

Cathedral of Christ the Light

Activity 2 – Grades 3-5
Cathedral?

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cathedral of Christ the Light</i> <i>What is a cathedral?</i></p>

Standards addressed (Diocese of Oakland Guidelines)

Grade 3-5

General Goals:

To familiarize students with concept of a cathedral and the Cathedral of Christ the Light for the Diocese of Oakland.

Specific Objectives:

- To understand what a cathedral is for a diocese
- To identify the significance of the name of our cathedral, Christ the Light
- To learn about the parts of a cathedral
- To compare and contrast the cathedral to their own church

Anticipatory Set: (10 minutes)

Show a picture of the Cathedral of Christ the Light (on line resources available on website at www.christthelight.org Ask students if they know what this is- what they notice about the building (windows, shape of floor plan, size, etc)

Step by step lesson:

1. Introduce the cathedral. Give information about when it was built, where it is
Ask students if they have ever visited any other cathedrals, and what do they remember about their visits.
2. Write the name of the cathedral on the board- ask students to guess why the cathedral is named Christ the light- remind students of lesson on Christ as a light for the world. Write ideas shared from students on the board and discuss.
3. Explain the role of a Cathedral in the dioceses- use online materials found on cathedral website, (website here) to gain background information. Watch video clips and tour of the cathedral with the class. Focus on the features of the cathedral- altar, bishops chair, baptismal font, mausoleum, side chapels.

4. Think of your own parish church- what is the same, what is different?
*Optional activity, students can divide paper in half and write headings of similarities and differences: Have them list what features are the same and which are different.
5. Discuss results, and then, answer question- if there are so many things that are the same, why do we need a cathedral?
6. Teach about role of cathedral as different from a church because it belongs to everyone- the whole diocese. We all have our own parishes, but the cathedral is our church to- where the bishop works- bishop's chair, etc.
7. Give information- maybe times where students can visit the cathedral with their families and go on a tour.