

# **Lesson Plan, Grade 3 - Chapter 7**

**November 05 2025**

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## **Preparation**

### **Lesson Plan**

File: G3\_C7\_LP.pdf

### **Activity Master**

File: G3\_C7\_AM.pdf

## Chapter Test

File: G3\_C7\_Test.pdf

### Catechist Background

#### Doctrinal Content

- The Gospel message is the Good News of God's Kingdom and his saving love. (CCC, 125)
- The four Gospel books in the New Testament tell about Christ's life, teaching, Death, and Resurrection. (CCC, 120, 127)
- The Kingdom of God is the world of love, peace, and justice that exists in its fullness in Heaven and is still being built on Earth. (CCC, 2818-2819)
- In his miracles and parables, Jesus shows us that God's Kingdom is here and yet to come fully. (CCC, 546)

### Catechist Background

"What woman having ten coins and losing one would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching carefully until she finds it? And when she does find it, she ... says ... 'Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that I lost.' In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents."—Luke 15:8-10

**Reflect** Do you rejoice when you recover something lost?

Jesus came to proclaim that the Reign of God is founded on love, justice, and peace. Every act of compassion, justice, forgiveness, and love performed in the name of Jesus is a realization and proclamation of the Good News. The Good News is that Jesus lived, died, and was raised from the dead for the salvation of all people. The Good News is Jesus Christ, who brought the Kingdom of God into the world. Jesus commissioned his followers to spread this message through the power of the Holy Spirit. As God's people, the Church also proclaims the Good News of the Kingdom of God.

Proclaiming the Good News through words and actions is called evangelizing. Broad and varied, at times outspoken and sometimes subtle, evangelization happens through preaching and teaching, celebrating the Sacraments, and bringing the gift of God's presence to others through acts of healing, freeing, forgiving, and reconciling.

Evangelization is the core of the mission of every member of the Church. Through evangelization, the Church constantly seeks to bring about the transformation of individuals, of cultures, and indeed of the whole world. For this reason, it is the responsibility of all Christians to use their gifts to proclaim the Good News in their everyday lives.

**Reflect** When do your words and actions proclaim the Good News of the Gospel?

### Catechist's Prayer

Gracious God, you are always ready to welcome each person with open arms. Teach me to love you more and more each day. Amen.

# Invite

## Catechist Edition Instruction

# Invite

### Let Us Pray

Invite the children to gather in the prayer space and make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the leader's prayer and the Psalm verse. Prompt the children's response.

Have the children move from the prayer space back to their seats.

**Say:** God sent Jesus, his Son, to teach us about his Kingdom where there will be peace and justice. Peace comes to many people when they know they are forgiven. Jesus offers us forgiveness for our sins.

### God's Word

Guide the children through the process of Scripture reflection.

- Invite them to close their eyes, be still, and open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them in this passage.
- Proclaim the Scripture.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?
- Invite volunteers to share.

### What Do You Wonder?

**Say:** We see many times in the Gospels that people who are sick and suffering come to Jesus. He heals them. Healing is another sign of God's Kingdom.

Invite the children to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about forgiveness and healing.

### Catechist Tips: Jesus Is the Good News

The Church teaches that the fullness of God's self-revelation is in the person of God's Son, Jesus Christ (CCC, 422). Jesus is the Good News because by sending his own Son, God graciously and generously offers humans salvation from sin (CCC, 430). The name *Jesus* means "God saves." Jesus is the *Messiah*, a Hebrew word which means "anointed." In Greek *Messiah*, is translated as "Christ" (CCC, 436).

Supplies:

- newspaper headlines mounted on stiff paper (some with good news headlines and some with bad news headlines; be sure they are age appropriate and the children can understand them)
- headlines mounted on stiff paper, which read:
  - God Sends His Beloved Son.
  - God's Son Will Save Humans from Sin.
  - Jesus Is Good News

**Say:** Today we are going to talk about the Good News of Jesus. Let's take a look at these headlines from the newspaper and tell me which are good news and which are not. (Hold

each headline up and have the children respond.)

**Now I am going to show you some other headlines. Tell me which ones are good news and which are not.** (Hold up each headline about Jesus and have the children respond.)

**Write the words *Messiah* and *Savior* on the board or on chart paper. The Good News about Jesus is that God wanted to save all people from sin. The people of Jesus' time were waiting for a messiah, a savior.** (Point to the words, and ask the children to repeat them after you.) ***Messiah* means "anointed." The name *Jesus* means "God Saves." God came down from Heaven in the Person of Jesus. Jesus saved us from sin. He taught the Good News of healing and forgiveness. Jesus' words, actions of healing, and forgiveness, tell us what God is like. They show us how to live and share the Good News with others. What do we do when we hear Good News?** (Suggestions: clap, cheer, sing) Have the children choose one response. Invite three children to each read one of the second set of headlines aloud and invite the children to respond with an appropriate gesture (clap, cheer, sing).

## **Chapter Story: The Best News Ever**

Use this story after the opening prayer, before talking about God sending Jesus to teach us about his Kingdom.

- Ask volunteers to read aloud the questions and responses.
- Have the children work in pairs to list ways in which good news can be shared.
- After connecting sharing good news with sharing the Good News, transition back to the lesson instruction.

### **The Best News Ever**

Taleshia's religion book had three questions:

What's the best news you have heard?

"My dad got me a new kitten!" she wrote.

What did you do when you heard the news?

"I told my friends," wrote Taleshia.

Why did you do that?

"I knew it would make them happy, too!"

