

Catechesis - 2nd Grade 1st Communion Group
December 15th, 2020

A Message from the Catechists, Ms. Lisa and Mrs. Debbie:

“Hello, welcome back 2nd grade Catechesis friends of Jesus and all the parents. This week's lesson plan will not involve our workbooks or any videos. Instead, since it is our last lesson until January we're going to learn and talk about the meaning of Christmas. “

Main Lesson:

1. Let's invite mom & dad to join us in our **opening prayer**:
 - a. Sign of the Cross
 - b. “Dear God, we are so happy You sent us Your Son, Jesus. Thank you. We want to be as loving and kind as He was. Help us to live as He did so we can give You glory. Amen.”
2. What is the first thing you think about when hear the word “Christmas?”
3. **Christmas** – Symbols, and their meanings and connections to Jesus Christ.
 - a. **Santa Claus**
 - i. Long ago there was a Christian bishop named **St. Nicholas** who spent all his wealth & possessions on helping the needy. This was his way of gift giving.
 - ii. St. Nicholas has since transformed into our present day Santa Claus. And in the spirit of giving, he now brings Christmas presents to all the children of the world
 - b. **Christmas Trees** – Do you know what I'm talking about? It can actually be 2 different things. Which one does your family use?
 - i. **The Star** – we place it on the highest part of the tree overlooking everything. This is because it represents the North Star which shined up in the sky brighter than anything over Bethlehem. Where Mary and Joseph were when Jesus was born.
 - ii. **The Angel** – The connection to Jesus in this case is the same that holds true as the star. An Angel appeared over where Jesus was born. Both appeared over Jesus's birth in Bethlehem for the same reason, to guide those who traveled far away to Jesus so they could worship Him.
 - c. **The Candy Cane**
 - i. Before we start, ask mom or dad if they have a candy cane on the house we can use for this part.
 - ii. Now, let's hold it up and look closely at it. What do we notice first? Maybe that its red & white striped? Of course it is!

- iii. The stripes stand for the 2 colors, united as one. **Red and white.**
1. The **white** represents the how Jesus was pure and without sin.
 2. The **red** represents the blood Jesus shed for us, so we can be forgiven of our sins.
- iv. Next look at the shape. Notice how the shape is of a **shepard's staff** then you were right.
1. This is because we call Jesus the Good Shepherd, and it represents His staff He watches over us with.
- v. Last take your candy cane and turn it upside down. What shape do you see now? Do you see a letter of the alphabet? Yes, it turns into the letter J. And what name begins with the letter J? That's right, **Jesus!**



4. Additional Activities (attached to the e-mail and website):
- a. [Activity - Candy Cane Meaning](#)
 - b. [Coloring Activity - Nativity Scene](#)

Closing Message and Prayer

“I hope you all and your parents enjoyed this special Christmas lesson. And Mrs. Debbie, Mr. Jacques, all of Divine Mercy and myself Ms.Lisa wish you & your family the Merriest of Christmas and the most Blessed New Year. “

“Now, let's invite our parents to join us again for our closing Passage

Prayer: “He saved us through the Holy Spirit, whom He pointed out on us generously through the Christ Child, Jesus our Savior.” - Titus 3:6

Enjoy your holiday break, Merry Christmas again for & God Bless!

--Ms. Lisa and Mrs. Debbie