)</b>  <i>The child...</i>	<b>Lectionary Readings Cycle A</b>
<b>Preparation of the Gifts</b> The gifts we offer and receive are gifts from God  Connecting with the gift of earth  Celebrating human work  Acknowledging bread and wine as God's gift to us which in Eucharist are transformed by the Holy Spirit	<b>Genesis 1:1-34</b> The narrative of Creation  <b>Luke 24:30</b> "He took bread."  <b>Genesis 1:26</b> "...have dominion over the fish of the sea."  <b>Exodus 16:4</b> Bread from heaven  <b>Exodus 16:31</b> Manna  <b>James 1:17</b> Every perfect gift...from the Father	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	Recognize bread and wine as gifts of the Creator  Give thanks for the gifts  Recognize that the offerings are for all people  Share gifts  Give something to others	Appreciates the earth and its gifts  Appreciates being part of the preparation of the gifts  Recognizes that gifts are also divine; God gives gifts  Cares for the earth  Gives thanks before meals  Shares with others the gifts given us	<b>Gospel Reading</b>  <b>(1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent)</b> Mt 4:1-11  <b>(2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent)</b> Mt 17:1-9  <b>(3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent)</b> Jn 4:5-42  <b>(4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent)</b> Jn 9:1-41  <b>(5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent)</b> Jn 11:1-45  <b>Passion/Palm Sunday</b> Mt 26:14-27:66



# Our Faith Journey

Easter Season to Body and Blood of Christ

## LESSON PLANS YEAR ONE

April 16 – June 4, 2017

Year A







# The Liturgical Season of Easter

## MAKING THE CONNECTION

The Sunday Readings for Year A, for the Liturgical Season of Lent and Easter, 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. 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 Common 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
  - \* Appreciates what it is to receive communion
  - \* Is forgiving
  - \* Prays 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
- (7th) 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 (Year A)

(White Cloth)

**Welcome:** Leader: "Good Morning girls and boys. Welcome! *Alleluia!*"

**Announcements:** - Review with the children the Psalm response

**Candle(s):** - Select child to light the candle(s)

**Song:** - Open our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

**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. 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 long moment.)



**Responsorial**

**Psalm:**

**Children's Response:**

"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!" (repeat)

Verse 1: "You opened the gates of heaven, you have given me life."

All: "You have given me life. I will proclaim the wonders you do! "

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!"

(Pause in silence for a moment)

**Gospel**

**Acclamation:**

**Gospel:**

Sing the *Alleluia* acclamation together, even if *a capella* and without instrumentation.

"This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew."

**Children:** "Glory to you O Lord" (3 crosses: Lord in my mind, in my words, in my heart)

*The SUNDAY Book of Readings Adapted for Children*, p 43

"This is the Good News of the Lord"

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

(Pause in silence for a moment)

**Dialogue:**

This week's readings focus on the real message of our faith.



will be taken from the same book in the bible. Do you know what the book's name is? (Acts of the Apostles). The stories in this book, tell of the acts - or *actions* - of Jesus' apostles.

In the First Reading today, we hear about the *actions* of one of the apostles, Peter, who gives a proclamation. What does that mean? (a word that means "to cry out with joy"). What does Peter tell, proclaim, or cry out to the people? (*that Jesus of Nazareth, has risen from the dead*). Jesus' Resurrection - his death and being raised to new life - brings forgiveness to all who believe.

In Matthew's Gospel, the women - Mary Magdalene and Mary - are the first disciples to go to Jesus' tomb. Can you remember/tell me about the story? What did you hear? Whom did they see? (very early in the morning, an angel dressed in white clothes, scared soldiers, earthquake) What did the angel say? (Jesus has risen from the dead, going to Galilee where you will see him). And did they? (yes, almost right away!) And they went quickly to tell the disciples that *Jesus has a new life*.

So, new life. I wonder, what are some signs of new life that we see all around us today? (accept appropriate responses). Yes, these are all signs of new life. And why do you suppose we sometimes wear new Easter clothes? It is because we too see wearing these clothes as a sign of new life in a new season. Maybe it is the first time that we wear shorts outdoors, or a pretty dress for a long time.

New life is indeed, all around us: whether having longer and warmer days, hearing the birds chirping, or seeing the lilies grow, let us all recognize and celebrate that Jesus is indeed Risen! This is the reason for our faith.

