

Second Grade: Lesson 16

THE MASS AND YOU

Lesson Objective:

Having a better appreciation for the Eucharist, children are now prepared to explore the Mass and appreciate the importance of weekly participation in the liturgy. God commands us to keep holy the Lord's Day because He knows we need Him. He wants us to stay close to Him and be united with Jesus in the Eucharist. Children should be taught to go to Mass with expectation that God will speak and act in their lives. Children can be encouraged to take a journal to Mass each week and write down how they encountered God. Sharing these encounters in class will encourage others to do the same. Add a comment to help kids understand how the Eucharist connects them to the body of Christ in the assembly and the world.

Learning Outcomes:

- Describe the Church as a praying and worshiping community (CCC 751-752, 2179).
- Understand that Catholic Christians are required to go to Sunday Mass (or Saturday vigil) to worship God and receive Jesus in the Word and Eucharist (CCC 1166-1167).
- Identify and understand the two parts of the liturgy of the Mass: The Liturgy of the Word (CCC 1349, 1154) and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (CCC 1356-1372).
- Discuss how Jesus is the model of what it means for a person to be a gift, as He nourishes communion through the gift of Himself in the Eucharist.
- Recognize that Jesus is present at Mass in the Scriptures, the person of the priest, in the community gathered to worship, and in the Eucharist (CCC 1088).

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space items, Bible, pencils, crayons, scissors, glue, blank paper for opening activity (optional)
- Copies: Jesus is our Model as a Gift activity, The Church Community, The Order of the Mass (possibly one copy for a whole class activity), Mass Memory Game

As Students Enter Class:

- Consider having a blank piece of paper available with the following prompt written on the board: When you think of Jesus what do you see? How do you feel? Draw a picture of Jesus and how He makes you feel.

Beginning of Class:

- Gather around your prayer space and pray the Our Father or other traditional Catholic prayer you have been working on.
- Provide a few minutes for students to share their picture, if you chose to do the beginning of class activity.

Lesson Order	Implementation Ideas
<p>Lesson 16 Video</p> <p>This video contains many of the learning outcomes that are in this lesson. You may want to stop and discuss or reinforce certain pieces of information.</p>	<p>This video is 5:57 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Our past two sessions helped to prepare you to receive Jesus in Holy Communion. Today we are learning more about the Mass. When we go to Mass, we come together as a praying and worshiping community. As Catholic Christians, we are required to go to Mass every Sunday or Saturday evening (called the Saturday Vigil), to worship God, and receive Jesus in the word and in the Eucharist.</p> <p>When we are at Mass, we recognize that Jesus is present in many ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In scripture • In the person of the priest • In the community gathered to worship • In the Eucharist <p>Being at Mass is a very special time and it makes our Church a very special and sacred space.</p> <p>CONSIDER DOING A STOP AND THINK HERE:</p> <p>How do we behave at Mass? Are we acknowledging that Church is special and sacred? If not, what are some ways you can change your behavior now that you know how special Mass is?</p> <p>There are two main parts to our Liturgy (Mass):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Liturgy of the Word 2) Liturgy of the Eucharist <p>LITURGY OF THE WORD:</p> <p>When Mass begins, we begin with Liturgy of the Word. During this time, we recognize</p>

ways we have sinned, during the Penitential Rite. Then we hear sacred scripture, which includes the readings at Mass. The Liturgy of the Word includes writings of the prophets from the Old Testament and letters of the Apostles and Gospels from the New Testament.

During the homily, the priest explains the word of God and helps us put it into practice.

Prayers of Intercession: We pray for the needs of others, our community, and our family.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST:

During this next main part of the Mass, special prayers are said by the priest over the bread and wine. The Eucharist connects you to the body of Christ in a very special and real way. During Mass, it may be helpful to bring a journal and write down how you encounter God.

The Eucharist is 3 Things:

- 1) Thanksgiving and praise to God
- 2) Sacrificial memorial of Christ
- 3) The real presence of Christ in the Eucharist (by the power of His word and of His Spirit).

Let's dive deeper into thanksgiving and praise to God: It is through Christ that the Church can offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for all that God has made. Praise because we sing glory to God in the name of all creation. All this is possible only through Christ. Therefore, the praise we give God the Father is offered through Christ and with Him and in Him.

	<p>For 2 and 3: The Eucharist is the sacrificial memorial of Christ and His body. We are the Church and we are Christ's body. When we read sacred scripture, it is alive and real. When the priest consecrates the body and blood of Christ, Christ is then truly present. The wafer and wine are not a symbol, once the priest consecrates them. The Eucharist, then, brings Christ's sacrifice on the Cross into our present time.</p> <p>For these reasons, we celebrate the Mass and offer our deepest love and respect to God.</p> <p>Ask students to share thoughts about the Mass and the video. Help them understand that the more they understand about our faith and the Mass,</p>
Jesus Founded My Church Song	This Christine in Action video is .54 in length. Words and pictures also appear on the screen. Encourage students to stand up and join in.
Know, Love and Serve Song	This is another Christine in Action video and is .48 in length. This video has words and actions that accompany the song. Once again, encourage students to stand up and join in.
Jesus is a Gift!	<p>This video is 3:23 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Filmed in Church, an adult demonstrates how Jesus is a gift to us. She uses the analogy of giving a gift, but with stipulations, and then explains how a gift is free. Jesus gives us a free gift, by dying on the cross and allowing us to earn eternal life in Heaven.</p>
Jesus is our Model as a Gift	Students brainstorm ways that Jesus is a Model for a person to be a gift. What does it mean for a person to be a gift?

The Church Community	Students cut and paste the jobs of the Church to the correct pictures.
Order of the Mass	Each child can work individually, or you can work as a whole group, and discuss as you assemble a poster with the headings and the different parts of the Mass.
Mass Memory Game	<p>CRAFT PROJECT: MASS MEMORY MATCH GAME</p> <p>MATERIALS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Printed game card pages 2. Spray adhesive or glue stick 3. Scissors 4. Tape <p>Creating the Cards:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Print out two copies of each of the 3 card pages. You will have a total of 6 pages. 2. Fold the paper in half along the dotted "fold" line. 3. Use a glue stick or spray glue to stick the two halves together. This is to thicken the card and prevent the drawn Mass object from being seen when the card is face down. 4. Cut out all cards so you have a matching pair of each of the 12 Mass objects. 24 total cards. 5. Cut out the strip and wrap around the deck of cards. Tape the two ends of the strip to create a band that will keep the cards together when not in use. <p>Setting Up the Game:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove the band and shuffle the cards. 2. Lay out the cards face down in four rows of six cards per row to form a large rectangle on the table or floor. Make sure the cards are not touching each other. They need to be able to be flipped over without moving any cards around them. 3. Decide who will go first. Perhaps the youngest player. <p>Playing the Game:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first player chooses a card and carefully turns it over making sure not to move the surrounding cards. 2. The player then selects another card and turns it over. If the two cards are a matching pair (for example two "Tabernacles") then they take the two cards. The player is awarded another turn for making a match and goes again. 3. If the cards do not match, they are turned back over and it is the next player's turn. 4. Play continues in this fashion until all cards are played. 5. The player with the most matching pairs wins. <p>Time permitting, your students could prepare the activity and take it home to play, if you don't have the class time to play it.</p>
Closing Prayer	If you have prayer journals, consider having students write a prayer to Jesus. You could also use one of the prayer pages included in this lesson.