## **Discover**

### **Catechist Edition Instruction**

## **Discover (1)**

### **Objectives**

- Recall the Gospel message is the Good News of God's Kingdom and his saving love

- Identify the Gospels as the four books in the New Testament that tell the stories of Jesus' life

## The Gospel Message

Read aloud the question.

- Tell the children that today's text will answer that question.

Read the text aloud.

- Have the children follow along in their books.
- After the reading, ask the children to state the Good News that Jesus shares. **Possible response:** **God loves his People and saves them from the power of sin and everlasting death.**
- Ask: How can you share Jesus' Good News with others?
- Brainstorm with the children specific responses to the question.

## Work With Words

Read aloud the Catholic Faith Words and definitions from pages 122 and 123.

- Have the children make vocabulary cards for each term.

## Jesus' Message

Read aloud both paragraphs.

- Ask: Where did Jesus begin his ministry? **Nazareth**
- Ask: Why were people surprised by Jesus' message? **they didn't expect a savior to come from Nazareth**
- Invite the children to respond to both questions.

## God's Word

Tell the children that they will hear a story about how Jesus surprised people in his hometown. Point out that in Jesus' time, many people did not yet understand that Jesus was the Son of God.

Proclaim the Scripture story.

- ★ Instruct the children to underline why Jesus came and what he was anointed to do.
- Music Option: While the children work on the activity, play "Act Justly," downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

## Activity

Read aloud the directions.

- Invite volunteers to share some of their words. Then arrange the children in groups to write a

## Quick Review

The Gospels share the Good News of Jesus, and of God's Kingdom and his saving love.

## Discover (2)

### Objectives

- Describe the Kingdom of God as the world of love, peace, and justice that is in Heaven and is still being built on Earth

- Recall that in his miracles and parables, Jesus teaches that God's Kingdom is here and to come

## The Kingdom of God

Read aloud the question.

- Write the children's responses on the board or on chart paper.

Invite three volunteers to each read aloud one of the paragraphs.

- Ask: What were signs of the Kingdom during Jesus' time on Earth? ***his teaching and miracles***

Have each child place a finger on the highlighted term, *Kingdom of God*.

- Ask a volunteer to read the definition for *Kingdom of God*.

Have each child place a finger on the highlighted word, *miracles*.

- Ask another volunteer to read the definition for *miracle*.

- Have the children make vocabulary cards for each term.

- ★ Direct the children to circle what Jesus called people to do.

- Music Option: Have the children sing "Building God's Kingdom," downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

## Parables

Summarize the first paragraph.

## God's Word

Proclaim the Scripture story.

Have two volunteers read aloud the last two paragraphs.

- Ask: Why did Jesus use parables to teach? ***Possible response: Parables use comparisons and ideas that people can understand to explain difficult concepts.***
- Ask: What was Jesus trying to teach with his stories? ***about God's love, how to treat one another, and that everyone is welcome in God's Kingdom***

## Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Connect Your Faith activity.

- Have the children work independently to make their lists.
- Ask them to share their lists with a partner.

## Quick Review

Through his miracles and parables, Jesus shows us that the Kingdom of God (the world of love, peace, and justice) is here and yet to come.

## Catechist Tips: Find Parables

The children may need help recalling the parables that Jesus taught. Here is a partial list:

- The Unforgiving Servant, Matthew 18:23-35
- The Wedding Feast, Matthew 22:1-14
- The Sower, Mark 4:1-20
- The Good Samaritan, Luke 10:29-37
- The Lost Coin, Luke 15:8-10
- The Lost Son, Luke 15:11-32

## **Catechist Tips: The Lost Sheep**

This story is about God's care for each person. In many ways, the shepherd is foolish: he leaves behind ninety-nine sheep to search for only one. In verse 7, Jesus offers his own interpretation of the symbols. The return of one sinner means a great deal in Heaven and will be the cause of much celebration. The image of the shepherd and his sheep recurs often in religious art.

## **Glossary Activity: Good News**

Remind the children that we call the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, the Good News of Jesus Christ. To help them understand how news is determined and passed on, have them research important people. Encourage the children to learn about people who have made a difference.

- Suggest that the children read about these newsmakers and explain the good news that these people brought to others.

## **Additional Activity: Rainbow Connections**

The children may be interested in finding out why the rainbow is associated with good news. Read the story of Noah in Genesis 6:5-9:17.

- Invite the children to draw pictures that share the good news that God gave Noah.
- Emphasize that the rainbow was a symbol of God's covenant.

## **Additional Activity: Good News Kite**

Have each child make a "Good News" kite. Cut paper into kite shapes and tape string to each shape.

- Allow each child to write a message about Jesus' Good News on his or her kite.
- Encourage the children to trade kites with one another if they wish.

## **Additional Activity: News Scrolls**

Invite the children to present their writing as it would have been recorded in Jesus' time. Call attention to scrolls in pictures.

- Supply markers and 8" x 12" sheets of brown packaging paper. Have the children write headlines on the paper and roll the strips into scrolls.

## **Additional Activity: Symbolism**

The children may learn to understand symbolism by hearing classic tales.

- Read aloud some of Aesop's fables, but do not tell the children the moral of each story.
- After the children guess the moral and what the characters represent, reveal the original moral of the fable.

