

Grade 4 - Chapter 17

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objectives

- Recognize that God the Father sent his only Son, Jesus, as a sign of his love for all people
- Recognize that each of the Seven Sacraments are effective signs of God's life, instituted by Christ and given to the Church, so that Jesus can continue his saving work in the world
- Begin to develop an understanding that the visible signs and Divine actions in each celebration give grace and allow us to share in God's work

Present Through Time

Ask: What is a Sacrament?

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

Read aloud the first two paragraphs.

- Ask the children what signs of God's presence they have seen today.
- Ask the children to listen as you tell them about a special sign that God sent the whole world. Then proclaim the Scripture story.
- Encourage the children to memorize John 14:6-7.

Work with Words

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the definition of *Incarnation*.

- Have the children make vocabulary cards for the term.

► Music Option: Have the children sing, “Savior of the World,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Visible Signs and Divine Actions

Read aloud the text. Have the children listen to find out how Jesus is present today.

★ Have the children underline what Jesus promised the disciples and one way he fulfills this promise today.

Work with Words

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the definition of *Seven Sacraments*.

- Have the children make vocabulary cards.

Call attention to the ribbon of Sacraments along the bottom of the pages.

- As you read about each of the Seven Sacraments, have the children raise their hands if they have celebrated or seen that particular Sacrament.

- Invite volunteers to share experiences of the Sacraments.

Refer to page 314 in *Our Catholic Tradition* for more about the Seven Sacraments.

► Music Option: Have the children sing, “The Seven Sacraments,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

Read aloud the directions and have the children complete the activity.

Quick Review

Jesus shares his life and love with us. Sacraments are special signs and celebrations that come from Jesus and allow us to share in God's life and love.

Discover (2)

Objective

- Identify that the Sacrament of the Eucharist is at the heart of Christian life

The Eucharist

Ask: What is the heart of our Catholic life?

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

Tell the children that we will now focus on the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

- Read aloud the introductory paragraph.

Point out the painting and read aloud the caption.

- Invite the children to tell what they see in the painting.

- Tell the children that they are going to hear the Scripture story, “The Last Supper,” that tells about this painting.

Scripture

Proclaim “The Last Supper.”

- Ask the children where they have heard these words of Jesus before. **at Mass**

Read aloud the last paragraph.

- Ask: What did Jesus' followers do when they gathered weekly?

► Music Option: Have the children sing, "The Supper of the Lamb," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Act of Thanksgiving

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the first paragraph.

- Tell the children to listen to find out the meaning of the word *Eucharist* and what happens during the celebration of the Sacrament.

Work with Words

Have the children create vocabulary cards for *Eucharist*.

Ask: What do the words *living the Eucharist* mean?

- Explain that Jesus is really and truly with us, or present, in the Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. This is called Real Presence. Because Jesus is with us in the Eucharist, we receive strength from it to live a certain way.

Read aloud the last paragraph.

- Ask: When did you first receive Jesus in Holy Communion?
- Invite the children to tell what they remember about the day.

Activity

Read aloud the directions to the Connect Your Faith activity.

- Assure that the children understand the meanings of the terms to use.
- Provide time for the children to write their paragraphs.

Quick Review

The Eucharist unites Jesus with his followers. Living the Eucharist means continuing Jesus' work in the world.

Catechist Tips: *Día de los muertos*

People from Hispanic cultures often assemble home altars, which are decorated for November 1, *Día de los muertos* (Day of the Dead).

- This is a day for remembering loved ones who have died.
- The altars often feature the loved one's pictures, favorite foods, flowers, and belongings.

Catechist Tips: Symbol

A symbol is something visible that allows people to look beyond the message of their senses to a deeper meaning.

- The symbols used in liturgies—candles, bread, wine, oil, water, and so on—are connections between God and humans.
- Through these symbols, he communicates his love for his people.

Catechist Tips: Assistance

When the lesson calls for a hands-on activity such as a poster, you may wish to assign partners to children who have special needs.

