

Second Grade: Lesson 15

The True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist

Lesson Objective:

This lesson builds upon the previous lesson to help children better understand the sacrament of the Eucharist and prepares the child to receive the sacrament. This lesson should be taught in the context of relationship and discipleship. Catechists should help the children understand the centrality of the Eucharist in our Catholic faith and the immense privilege and necessity it is to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

Learning Outcomes: Students will ...

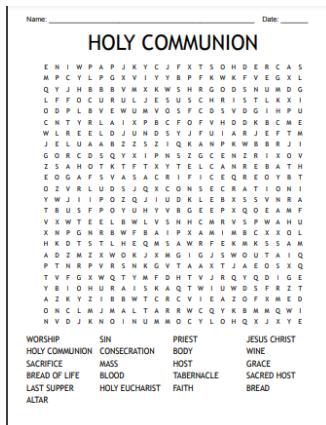
- Discuss some of the names for the sacrament of Eucharist (CCC 1328-1332).
- Demonstrate the procedure for receiving Holy Communion.
- Identify signs and symbols of the Eucharist (CCC 1234-1245; CCC 1450-1460,1480; CCC 1333, 1412).

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space items, Bible, pencils, crayons, Catechism of the Catholic Church
- Copies: Word Search (optional), Eucharistic Prayers and what they mean to you, Words Before Receiving the Eucharist, Monstrance coloring page

As Students Enter Class:

- You may want to have a word search available for students to work on as they wait for class to begin. See link below.
- [First Eucharist Word Search](#)

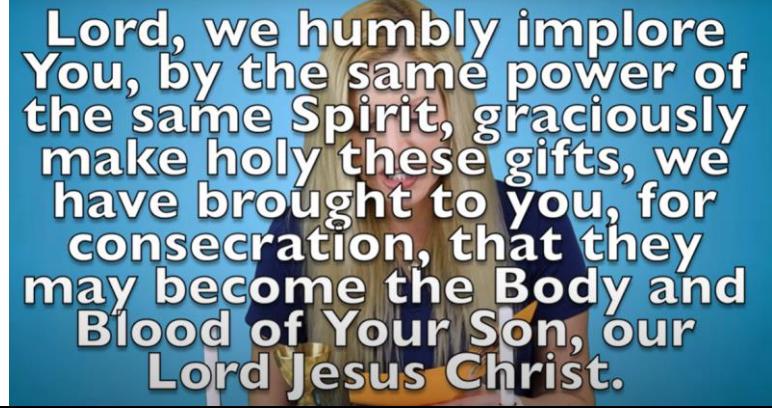


Beginning of Class:

- Gather around your prayer space and pray the Our Father.

Lesson 15 Order	Implementation Ideas
Lesson 15 Video	<p>This video is 6:43 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Catholics consider the Eucharist to be the source and summit of our faith. Everything we do and celebrate comes back to the Eucharist, because it is through the Eucharist that we are fed through the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ. Jesus is our Savior, which means he died so that we might live with him in Heaven forever.</p> <p>There are other names for the Eucharist. Did you know that Eucharist means Thanksgiving? The Lord's Supper reminds us of how Jesus brought about the new covenant and the new words of the Passover meal.</p> <p>Sometimes we call the Mass and the Eucharist the Holy Sacrifice. It is also known as Holy Communion. We must show Jesus great respect when we are in His presence, when a consecrated host is present, because the bread and wine truly become the body and blood of Christ at the consecration during Mass.</p> <p>When the Apostles gathered for the Passover meal on Holy Thursday, Jesus changed the words they would normally pray. He said, this is my body and this is my blood.</p> <p>Let's read from Luke 22:19-20 (The Lord's Supper).</p> <p>We just heard how Jesus gave the command, do this in memory of me. After the Last Supper, Jesus went to the Mount of Olives to pray. He knew he was going to be crucified.</p> <p>Question: Do we have a symbol of Jesus' death? Yes, the cross. Sometimes we wear a cross.</p> <p>Jesus then rose from the dead. For 40 days he spoke to the Apostles and instructed them. Then Jesus told the Apostles to go to Jerusalem and He</p>