## **Additional Activity: Game—Smugglers**

Supplies:

- the Scripture passages Matthew 10:5-13 (Good Samaritan) and Matthew 28:16-20 (Commissioning of the Disciples) written on strips of paper, one verse or phrase to a piece of

- paper—number the verses in sequence
- a basket
  - masking tape
  - mark a starting line with tape on the floor
  - mark a "border" on the other side of the room and place a basket on the far side of the line

**Say: Not everyone in the world has a Bible. Did you know that in some places it is even dangerous to have a Bible?** Explain to the children that they are going to play a game in which they will pretend to "smuggle" the Bible into a country where there are not many Bibles.

Choose one child to be "It" and pass out a slip of paper with a Scripture verse on it to each of the other children.

Explain that they are to try to cross the space and put their Bible passages in the basket on the far side of the room—across the border of the country. "It" will try to stop them from smuggling the "Bible" into the country.

At your signal, start the game. "It" will try to tag the smugglers. When someone is tagged, that person returns to the starting line and begins again. Have the children play until they have successfully smuggled all the papers from the Bible into the country. When all Scripture verses have been delivered, invite volunteers to read the passages from the Bible.

Note: If you have less time or a small group of children Use only one Scripture passage.

### **Additional Activity: Symbols of God**

Supplies:

- air-dry clay (can be purchased at a craft store)
  - buttons and other similar decorative items
  - toothpicks
  - newspaper or a plastic tablecloth
- Cover a table with newspaper or a plastic tablecloth. Work in an area without carpet if possible, or cover the floor as well.

Ask the children to think about what symbol they might use if they were telling a parable or story about God to some first-graders.

Distribute clay equally among the children, giving each a large fistful to work with. Direct them to create their symbol of God. They may push buttons (and other decorative items) into the clay for decoration, or use toothpicks to write or draw words and images of God in the clay. When finished, have the children tell about the story they would share about God with first-graders, using their symbol. If possible, arrange with the first grade catechist a time when the children can share their parables. Set the symbols in a place to dry. The clay will dry and set on its own.

## **Live**

### **Catechist Edition Instruction**

# Live

## Our Catholic Life

Ask: What do the parables really mean?

- Encourage group discussion.
  - Point out that it is okay if different people get different meanings from the same story.
- Invite two volunteers to read the two paragraphs.

## Two Parables

Ask two more volunteers to each read aloud one of the bullet points in the chart.

- ★ Tell the children that you want them to draw the symbols from the parables described in the chart.
- Provide crayons or colored pencils and allow time for the children to draw the symbols.
- Music Option: Sing with the children "Jambo, Jesu," downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

## People of Faith

Tell the children about Saint Isaac Jogues.

- Though he wanted to share the Good News with the Native Americans, they eventually killed him because they thought he was using bad magic.
  - Saint Isaac gave the name *Blessed Sacrament* to the lake in Canada that is now called Lake George. He was the first Catholic priest to ever come to Manhattan Island, in New York.
  - Read aloud the paragraph on Saint Isaac.
  - Have a volunteer read aloud the Discuss statement.
  - Allow the group to respond.
- ★ Encourage the children to go to [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com) at home to learn more about Saint Isaac Jogues.

## Activity

Read aloud the directions for the activity.

- Have the children work independently to write their answers.

While the children work, you might want to read to them about the coming of God's Kingdom from page 306 in the Our Catholic Tradition section of the Student Book. See "Life After Death" or "Last Judgment."

## Let Us Pray, Prayer of Praise

### Prepare

Arrange the group into two sides.

Teach the gestures for the Psalm:

- *I will praise*: Make a full circle with your arms in front of you (praise circle).
  - *Your name*: End your circle by crossing the pointer finger and middle finger on the right hand on top of the pointer finger and middle finger on the left hand (sign language for "name").
  - *My King and my God*: Raise right arm toward the sky and bring it down by ear and cheek (God).
- Rehearse with the children "When We Praise You," downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

### Gather

Invite the children to come to the prayer space with their books.

## Pray

Follow the order of prayer on the student page.

- Encourage the children to use the gestures they practiced when they repeat the group response.
- Leader's prayer:* Lord, we praise your name and all your works. Thank you for your faithfulness.
- Conclude by singing with the children "When We Praise You."

## Catechist Tips: Apply the Bible Message

All Christians are challenged to apply the messages found in the Bible. You can help the children apply Biblical messages by asking relevant questions.

- Help the children recall the Beatitudes. Ask: "How were you a peacemaker today?" or "Who is the meek person here?"
- When the children argue or fight, ask, "What Scripture story applies here?"

## People of Faith Activity: Saint Isaac Jogues

### Saint Isaac Jogues, 1607-1646

October 19

Saint Isaac Jogues was a Jesuit priest in France. He was an Explorer and wanted to bring the Gospel to North America. He sailed across the ocean to Canada. There, he was a missionary to the Native Americans where he spent six years preaching the Gospel. Saint Isaac was captured and tortured by some people who were afraid of him. They made him a slave. He was freed by Dutch settlers and went back to France. He still wanted to spread the Good News, so he returned to Canada. Sadly, Saint Isaac was killed by Native Americans who thought he was practicing bad magic.

**Discuss:** Talk about a time when you told someone about Jesus.

## Activity

### Write a Screenplay

Verbal/Linguistic

Have the children work in pairs to write a screenplay about two third graders who find an opportunity to share the Good News with someone who has never heard of Jesus.

- Encourage them to create and describe scenes, name each character and supply dialogue.
- They should also give stage directions and if needed, a narrator.
- If time permits, let each pair act out their play.

## Additional Activity: Prayer

Pray the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Gather the children in a prayer-circle and organize the large group into four parts. Assign each group one line of the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Begin with the Sign of the Cross and pray the prayer aloud.