### Intentions:



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

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

• That we really appreciate God's many gifts of the signs of new life all around us.

Encourage the children to share their own 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 during the week



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

## *Easter Sunday (Year A)*



1. It has been a long and wet and cold winter. What is your favourite "sign of new life" this year? Why did you choose that sign?

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2. Mary Magdalene and Mary were two of Jesus' closest friends. How do you think they felt when they discovered that Jesus was not in the tomb?

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3. Draw a picture of you bringing the peace of Jesus to someone you know, possibly even in your family. What did you bring to them?



## 2nd Sunday of Easter (Year A)

(White Cloth)

**Welcome:** Leader: "Good Morning girls and boys. Welcome! *Alleluia!*"

**Announcements:** - Review with the children the Psalm response

**Candle(s):** - Select child to light the candle(s)

**Song:** - Open our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

**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, 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 long moment.)



**Responsorial  
Psalm:**

**Children's Response**

"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: "You have shown mercy and power, you have given me life."

All: "You have given me life. I will proclaim the wonders you do! "

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!"

(Pause in silence for a long moment)

**Gospel**

**Acclamation:**

Sing the *Alleluia* acclamation together, even if *a capella* and without instrumentation.

**Gospel:**

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

**Children:** "Glory to you O Lord" (Three crosses: Lord be in my mind, in my words, in my heart)

(Readings are taken from *The SUNDAY Book of Readings Adapted for Children*, p 47)

"This is the Good News of the Lord"

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

**Dialogue:**

This week's readings focus on the presence of the risen Lord.

(Reminder) During this Easter season – for the next 6 weeks, our first readings will be taken from the same book from the Bible. Do you know what the book's name is? (Acts of the Apostles). The stories in this book, tell of the acts – or actions – of Jesus apostles.

In today's first reading, the people in the community came to believe in Jesus. Yet, how did they do it? And how did other people know that somehow, these Christians were different? What were some of the ways they showed it: (gathered for prayer, listened to the teachings of the apostles, broke bread, shared everything, lived in community). In fact, they showed it in the way they lived their lives. And because other people had seen the way that these Christians lived, "many others also came to believe in Jesus".

In today's Gospel, something happened. Can you tell me? Where were the apostles? (locked in the upper room) Why were they there? (afraid of the people that killed Jesus) What did Jesus say when he appeared? (Peace be with you.) What did Jesus bring? (forgiveness and peace, also called *Divine Mercy*). Who wasn't there? (Thomas) What did Thomas say? (Ha! I don't believe it!) Jesus appeared to Thomas later, and what did Thomas say and do? (fell at Jesus' feet, and said "My Lord and my God")

Girls and Boys, we are in the same boat as those people we just read about. We can't see the physical Jesus. And if we can't see him, then we think we can't know him. But oftentimes we come to believe in something because someone in whom we trust, tells us. We know that some foods, for example, are good for us, simply because our mommy or daddy tells us. They also show us the compassion of God – known as Divine Mercy – by putting band-aids on our scraped knees, or just by giving us a nice big hug!

**Intentions:**

Jesus is present to you and to me today: when we say our **prayers** at night, or first thing in the morning at school, **helping** a friend in need, **eating** a meal with mom or dad, or by **participating** at Mass, when you **share** something. Let's try to remember that Jesus is present with us too – right now – and will be during this week. By doing this, we might help other people believe in Jesus too.

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

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

Encourage the children to share their own intentions

- Help us believe in you by increasing our faith, ...
- For our moms and dads, and all those people who love us, ...

**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 during the week





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*2nd Sunday of Easter (Year A)*

1. What do you find really easy to share? Why do you think it is so easy?



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2. But it is hard letting go. What is something you have that you find really difficult to share?

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3. Draw one of your favorite "communities" to which you belong (family, class, etc.). Try to include one or more of the things you bring to that community.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for a drawing of a favorite community.



## 3rd Sunday of Easter (Year A)

(White Cloth)

**Welcome:** Leader: "Good Morning girls and boys. 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)

**Song:** - Open our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

**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 49, 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 long moment.)



**Gospel**

**Acclamation:** Sing the *Alleluia* acclamation together, even if a *capella* and without instrumentation.

**Gospel:** "This is a reading from the Gospel of Luke."

**Children:** "Glory to you O Lord" (Three crosses: Lord be in my mind, in my words, in my heart)  
(Readings are taken from *The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children*, p 51.)