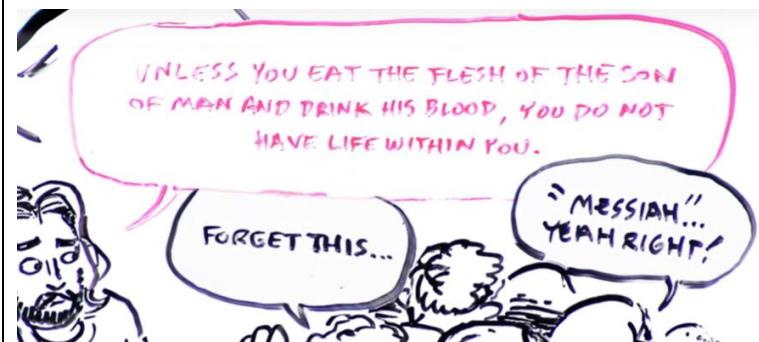
	<p>would send the Holy Spirit. This happened on the day we call Pentecost. The Apostles were given the gift of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>Question: Do you remember how the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles? (With great winds and tongues of fire).</p> <p>Jesus told them to go and baptize all people. Go to all nations and spread the Good News. As the Apostles grew older, they began to ordain Bishops. Then Bishops began to baptize and preach to people. You see, the people were not left alone. The same words were spoken and Jesus was there with them.</p> <p>Apostolic Succession:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus • Apostles • Bishops • Priests <p>This unbroken line brings Jesus to us in the most Holy Eucharist. When we are gathered in our Church, Jesus is there, giving Himself to us.</p>
Lesson 15, Part 2: Consecration	<p>This video is 2:52 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Carla has a mini-altar displayed to help with a reenactment of the consecration.</p> <p>A special prayer is recited by the priest in order to consecrate the bread and wine and change it to the body and blood of Christ. The priest asks God to send the Holy Spirit. This prayer is called the Epiclesis.</p> <p>Carla reads the Epiclesis and does the same movements a priest would do. The children are invited to do the movements as she reads through it a second time.</p>

	<p>It is important for students to understand that the consecration turns a normal wafer and water into the body and blood of Christ. The words to the Epiclesis are below:</p>  <p>Lord, we humbly implore You, by the same power of the same Spirit, graciously make holy these gifts, we have brought to you, for consecration, that they may become the Body and Blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.</p>
<p>Miracle of the Eucharist</p>	<p>This animated video is 2:28 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: With only two fish and five loaves of bread, Jesus fed 5000 people, and there were 12 baskets left over. This is a story of Jesus as a miracle worker, but it's also a story about the Eucharist.</p> <p>The Gospel of John uses symbols to tell us more about Jesus and Christian life. A symbol is something that stands for something else.</p> <p>The main symbol in this gospel is the food that Jesus gives, the two fish and the five loaves. The food represents the Eucharist, Jesus' body and blood. The Eucharist is food for our souls. Like food we eat to survive, we need to receive Jesus regularly. Which is why we go to Mass every Sunday. The Church shares the Eucharist, like your family shares a meal.</p>
<p>Sophia Sketchpad: The Eucharist</p> <p>Although this video is a bit lengthy, it is very good. Narrated at a nice pace for</p>	<p>This video is 6:39 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: At every Mass, bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Can this be true? Yes! Let's look at John 6:</p>

students to follow, pictures accompany the best explanation I've heard to explain what Holy Communion really means.

I AM THE LIVING BREAD THAT CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN; WHOEVER EATS THIS BREAD WILL LIVE FOREVER; AND THE BREAD THAT I WILL GIVE IS MY FLESH FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD.