## Chapter 7 Activity Master

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Crossword Puzzle

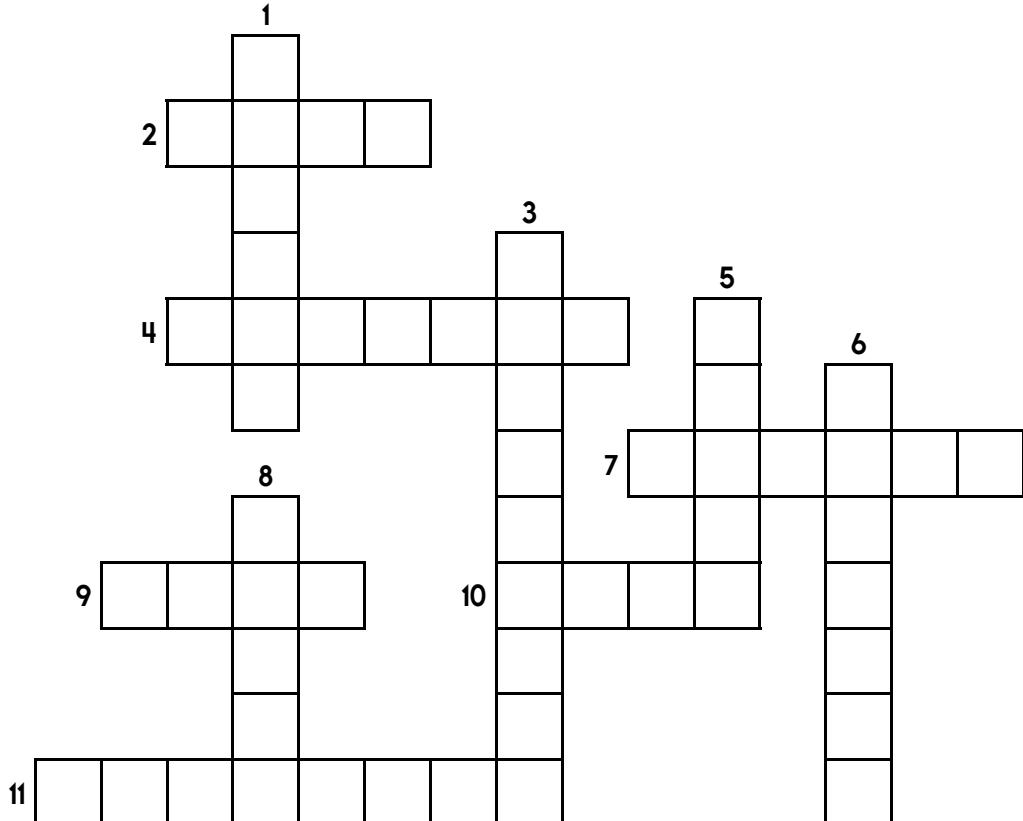
This crossword puzzle contains many words that have to do with God's Good News. Use the Word Bank to complete the puzzle.

### Across

2. one Gospel is named for him
4. the promised or anointed one
7. an Old Testament writer
9. \_\_\_\_ news makes people happy.
10. The word *Gospel* means "Good \_\_\_\_."
11. Twelve of Jesus' followers

### Down

1. Church members \_\_\_\_ to worship.
3. God's Kingdom is full of this feeling.
5. God the Son
6. Humans are part of the \_\_\_\_ of God.
8. God \_\_\_\_ everyone.



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### Word Bank

- .....  
Apostles  
gather  
good  
happiness  
Isaiah  
Jesus  
Kingdom  
loves  
Mark  
Messiah  
News

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Match each description in Column A with the correct term in Column B.

**Column A**

- \_\_\_\_ 1. means “anointed”
- \_\_\_\_ 2. a short story Jesus used about everyday life to teach about God
- \_\_\_\_ 3. means “good news”
- \_\_\_\_ 4. happen by the power of God

**Column B**

- a. parable
- b. Gospel
- c. miracles
- d. Messiah

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

5. Jesus used stories to explain \_\_\_\_.
  - a. Bible times
  - b. science
  - c. God and his Kingdom
6. Jesus is \_\_\_\_.
  - a. an important writer
  - b. the Messiah
  - c. an Apostle
7. The Gospels are books in the Bible that tell about \_\_\_\_.
  - a. Jesus' life, Death, and Resurrection
  - b. the times before Jesus was born
  - c. the beliefs of the Hebrew people

Write a brief response to each question.

9. What is the difference between this world and the Kingdom of God?

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10. What does Jesus teach in his miracles and parables?

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# **Lesson Plan, Grade 3 - Chapter 8**

**November 05 2025**

## **Preparation**

- Lesson Plan
- Activity Master
- Chapter Test
- Catechist Background

## **Invite**

- Catechist Edition Instruction
- Catechist Tips: Sacrifice Notes
- Chapter Story: Changes

## **Discover**

- Catechist Edition Instruction
- Catechist Tips: Cards for Others
- Catechist Tips: Keep Promises
- Catechist Tips: Results of Sacrifices
- Catechist Tips: Sacrifice
- Catechist Tips: Mary Magdalene
- Catechist Tips: Crucifixes
- Catechist Tips: We Are Redeemed
- Catechist Tips: Responding with Song
- Glossary Activity: Sacrifice
- Additional Activity: Visual Learners
- Additional Activity: Sacrifice Illustrations
- Additional Activity: Pantomime
- Additional Activity: Giving Jars
- Additional Activity: Prayer

