

Lesson 2

Theme: Gathering

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this lesson, your child should be able to:

- Identify Sunday as the day Catholics gather to celebrate Mass
- Explain why Christians gather for Eucharist
- Describe what takes place during the Introductory Rites



Key Words

1. Christians
2. Catholics
3. Eucharist
4. Procession
5. mercy

Materials Needed for this Week:

- Pencil, colors/markers, drawing paper
- Weekly Mass Questionnaire
 - ✓ If your child has to miss Mass, please fill out backside of questionnaire and turn in.

➤ **Looking Ahead:** PARENT ED #3 – Mar 2, 2016

PARENTS: Keep in Mind

We are called to live in community. By our nature, people (especially children) do not wish to see others left out. In fact, we learn better while working and playing with others. Take advantage of our natural longing to be with others as you teach this lesson. Jesus wants us to follow him, but he knows that we need one another to do so. Therefore, we were given the Church community (our parish) to come together at mass to remember Jesus, hear the Word of God, celebrate the Eucharist, pray together, and to be a source of strength for one another.

As Catholics, we gather together for Eucharist. This is the way we live out our need for communion with God in the company of others who share a strong desire to praise and thank God together. It is important to gather together (to assemble with our faith community for Mass), so we may pray in unity with another. It is a vital part of our liturgical celebration – as we believe that Christ is present in the assembly of the faithful, gather together in His name....he is with us: in his Word, in the person of the minister, and above all in the Eucharist.

Liturgy is the PARTICIPATION of the People of God in “the work of God”. It presumes that those who gather will fully and consciously participate in the prayer and worship that takes place.

- ✚ Coming together to praise and thank God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is necessary for those who believe.
- ✚ Celebrating Eucharist as One Body bring with it the affirmation of all that it means to be Catholic.

Preparatory Thoughts:

- Offer you prayers TO the Father, THROUGH the Son, and IN UNITY with the Holy Spirit.
- What liturgical prayers express your praise and thanks to God?
- In what ways do you engage in “full, active, and conscious participation in the celebrations at your parish?”

Daily Prayer: *Jesus, Son of God, each time I gather with these children, you are her in our midst. May our coming together be a sign of unity in you. /Amen/*

PARENT & CHILD LESSON 1

****Don't rush ~ a page (or two) a night & you'll easily be done ! ****

Developing a weekly routine will help your child feel comfortable and help them learn. Taking time to review the lesson material throughout the week, by repeating key words and prayers, will help them grow.*

**This week try to share a meal together, as a family and discuss ways to show you are one with our parish family. Perhaps choose a parish activity you can do together: Collect spare change for rice bowl drive, donate to can goods to FISH, come to a Friday Supper or attend Stations of Cross (Fridays=6:30pm in English/7:30pm in Spanish)?*

DAY ONE: Gathering

Before reading the story, ask your child how it feels when you are having fun at a friend's house and are told its time to leave....

- **Read the story & discuss the questions in the gold box.**
- **It is not always possible to eat together as a family. If this is not a normal occurrence in your home focus on other times your family shows they are one (ex: going to church, playing a game, going to an event together.) Discuss how it feels when everyone in your family is together and draw that picture.**
 - ✓ *Practice the Sign of the Cross and Glory Be. Pray for the people you gather with: your family, classmates, your fellow 1st Communicants, your parish, your teammates.*

DAY TWO: Christians Gather

Read the bible story together and write out the four actions the first followers of Jesus performed when they came together & explain that we (as Jesus's followers) still do these same things when we gather together at Mass:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| • We pray | • We talk about Jesus |
| • We share a meal | • We help others |

After done, discuss these questions & those in LETS TALK box:

- Why are the 'Followers of Christ' are called Christians? Write the word Christian and have your child circle CHRIST within the word.
- ✓ *Practice the Sign of the Cross and Glory Be*. Pray for the people you belong to (again).*

DAY THREE: Christians Today

Draw attention to the 'faith words' in bold text, as they are to be remembered.

-Discuss the beginning of the Mass: where do the priest and other ministers stand as they wait to process in? How does the priest welcome everyone to Mass?

Practice the greetings and responses. (Note: Role playing may help.)

- Open your workbook to pg. 135 for memory work or reinforcement
- Mass responses can be found on page 149

-Complete the Activity Box on pg. 31.

Practice blessing each of by making the sign of the Cross on each other's foreheads.

DAY FOUR: We follow Jesus

- Read intro paragraph and do page together.
- Complete crossword puzzle worksheet

✓ *Read 'Give Glory to God' page 34 together. Say "Glory Be" together.*