"The Gospel of the Lord"

**Children:** "Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ"  
(Pause in silence for a long moment.)

**Dialogue:** Remember that we will be listening to a book during the 50 days of Easter.  
What is the book? (*Acts of the Apostles*) Why is it called that? (It tells of the actions of the apostles).

The readings this week again focus on our central message, called the mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!"

In today's First Reading, Peter, a simple fisher, did something bold. He stood up in front of a group of people he probably didn't even know, to **proclaim** something. (Remember what we said it meant, cry out with joy) Do you know what the message was? (you killed him, and God freed Jesus from death by raising him) We remind ourselves of that story every time we gather at Mass,



when we proclaim "Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again". This is *our* chance to be like Peter.

Now, I'd like to invite you to close your eyes for a moment. Imagine the two disciples walking along a country road (pause). There are no cars, no stores, no iPhones - no distractions at all. Just the sound of the wind, and birds chirping in the distance. These disciples must have been very sad and confused. Then a stranger joined them. Didn't they sound pretty confused when they first started talking to Jesus? They were trying to tell Jesus everything that had happened in Jerusalem (*please sound frantic!*): He was a great prophet; we were hoping that he would save us, he was put to death...they crucified him, but the women said angels told them he was alive, and then the men went and found things as the women had said. They must have sounded frantic!

When Jesus joined the conversation, he wasn't recognized at first, but he was able to remind the disciples' about what the prophets had foretold about him. By doing that, Jesus was able to bring them peace. Now because Jesus was so interesting and knowledgeable - even though they didn't recognize Jesus, the two disciples then invited him to stay with them for supper. What did Jesus do? (He broke bread). And what happened then? (He was gone). Jesus is present in the stories we share about him, called the Word, and he is also present in the breaking of the bread (Eucharist). And these two disciples were excited by what had happened!

Even though Jesus was killed, God, Jesus' Father, raised Jesus back to life so that we could receive his peace and forgiveness. Let us remember that Jesus walks with each one of us in our daily lives, whenever we pray by ourselves or gather to celebrate the Mass. Jesus is always there with us!

### Intentions:

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

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

Encourage the children to share their own intentions

That we learn to recognize and listen to Jesus during our day, ...



### 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 during the week.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*3rd Sunday of Easter (Year A)*

1. We often like to bring gifts to other people and friends.  
What did the risen Jesus bring for each one of us?




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2. How many times and activities can you do this week, where you can talk with God - even if it is only a minute long?

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3. Draw yourself doing one of these activities and talking and listening to God.



## 4th Sunday of Easter (Year A)

(White Cloth)

**Welcome:** Leader: "Good Morning girls and boys. 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)

**Song:** - Open our Hearts (by Christopher Walker)

**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."

.....

"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)

Leader: "The stone which the builders rejected is the Cornerstone."

All: "You have given me life. I will proclaim the wonders you do! "

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!"

(Pause in silence for a long moment)

**Gospel**

**Acclamation:**

**Gospel:**

Sing the *Alleluia* acclamation together, even if a *capella* and without instrumentation.

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

**Children:** "Glory to you O Lord" (Three crosses: Lord be in my mind, in my words, in my heart)

(Readings are taken from *The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children*, p 53, and may be done by a parent or another catechist.)

"The Gospel of the Lord"

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

(Pause in silence for a long moment)

**Dialogue:**

Both readings this week focus on hearing and following the call of God in Jesus.



Again this week, we hear of Peter, the simple fisher, getting up and speaking – or proclaiming – to the crowd. What was it that he said? (God raised Jesus; the same Jesus that was killed). How did the people react? (upset, and wondered what to do). Peter's reply: they be baptized and believe in Jesus, and that Jesus will forgive all your sins! Whenever we honestly take our bad decisions to Jesus, we will find forgiveness – always.

A sheep's life depends on the shepherd. The shepherd always leads them to water, and places where there is enough food. He also insures that they can live in safety! It is the Good Shepherd who gives life to the sheep. Who is it that helps you listen to the voice of Jesus? In the first reading, the people listened to Peter. But who do you listen to today? (teachers, parents, catechists, priests). Yes, these are all our Good Shepherds today, just as Peter was, and Jesus is.