## **Live**

- Catechist Edition Instruction
- Catechist Tips: Being a Cross
- People of Faith Activity: Saint Mary Magdalene

## **Preparation**

### **Lesson Plan**

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## Activity Master

File: G3\_C8\_AM.pdf

## Chapter Test

File: G3\_C8\_Test.pdf

## Catechist Background

### Doctrinal Content

- Jesus offered the greatest sacrifice: he gave his life to save us from sin so that we could have new life with God in Heaven. (CCC 619, 623)
- The Resurrection is the event of Jesus being raised from Death to new life by God the Father through the power of the Holy Spirit. (CCC, 648)
- The Paschal Mystery is the mystery of Jesus Christ's suffering, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension. (CCC, 571)
- The Church celebrates the Paschal Mystery in each of the Seven Sacraments. (CCC, 1113)

## Catechist Background

"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friend."—John 15:12-13

**Reflect** Are you dedicated to your friends and others?

In obedience to Christ's command to "do this in memory of me," the Church celebrates the Eucharist and gives thanks for Jesus' sacrifice. In doing so, the Church makes present Christ's sacrifice on Calvary. As the Body of Christ, the Church is one with that sacrifice, and thus her praise, sufferings, joys, and works are also offered to God.

With every celebration of the Eucharist, there is made present Jesus once again in his saving of humanity by giving up his body and pouring out his blood. Salvation is an ongoing act by Christ that is made present and imbues the offerings of his Church.

The Paschal Mystery is the suffering, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Christ. These four events together comprise the mystery of our faith and give us hope that we, too, will rise from death to life. In the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, God has transformed defeat and death into victory and life. As a seed that has been buried grows roots, a stem, a flower, and, ultimately, fruit, so the miracle of life is born of death and burial in the Paschal Mystery.

This central mystery of Christianity celebrates God's power to bring light from darkness, order from chaos, hope from despair, beauty from squalor, life from death, and salvation from sin.

**Reflect** How are you living the Paschal Mystery right now?

## Catechist's Prayer

Lord Jesus, you gave your life for me. Send me your Spirit so that I can live in your promise of the Resurrection. Amen.

# Invite

## Catechist Edition Instruction

# Invite

### Let Us Pray

Invite the children to gather in the prayer space and make the Sign of the Cross. Have a volunteer read aloud the leader's prayer and the whole group pray the Psalm verse. Have the children return to their seats.

Explain that on the night before he died, Jesus ate the Last Supper with his disciples.

Say: Jesus wanted the Twelve to understand that, when you love someone, you are willing to make sacrifices for them.

### God's Word

Guide the children through the process of Scripture reflection.

- Invite them to close their eyes, be still, and open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them in this passage.
- Proclaim the Scripture.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?
- Invite volunteers to share.

### What Do You Wonder?

Say: On Good Friday Jesus died on the Cross. He gave up his life because he loved his Father, and he loved us. He wanted to give us back what we had lost because of sin.

Invite the children to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about Jesus' love and life.

### Catechist Tips: Sacrifice Notes

Help the children understand that their sacrifices add up quickly. Have a supply of self-stick notes available.

- Put letters saying "Our Sacrifices" on a bulletin board.
- Each day, encourage the children to write each of their sacrifices on a note and attach it to the bulletin board.
- At the end of the week, count the number of notes and praise the children's efforts.

### Chapter Story: Changes

Use this poem after the opening prayer, before discussing the night before Jesus died.

- Read aloud the poem. Ask the children to listen for where the poem's tone shifts from selfish to self-giving.
- After connecting self-giving with Jesus' sacrifice, transition back to the lesson instruction.

Selfish  
stingy, greedy

grab, take, want  
thoughtless, uncaring, loving, kind  
share, help, give  
generous, endless  
unselfish

## Discover

### Catechist Edition Instruction

#### Discover (1)

##### Objectives

- Recognize that Jesus offered the greatest sacrifice: he gave his life to save us from sin so we could have new life with God in Heaven
- Recall that the Resurrection is the event of Jesus being raised from Death to new life

##### Being True to Our Promises

Talk about making promises.

- Ask the children to give examples of promises they have made.

Read aloud the question at the top of the student page.

- Invite a volunteer to read the definition of the word *sacrifice*.

Read aloud the first paragraph.

##### Lindsey's Promise

Read the first paragraph.

Invite three volunteers to read the various parts.

Read aloud the question at the end of the text.

- Have the children discuss their answers with a partner.
- ★ Direct the children to circle what Lindsey promised.

##### Work with Words

Provide one index card per child. Have the children write the word on one side of the card and the definition on the other.

- Encourage the children to use this card, with the others they have created, to prepare for chapter and unit reviews.

##### Sacrifices Show Love

Invite two volunteers to each read aloud one of the paragraphs.

- Ask: What did Jesus' sacrifice mean for the world? **Possible response: Because of Jesus' sacrifice, all people can have new life with God in Heaven.**
- Point out the illustration at the top of the page and have a volunteer read aloud the caption.
- Ask: When have you made a sacrifice for someone? How do sacrifices show love?

- Invite volunteers to respond to the questions.

## Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Arrange the children in pairs.
  - Have them work independently to answer the questions.
  - Allow time for partners to share with each other what they wrote.
- Music Option: While the children work, play "Savior of the World," downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

## Quick Review

Jesus sacrificed his life to save us from sin. Jesus was raised from Death to new life at the Resurrection.

## Discover (2)

### Objectives

- Examine how the Church celebrates the Paschal Mystery in each of the Seven Sacraments
- Define the Paschal Mystery as the mystery of Jesus' suffering, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension

### Jesus' Resurrection

Ask: What does the Paschal Mystery mean?