- Most children like to maintain a degree of independence.
- Do not assume that help is needed; ask the child whether he or she would like help and, if so, how much and what kind.

Catechist Tips: The Lectionary

As liturgy planners, the children should become familiar with the Lectionary.

- Borrow a Sunday Lectionary from your parish office.
- Allow the children to look through the book. Point out that the Lectionary is organized by Church seasons and contains the readings for Sundays and major feasts. The readings are in a three-year cycle.

Glossary Activity: Seven Sacraments

Have the children make a visual reminder of the Seven Sacraments.

- Assign each of seven groups a Sacrament.
- Divide a sheet of poster board into three columns and seven rows.
- In the first column name the Sacrament
- In the second column, have each group draw a symbol of its Sacrament.
- In the third column, write the description of the Sacrament.

Additional Activity: News Flash

Jesus' message at the Last Supper is the best news that the world has ever heard.

- Ask the children to write a newspaper article about the Last Supper, using the questions *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, and *why*.
- Publish a small newspaper with the articles and the children's illustrations.

Additional Activity: Unselfish Acts

In the Eucharist, the faithful are called to give their lives for others.

- Distribute newspapers.
- Ask the children to find articles that describe people who sacrificed to help others.
- Encourage the children to perform unselfish acts, such as playing with a younger sibling.

Additional Activity: Use Resources

To assist with this lesson, you may wish to use resources with which the children are familiar.

- If your local parish uses missalettes or hymnals containing the Order of Mass, borrow these resources to use in class.
- Ask the children to choose favorite hymns, and then sing as a group.

Additional Activity: Church Symbols

Your class liturgy may benefit from visual symbols.

- Introduce and explain some of the traditional symbols of the Church, such as the Chi Rho.
- Invite the children to create a symbol to accompany their liturgy, basing the image on the Scripture readings.

Additional Activity: Symbol Chart

Supplies:

- handout ([download here](#))
- crayons and markers

Distribute the handouts. Read aloud the directions. Clarify any questions about the task. Direct the children to draw a symbol for each Sacrament. Allow them to help each other with ideas for symbols.

Additional Activity: Living Eucharist Tree

Supplies:

- one artificial tree (small or medium)
- large colored index cards (several per learner)
- markers
- single-hole punch
- ribbons
- safety scissors

Introduce the activity by saying: **We are going to make as a group a Living Eucharist Tree. The Tree will be a constant reminder of ways that we can live the Eucharist in practical daily ways.** Show the tree. **Let's brainstorm some ideas of what we can do to live the Eucharist.** Allow children time to brainstorm their answers. If needed, write down the ideas as you brainstorm.

Distribute the index cards and markers. Invite the children to write down some of their ideas (along with their names) on the cards. When the children have put their ideas onto the cards, tell them to punch a hole in the top of each card. Thread ribbon through the hole and tie it into a loop. As the children finish their cards, invite them to hang them on the Living Eucharist Tree.

We've got a lot of great ideas on our Living Eucharist Tree. Now the trick is to get out and do them! Take time in the days and weeks ahead to think about how you are living the Eucharist.

Parish Video Connection: The Seven Sacraments

After you've completed the Catechist Edition instruction on page 235, show this video to the children so that they can hear Jesus' words from the Bible. Discuss as a group the physical things that happen in each of the Sacraments of Initiation and the Sacraments of Healing and what they represent.

Baptism—pouring water represents washing away of sins, Confirmation—Sign of the Cross with sacred oil represents the Trinity and holiness, Eucharist—the Body and Blood of Christ nourishes us and unites us with Jesus, Penance and Reconciliation—the priest, with the power given to the Church by Christ, absolves our sins, Anointing of the

Sick—anoointing brings us the love and mercy of the Lord and the grace of the Holy Spirit.

YouTube Link: https://youtu.be/EV-Cwo_L30k

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