Many of Jesus' followers didn't understand this. But instead of changing his words or backing down, Jesus replied:



Some of Jesus' followers left after he said this. They just could not understand what he meant.

At the Last Supper, which we discussed during the first video, Jesus also offered His body to eat.



STOP AND ASK STUDENTS: Does this wording sound familiar? Where do we hear these words?

At the Last Supper, Christ made the Apostles the first priests, and commanded them to follow His example and celebrate Mass for all Christians.

Why does Jesus ask us to do something that sounds so strange? Eating his flesh and drinking his blood? To understand why, we must go back to

the beginning of time with Adam and Eve. They chose to listen to Satan instead of God, when they ate from the one and only tree God told them not to eat from. When Adam and Eve used their free will to turn their backs on God, called original sin, they broke the unity between Heaven and Earth. Man lost his intimate and familiar relationship with God. Disease and death crept into the world, and man became inclined to sin. The only fitting punishment for man's offense is Hell. What a very sad story this would be if it ended here.

Although man's sin offended God, His mercy never faded. He began a plan to save us from sin and bring us back in union with Him. So that people could understand the forgiveness of sins, God asked them to sacrifice an animal in their place. When the animal was killed, it suffered the punishment meant for men.

These sacrifices were not sufficient enough to pay the ultimate offence man gave to God. So, how does man have any chance of reaching Heaven? God came down from Heaven in the form of man, as Jesus, to take away the eternal punishment of original sin. In order to pay man's debt and conquer death, God came down from Heaven, became man, and paid the price for our sins by dying on the cross.

Jesus is the Lamb of God and His life, death, and resurrection are the only reason Heaven is open to us. So now that we know why Jesus had to die, why do we eat His flesh and drink His blood?

- One reason is that we live by eating and drinking. Since this is true for our natural life, it makes since that it is true for our eternal life.
- Since original sin was committed by eating, it makes since that the remedy for sin comes to us through eating.
- Ultimately, Jesus wants to be united with you and for you to be united with Him.

	<p>Through Holy Communion, we receive God's strength and power called Grace. This helps us resist sin and to really become what God meant for us to be.</p> <p>STOP AND DISCUSS: Offer time for students to ask questions or share their thoughts. If participation needs a nudge, ask a few questions, such as: What is the Eucharist? Why do we need to receive the Eucharist weekly?</p>
Signs and Symbols of the Eucharist	This activity encourages students to reflect upon the learning from the videos.
How to Receive Communion and a Review of What Holy Communion Is About	<p>This video is 8:52 in length.</p> <p><u>You may want to make a choice to either watch this video or the next one, since they cover the same topic.</u></p> <p>The first four minutes into the video explains how to receive Holy Communion, both bread and wine. It reviews the words and our response, along with how to hold our hands. It also reviews how to receive Holy Communion if you are wearing a mask.</p> <p>The rest of the video is a review of material previous taught. You may want to skip this part, since this lesson has many activities.</p>
How to Receive Holy Communion Continued <i>** Fun way to practice with your students is to use skittles or M and M's to represent the host.</i>	<p>This Busted Halo video is 4:45 in length.</p> <p>It reviews what to do and what not to do when receiving Holy Communion. The priest explains the ins and outs very well and the pictures help reinforce the points he is making.</p> <p>It is important to remember we don't take communion; we receive it.</p> <p>You may be nervous the first few times you receive Communion and that is okay. Father cautions us to remember to enter Communion with</p>

	a prayerful and open heart that is ready to receive Jesus, which is more important than worrying about “getting it right”.
Activity: Eucharist Prayers and What They Mean to You	Students are asked to write in their own words what they think the prayers are saying.
Words Before Receiving the Eucharist	<p>There is a reference to Matthew 8:5-13 and the words of the Centurion.</p> <p>Students are asked to practice saying and writing, “Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.”</p>
The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist	Students can color the Monstrance.
Closing Prayer	Select a traditional Catholic prayer that you have been working on with your students.