- Tell the children that they will learn the meaning in this lesson.

Ask a volunteer to read the first paragraph.

### God's Word

Proclaim the Scripture story.

- ★ Have the children underline what Mary saw at Jesus' tomb.
- Allow time for the children to scan the text and underline the answer.

### Work with Words

Read aloud the Catholic Faith Words and the definitions on pages 134 and 135.

- Provide three index cards per child. Have the children write the words on one side of the card and the definitions on the other.
- Encourage the children to use these cards, with the others they have created, to prepare for chapter and unit reviews.

### Christ's Saving Work

Ask two volunteers to read aloud the paragraphs.

Copy the graphic organizer in the Quick Tip box on the board or on chart paper. Begin by drawing the cross beneath the words *Paschal Mystery*.

- Ask the children to name the four events in Jesus' life that make up the Paschal Mystery. ***the suffering, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus***

- Write these words around the cross as they are named.
- Ask the children when the Church celebrates the Paschal Mystery. **at Mass and in the Sacraments**

Read aloud the question at the end of the text.

- Discuss with the group.

## Activity

Read aloud the directions.

- Provide a cross or crucifix for the children to view as they work.
- Music Option: Have the children sing "Come to Us, Holy Spirit," downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

## Quick Review

The Church celebrates the Paschal Mystery in all of the Sacraments. The Paschal Mystery is the mystery of Jesus' suffering, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension.

## Catechist Tips: Cards for Others

The right and duty to seek the well-being of all people is part of the Church's social teaching.

- Ask the children to sacrifice some personal time by making cards for parishioners who are sick, homebound, or in the hospital.
- Deliver or mail the finished cards.

## Catechist Tips: Keep Promises

A hallmark of life today is being committed to activities and thus being unavailable for spur-of-the-moment invitations, as happened with Lindsey in the story on page 132.

- Remind the children that keeping promises is making their actions match their words; therefore, keeping promises is part of the truthfulness that the Eighth Commandment requires.

## Catechist Tips: Results of Sacrifices

Use this story to show the effect of sacrifices:

- "Lindsey helped her mother by watching her brother. This meant that her mother could help Lindsey's aunt in the garden. Then Lindsey's aunt could give food that she grew in the garden to the food bank."
- Have the children say how many people Lindsey helped with her sacrifice.

## Catechist Tips: Sacrifice

Making sacrifices in the form of offerings to God was a common practice in Jesus' time.

- The Jewish people sacrificed the season's first lambs, birds, or fruits and vegetables.
- They believed that these sacrifices pleased God.
- Jewish sacrifice is the context for Jesus' sacrifice of his own life.

## **Catechist Tips: Mary Magdalene**

Only the Gospel according to John describes the personal appearance of Jesus to Mary.

- The Gospel according to John was probably written after the other Gospels, at the end of the first century.
- This Gospel is a theological reflection on the life and ministry of Jesus more than primarily recording the facts of his life.

## **Catechist Tips: Crucifixes**

Before the children make crucifixes, select the materials with their abilities in mind.

- Children with fine motor coordination will do well painting a figure of Jesus on a cross made of craft sticks.
- Children with strong gross motor skills may do better in fashioning a crucifix from clay.
- Be sure to have adequate adult supervision if the children are using any tools for this project.

## **Catechist Tips: We Are Redeemed**

The Church teaches that the perfect sacrifice was Jesus' death on the cross (CCC, 616). Jesus gave up his life so that we would live free of sin. We are redeemed because Jesus suffered, died, rose, and ascended into heaven. The words we use to express this mystery are *Paschal Mystery* (CCC, 1067).

Give examples of people who give up something for a greater good. Tell the children that Jesus gave up his very life so that we would be saved from sin and everlasting death. Emphasize that he did this because he loves us and wants us to be able to lead a good life and go to heaven when we die.

## **Catechist Tips: Responding with Song**

Supplies:

- DVD *Move! Pray! Celebrate!* , Track 15 "He is Risen, Alleluia," by John Burland. OSV.
- DVD player with monitor

In place of presenting the Scripture in the Student Edition, play the DVD, Track 15, "He Is Risen, Alleluia." Have the children watch it once. Then have them sing and do the gestures.

## **Glossary Activity: Sacrifice**

Have the children think of additional situations that call for sacrifice.

- Challenge volunteers to mime the situations.
- Invite other children to describe in words what the "mimes" have presented and to decide whether each presentation demonstrates a selfish or an unselfish action.

## **Additional Activity: Visual Learners**

Some children respond better to concepts portrayed in pictures and drawings than to those provided in writing.

- Encourage the children to draw the graphic organizer, on a sheet of paper.
- Tell the children to explain the message to someone at home.

## **Additional Activity: Sacrifice Illustrations**

The children can encourage their peers to make sacrifices.

- Have small groups think of slogans and illustrations.
- Combine these elements into posters.
- Display the posters.

## **Additional Activity: Pantomime**

Supplies:

- index cards with the following scenarios written on them:
  - Your next door neighbor who is five years old wants to play with you and your friends.
  - Your parent asks for help while you are playing your favorite game.
  - One of your classmates is sitting alone at lunch or on the playground. No one ever joins him or her.
  - You have some extra money and your friend asks to borrow it from you to buy ice cream.

Organize the group into four teams and give each team an index card. Give the teams several minutes to develop a "pantomime of sacrifice" about their card.