Today, people and children all across Canada and around the world celebrate Vocations Day. That's a big word, but it simply means "a calling". Now, who do you suppose is doing the calling? (Jesus, The Father) That's right. And who do you think God is speaking to? (us). God always lets us know that, if we listen to him, he will lead us and never leave us. Just as a shepherd leads his sheep, Jesus calls people to lead his Church. The Church is praying that people "listen for their calling", so that we have good women and men who want to shepherd us too.

May we always remember to listen to the voice of God in our daily life, whether it be in the hustle and bustle of activity, or the quiet of the day, or in our heart.

### Intentions:



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

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

Encourage the children to share their own intentions

That we will always listen for, and hear God's voice, ...

### 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:

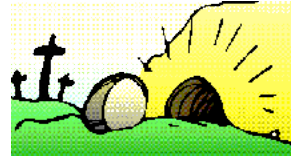
- Discuss and clarify the home assignment.
- Select readers and proclaimers for the following week
- Parents should be encouraged to pre-read next week's readings with their children during the week.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*4th Sunday of Easter (Year A)*

1. People don't like to be excluded from a group. Tell of a time when you were excluded from a group or activity, and what you had to do to be included.

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2. Draw a picture of Jesus calling people today. Be sure to include yourself in the picture. What is he saying? What are people doing? Are they all listening?

A large, empty rectangular box with a blue border, intended for a drawing.





## 5th Sunday of Easter (Year A)

(White Cloth)

**Welcome:** Leader: "Good Morning boys and 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)

**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: "Lord be with us, with your love be with us. All our hope is in you!" (All repeat)

Verse 1: "For your faithful word and all you do, for your love we trust in you."

Verse 2: "We are chosen, God, by you. Bless us God, we trust in you!"

(Pause in silence for a long moment)

**Gospel**

**Acclamation:**

Sing the *Alleluia* acclamation together, even if *a capella* and without instrumentation.

**Gospel:**

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

**Children:** "Glory to you O Lord" (Three crosses: Lord be in my mind, in my words, in my heart)

(Readings are taken from *The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children*, p 55 and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)

"The Gospel of the Lord"

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

(Pause in silence for a long moment)

**Dialogue:**

The focus of the readings today show how the community of the Church,



filled with the Holy Spirit, can solve its own problems.

In the first reading, something happened that the apostles became too busy to look after everyone. What was it? (so many people). Does that ever happen to you – or to your mom or dad, or even your teacher? What do you/they do? (they might get frustrated, but they will get some help). That's the same thing the apostles did – they got some help, from the people that they were serving.

Have you ever taken a trip to a place you have never been before? What did you do? (1. decide where to go, 2. know something about where you are going, 3. pack everything you need while there, and 4. take a good map to carefully follow).

In today's gospel, Jesus was talking with his disciples about going somewhere. Where was that? (home, heaven, to his Father). What did the Thomas, the first disciple say? (where are you going?). And Jesus said "I am the \_\_\_\_\_ (Way), the \_\_\_\_\_ (Truth) and the \_\_\_\_\_ (Life)". Jesus lets us know that we only have to live like he – Jesus – did. He was truthful in everything he did; he helped people that were hurt, he spoke with people who needed help or, were ignored all the time. Sounds pretty simple doesn't it? And because Jesus will send his Holy Spirit, we will be able to do *even greater* things than he did.

What do you have to do to live like Jesus this week?

#### Intentions:



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

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

Encourage the children to share their own intentions

For the strength and courage to live like 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 during the week.



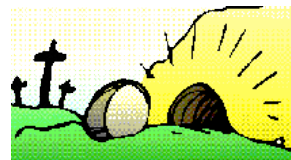
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*5th Sunday of Easter (Year A)*

1. In the first reading today, Paul said his main work was to "preach the Word of God". Do you agree? Why or why not?




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2. What did Paul suggest as a solution to the problem. Do you think it worked?

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3. Draw some of the "deacons" chosen and giving food to the needy.



## 6th Sunday of Easter (Year A)

(White Cloth)

**Welcome:** Leader: "Good Morning boys and girls. Welcome. *Alleluia!*"

**Announcements:** - Review any announcements with the children

**Candle(s):** - Select child to light the candle(s)

**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 56, and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)

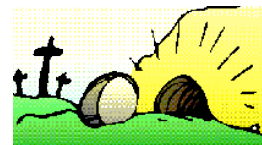
"This is a reading from the Acts of the Apostles."

.....

"The Word of the Lord."