Have the group guess what the scenarios are and what sacrifices individuals make or could make in each situation.

## **Additional Activity: Giving Jars**

Supplies:

- clear glass jars of any shape or size
- white glue or decoupage glue
- paintbrushes
- colored tissue paper
- paper cups

Steps:

Pre-cut tissue paper into small squares. Cut enough to cover each child's jar.

Talk with the children about giving of their treasure. First have them share what the things they have that might be considered "treasure," such as toys, clothes, money, and so on. Would it be a sacrifice to give away a certain percentage of the things they have, say ten percent? Would it be a sacrifice to give ten percent of their money to someone who needed it? Give examples of what ten percent is (ten cents of a dollar or \$1.00 of \$10.00.)

Explain that they are going to make Giving Jars which they will contribute to a project, or for the parish collection. (If you choose a project, choose one with which they are familiar.)

Spread newspaper over the workspace. Glue pieces of tissue paper all over the jar, letting the paper overlap. When the jar is covered with tissue paper, gently paint over it with watered-down white glue or decoupage.

Let the jar dry. Have the children take the jars home and invite them and their families to put money

in the jars for four weeks and bring them back. Emphasize their contributions should be a sacrifice.

## **Additional Activity: Prayer**

Invite the children to join hands and repeat each phrase after you:

*Dying you destroyed our death.* (echo)

*Rising you restored our life.* (echo)

*Lord Jesus, come again in glory.* (echo)

*Amen.* (echo)

## **Live**

### **Catechist Edition Instruction**

## **Live**

### **Our Catholic Life**

Read aloud the question.

- Write the children's responses on the board or chart paper.
- Summarize the paragraph.

### **Gifts of Sacrifice**

Assign the blue text in the chart to one child and the bullet points under each to three other children. Have the children read aloud the box content.

★ Direct the children to work in pairs to write some other ways to share their time, talent, and treasures with others.

- Ask volunteers to share some of their ideas.

Ask: Why do you think gifts of sacrifice can help you become a better person?

- Encourage group discussion.

Remind the children that giving of their time, talent, and treasure is one of the Precepts of the Church. To review the rest of the Precepts, have the children turn to page 319 in the Our Catholic Tradition section of the Student Book.

### **People of Faith**

Tell the children about Saint Mary Magdalene.

- Explain that she had been sick, but Jesus made her well and she became one of his followers.
- She was with Jesus when he preached and stood at the foot of the Cross, unafraid for herself, when Jesus suffered and died.
- After Jesus' body had been placed in the tomb, Mary went to anoint it with spices early Easter Sunday morning. But Jesus was gone, and that made her sad.
- Risen from the dead, Jesus showed himself first to Mary Magdalene, who went and told others as Jesus instructed her.

Have a volunteer read aloud the Discuss question.

- ❖ Encourage the children to go to [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com) at home to learn more about Saint Mary Magdalene.

## Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Live Your Faith activity.

- Allow time for the children to write their ideas for sacrifices.
- Invite volunteers to share what they wrote with the group.

## Let Us Pray, Act of Faith

Explain to the children that this prayer is a statement of our faith as Catholics. With faith, God gives us grace to trust in him and his Word. The Act of Faith prayer reminds us that God's Word is truth.

### Prepare

- Have the children rehearse "We Proclaim Your Death, O Lord," downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

### Gather

With soft music playing in the background, invite the children to process to the prayer space. Have each child bring his or her book.

Have the children remain standing to pray the Act of Faith.

### Pray

Follow the order of prayer on the student page.

- If there is time, share with the children some of the information on this prayer.

- The Act of Faith prayer acknowledges our trust and confidence in God and in his Word. Praying prayers like this, participating in the Sacraments, studying Scripture, and letting God's love and light shine through us are all ways we can keep our faith strong.
- The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* calls the gift of faith essential for our salvation. (See CCC, 234.)

- Have the children slowly process around the prayer space, singing the refrain for "We Proclaim Your Death, O Lord."

### Catechist Tips: Being a Cross

Organize the children into two groups. The two groups stand in lines facing each other. Say: **Spread out as much as you need to open your arms wide and make a cross.**

Have the two lines of children walk towards each other, arms still out, forming a cross. When they are right in front of each other say, **The cross is a symbol of love of God the Father who gave his Son to us. The cross is a sign of Jesus' love and his sacrificing his life for us. When you see a cross or crucifix, remember it is God stretching his arms out to you to give you a loving hug.**

(Say this next part slowly, allowing the children time to act and react to what you're saying. Tell them to follow your directions without talking.) **Turn away from each other. Find a space in the room that is just your space. Don't be too close to anyone else. Now that you're all alone, pretend that you're doing something mean to someone. You hurt someone's feelings. Think about what you said. How does that person feel? How do you feel? Make your body and face look like those bad feelings (mean, sad, afraid, sorry). Make your two lines again**

**and face each other. Hold your arms out like a cross. Jesus opens his arms like that cross and says, "I forgive you. I still love you."**

Gather in a circle and talk about what happens when we hurt someone. Some questions to consider: **Do we hurt people when we are selfish? Is it hard to make sacrifices to be kind or to be generous? Can you give me some examples? Has anyone ever hurt you, or hurt your feelings by being selfish? What happened? Did that person say he or she was sorry? Did you say, "I forgive you?" Have you ever hurt someone by being selfish? How did you feel? Did you say you were sorry? Did that person forgive you? When we tell God that we're sorry, he always forgives us. He holds his arms out wide like a cross** (demonstrate as you talk) **then pulls us in for a hug to say, I forgive you and I still love you** (hug yourself).

## **People of Faith Activity: Saint Mary Magdalene**

### **Saint Mary Magdalene, First Century A.D.**

**July 22**

Saint Mary Magdalene was sick. We don't know what was wrong, but Jesus made her well. She then became one of his followers. Mary was with Jesus as he preached about God's love. She stood at the foot of his Cross as he suffered and died. She went to Jesus' tomb on the first Easter morning and was surprised that the tomb was empty. Jesus appeared to her and told her to tell others that he had risen from the dead. Mary did as she was told. Many people believed in Jesus' Resurrection because of her.

**Discuss:** Who was the first one to tell you about Jesus' Resurrection?

The Bible tells us that **Mary Magdalene** and others helped support Jesus and the disciples "out of their own resources" (Luke 8:3). Because the Resurrection of Jesus is at the heart of our faith, Mary Magdalene's witness of it is so important. She is the patron Saint of pharmacists, perfumeries, and women. She is often shown in pictures holding an egg, a sign of the Resurrection.

### **Activity**

#### **Acrostic**

*Verbal/Linguistic*

Have the children use what they know and research the rest to find words to describe Mary Magdalene.

- Have the children write her name vertically, one letter per line.
- Have them write a word that begins with each letter that describes Mary Magdalene.

M  
A  
R  
Y  
M  
A  
G  
D  
A  
L  
E  
N



## Chapter 8 Activity Master

Name \_\_\_\_\_

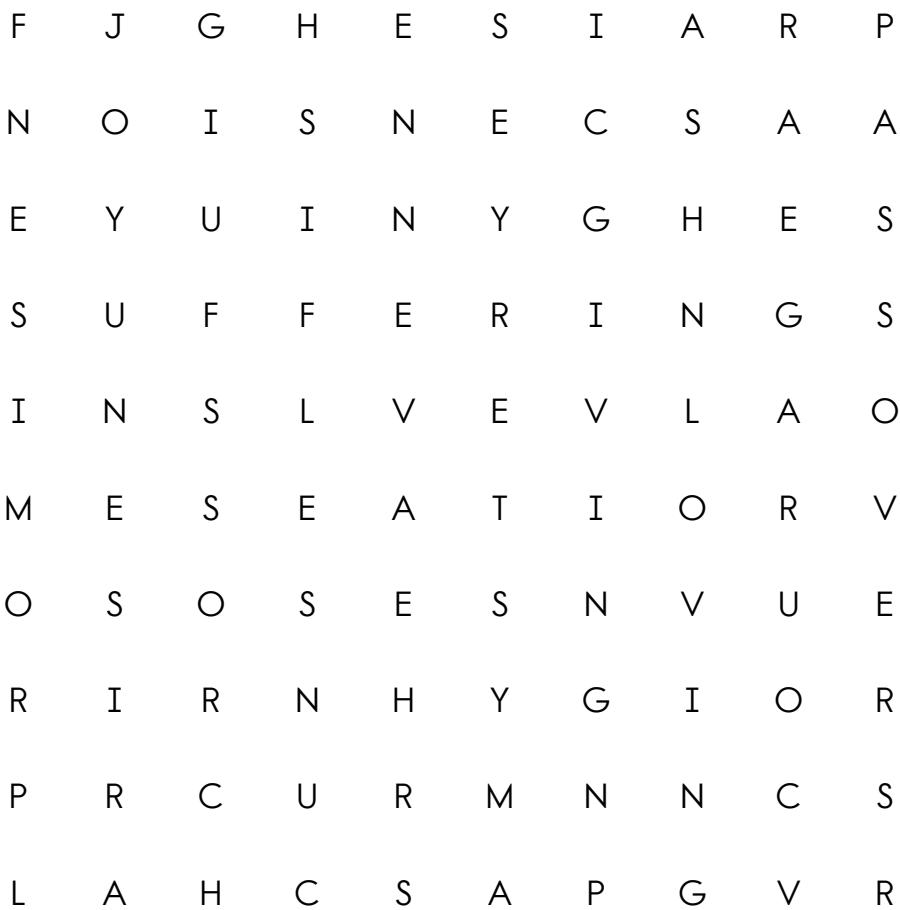
Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Word Search

In the puzzle below, find and circle the words from the Word Bank. The words may appear vertically or horizontally. All of the words are related to Jesus' sacrifice.

#### Word Bank

.....  
Ascension      Courage      Cross      Giving      Heaven  
Loving      Mystery      Paschal      Passover      Praise  
Promise      Risen      Suffering      Unselfish



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the word or words that best completes each sentence.

1. Jesus' **birth/Resurrection** is part of the Paschal Mystery.
2. Jesus sacrificed **his life/his meals** for you.
3. When you make a sacrifice, you act **selfishly/unselfishly**.
4. The Church recalls the Paschal Mystery  
**once a year/at every Mass**.
5. Jesus' returning to the Father in Heaven is called the  
**Ascension/Resurrection**.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

6. Jesus saved humans from \_\_\_\_.  
**a.** sin and death      **b.** sickness and sorrow      **c.** hunger and thirst
7. Mary Magdalene shared news of the Resurrection with \_\_\_\_.  
**a.** the Blessed Mother      **b.** Jesus' friends      **c.** the Pharisees
8. Celebrating the Eucharist helps you share in \_\_\_\_.  
**a.** the Rosary      **b.** the Paschal Mystery      **c.** the first Christmas

Write a brief response to each question.

9. What did Jesus' Resurrection teach all people?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Why is Easter a great feast?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_