**Children:** "Thanks be to God."

(Pause in silence for a moment)



**Responsorial Psalm:**

Leader: "All the nations will praise you, and know that you are God!" (All repeat)

Verse 1: "Give God glory. Give God glory and praise."

Verse 2: "Proclaim salvation day after day."

Verse 3: "Tell the nations of God's wonderful deeds."

(Pause in silence for a long moment)

**Gospel**

**Acclamation:**

Sing the *Alleluia* acclamation together, even if *a capella* and without instrumentation.

**Gospel:**

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

....

**Children:** "Glory to you O Lord" (Three crosses: Lord be in my mind, in my words, in my heart)

(Readings are taken from *The Sunday Book of Readings Adapted for Children*, p 57.

These may be proclaimed a parent or another catechist.)

"The Gospel of the Lord"

....

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

(Pause in silence for a long moment)

**Dialogue:**

The readings this week focus on God's love being the same for everyone and



everything. We sometimes call it God's Universal Love.

Who remembers the story of the Good Samaritan? Were the Samaritans friendly with the Jewish people in Judea (no; they were just different, foreigners, and didn't get along.) Philip, a disciple of Jesus, was excited by the news that Jesus had been raised from the dead, and Jesus bringing peace and forgiveness to everyone who believed, so he went to Samaria. And did the people believe him? Yes they did, and the people were filled with joy! God's love could not be contained; it was overflowing!

In the Gospel, we hear Jesus saying we should love one another so that we will be happy.

So, what is it about love, that makes us happy? Is it true? Are you are happier when you love, or are loved? How so? Could you give me an example? On Holy Thursday, Jesus showed us a way **how** to love, by washing their feet and serving other people. He does not mean that we must start washing our parents' feet, but that we must start **serving** one another. We have to look after one another. Yes, Jesus gave his life for ours when he died, but Jesus also gave his life for others by helping them, healing them, and caring for them. His presence just seemed to make the people feel important, and more happy.

Jesus wants us to be happy too : he told us, and he showed us **how** to be happy. What did he say? (Love one another **as** I have loved you.) Remember that Jesus said, "There is no greater love than to give your life to your friends". There is nothing greater, than giving your life by serving others. This week, let us remember to focus on serving others.

### Intentions:



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

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

Encourage the children to share their own intentions

That we be able to look for ways to love and serve Jesus by loving and serving our family and friends, ...

### 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 during the week.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*6th Sunday of Easter (Year A)*

1. List 2 or 3 ways that you can serve others this week. How can you do it?



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2. When have you felt happy this past week. Why were you happy? What made you feel that way?

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3. Jesus promises that when we love him, then he will show himself. Draw a picture of Jesus revealing himself to you.


A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for a drawing.



## Ascension Sunday (Year A)

(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 58, 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: "Proclaim Good News to all of the earth! (All repeat)  
 Verse 1: "Praise God with trumpets; praise God with songs." R/  
 "Proclaim Good News to all of the earth!  
 Verse 2: "Sing praise to Jesus our Lord and God R/ "Proclaim Good News to all of the earth!  
*(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 59 and may be proclaimed by a parent or another catechist.)*  
 "This is a reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew."  
**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:** "Jesus tells his friends that God his Father has given him something; what has he been given (**share** - power and authority). What kind of





power does Jesus have (**share** - power to do good things, to heal, to forgive, to strengthen). Jesus is also sending the disciples, where is He sending them? (**share** - out to all nations, everyone); and what does he want them to do? (**share** - preach or share with others about God's love and forgiveness). Jesus tells his disciples to do something (**share** - to baptise the people in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit). What does baptism do? (**share** - Baptism makes us part of God's family). Jesus also tells his disciples that he wants them to teach the people something. What does he want the disciples to teach the people (**share**: to teach them to keep the commandments and to do all that Jesus taught them). The commandments are all the ways that we show love for God; acting in ways that Jesus would, by loving God, helping our parents, and being a good friend to others. How will his disciples be able to do the things Jesus sends them to do, and how can we do these things that Jesus sends us to do? (**share** - Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit and he promised to be with them always) This week, spread the Good News about Jesus, who is God, by trying to be the best person you can be."

#### 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



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*Ascension Sunday (Year A)*



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

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

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3. Draw a picture of you doing something good this week to spread the Good News about God.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for a student to draw a picture of themselves doing something good.



## Pentecost Sunday (Year A)

**(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. 62*

...  
"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 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:**

"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



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



1. How did Jesus pass on the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles?

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

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3. Draw a picture of you showing someone that you forgive them.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for a student to draw a picture illustrating the concept of forgiveness.



# Year 1 Cycle C/A Scope and Sequence Review Chart

## The Liturgical Season of Easter: Easter Sunday – Pentecost (Year A)

<b>Catechetical Focus:</b> Eucharist and the Eucharistic Community	<b>Thematic Scriptural References that support the Catechesis of the Mass</b>	<b>Knowledge and Understanding: (Cognitive Level)</b> <i>The child knows...</i>	<b>Skills: (Practical Level)</b> <i>The child can...</i>	<b>Values and Attitudes: (Affective Level)</b> <i>The child...</i>	<b>Lectionary Readings Cycle A</b>
<b>Liturgy of the Eucharist</b> Eucharistic Prayer of blessing and praising God for gifts  Understanding the essential role of a priest  Remembering and thanking God for what Jesus has done  <b>Communion</b> The Our Father asks for daily bread/forgiveness <b>Communion Rite</b> We reflect on Jesus feeding us and respond with prayer and adoration	<b>Acts 2:1-41</b> Pentecost: the coming of the Spirit  <b>Luke 11: 1-4</b> The “Our Father”  <b>Luke 22:47, 23:57</b> Apprehension, trial, death and burial of Jesus  <b>John 13: 1-15</b> The washing of the feet  <b>Mt. 28: 1-10</b> The Resurrection of Jesus  <b>John 6:1-14</b> Feeding of the five thousand  <b>John 6:35, 51-71</b> Bread of life	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  The Our Father is a prayer for forgiveness  Communion makes us one with God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit	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	Is reverent before the Blessed Sacrament  Appreciates what it is to receive communion  Is forgiving  Prays the Lord’s Prayer  Likes being part of the parish community  Makes friends and brings people together	<b>Gospel Reading</b>  <b>Easter Sunday</b> Jn 20:1-9  <b>(2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter)</b> Jn 20:19-31  <b>(3<sup>rd</sup>)</b> Lk 24:13-35  <b>(4<sup>th</sup>)</b> Jn 10:1-10  <b>(5<sup>th</sup>)</b> Jn 14:1-12  <b>(6<sup>th</sup>)</b> Jn 14:15-21  <b>Ascension</b> Mt 28:16-20  <b>Pentecost</b> Jn 20:19-23



# Feasts of the Lord and Sundays in Ordinary Time: Trinity to 23rd Sunday (Year A)

## MAKING THE CONNECTION

The Sunday Readings for Year A, for the Feasts of the Lord and Ordinary Time after Easter (9th Sunday to 23rd), 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 Common Rite)

- 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

### 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
  - \* Appreciate 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 (Year A)

(White Cloth)



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

**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.

**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. 66*

"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 the Jesus?" (**share** - Our parish priest, 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. This handout will help you to remember the Sign of the Cross."

**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...





**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

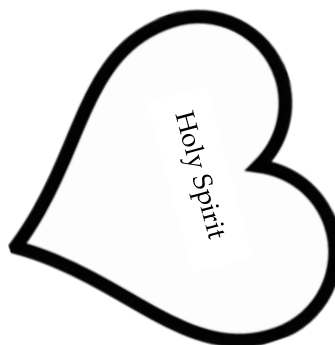
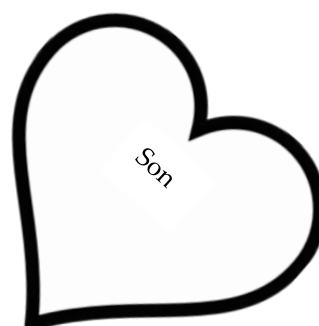
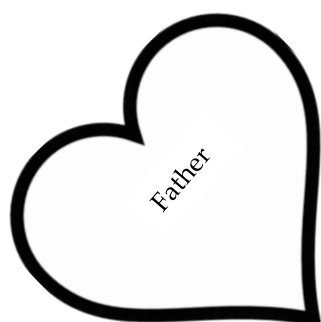


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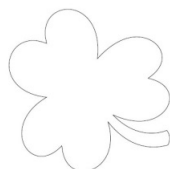
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# HOME ASSIGNMENT

*Trinity Sunday (Year A)*



See if you can clip out the three hearts and make one Shamrock!  
(Here's a hint)





## Body and Blood of Christ (Year A)

(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 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 (Year A)*

