

P A R E N T C O N N E C T I O N

UNIT TWO LESSON TWO, PART II

Essential Question

How does going to Mass help me know and love Jesus Christ?

Learning Targets

The new archdiocesan curriculum is designed in such a way that the learning information follows a spiral pattern in that similar topics are discussed at a progressively deeper cognitive level each year following the appropriate age of the learner, beginning with early childhood and concluding with adulthood. Below is a chart that shows this progression for our 2nd topic / essential question "What does Jesus Christ teach you about God?" Please review this to see what your child(ren) are covering at their own cognitive level.

Additionally, you will notice that each grade level is covering the same or similar topic each week. This chart can also be used as a tool for conversation starters about what was learned in formation, other family discussions, and as a means to unite the family under one theme. Our hope is that this information will help you be more aware of what your child(ren) are covering and that it can be integrated or reinforced at home in some fashion and may even inspire your own faith life as well.

Early Childhood
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A4.2.3.5 – Sunday is a special day for the Church. (CCC#1193; 2169; 2174-75; 2190-94)• K.2.5.2 – Going to Mass every Sunday is a loving thing to do. (CCC-none)• K.2.3.3 – Catholics keep Sunday holy by attending Mass. (CCC#1267-68; 1279)• K.5.4.1 – Sharing faith together at church helps people to know that everyone is holy and loved by God. (CCC#867; 2179)
Elementary
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.2.3.1 – There are special prayers and postures that Catholics use in the celebration of the liturgy. (CCC#1153-55)• 2.2.1.2 – Catholics state their belief in the Paschal Mystery at Mass when they say the Memorial Acclamation. (CCC#1441-42)• (U₂) 4.2.5.1 – Though all present at the liturgy are participants, it is necessary for some people to minister in specific ways. (CCC#1142-1144)• 5.2.3.3 – Christians are called to be engaged in the liturgy as full, conscious, and active participants. (CCC#1071)
Junior High
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6.3.3.8 - Grace is the free and undeserved gift from God by which Christians are united with Him and empowered to love Him. (<i>Repeated in Unit 3</i>) (CCC #1996; 2021)• 6.2.2.3 - God's grace is given through the Holy Spirit to the sacraments. (CCC #1129; 1131; 2003)• 8.2.2.1 - The sacraments are effective of Jesus' presence in the Church. (CCC #1127; 1131)• 8.2.1.2 - The Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ, and Christian's entry and participation in it through the liturgy and sacraments, are the means by which God has chosen to give people all manners of grace, making them sharers in His divine life. (<i>Also in Unit 1</i>) (CCC #1072; 1092; 1112; 1129; 1341; 2003; 2017)
High School
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9.2.2.3 - The sacraments are a means by which Christ affects the salvation he won, giving Christians his grace so that they can choose the good according to God's will, and resist sin and its effects.• 10.2.2.3 - Christ entrusted the sacraments to the Church for the sake of salvation of all• 10.2.2.5 - The Church is called to reflect how signs, symbols, and rituals of sacramental life demonstrate Christ's presence in the world.• 11.2.3.1 - In the liturgy, the Church experiences and celebrates the Spirit of filial adoption as it worships God, the source of all blessings and provider of the gift of salvation in Jesus Christ

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Adult

- MA 2.3.2 – While the liturgy is the work of Christ, liturgy is also an action of his Church. It makes the Church present and manifests her as the visible sign of the communion in Christ between God and humanity.
- MA 2.3.6 – The whole liturgical life of the Church revolves around full, active and conscious participation in the Eucharistic sacrifice and the sacraments.
- MA 2.3.12 – Sunday observance, as well as Holy Days of Obligation, includes both participating in the celebration of the Eucharist, an obligation and a joy for the Christian, at the heart of the Church's life, and entering into a rhythm that balances work with the rest and relaxation of mind and body necessary to avoid becoming a servant to work and a slave to money, and to cultivate one's familial, cultural, social, and religious lives.
- MA 2.3.16 – Liturgical celebrations involve signs and symbols, words and actions, singing and music, and holy images.

Learning Target Videos

A quick and easy way to wrap up integration of the Parent Connection (PC) at home, as well as relay the learning target of this session's Essential Question (EQ) to your child(ren), is through the use of the videos that have been chosen by the Archdiocese to convey an overarching theme of the EQ at hand. All videos are family friendly and are chosen with the intent to clarify EQ content in an engaging way.

Video one: Grades 1-4, BF6 - *The Bread and Wine at Mass* https://youtu.be/XGjF0rL5j_U

Video two: Grades 2-12, *Consecration During Mass* <https://youtu.be/g7LpN13cDYI>

Video three: Grades 5-12, *The Jewish Passover Seder, The Last Supper and The Roman Catholic Mass* <https://youtu.be/g97VwxJdrfM>

Parent Formation Opportunities

The additional resources that are listed below are intended for your own personal growth, because they offer theological insight that circle back to the essential question through a more mature and personal approach. They offer spiritual guidance for prayer, day to day living, and apologetics. Although these resources are optional, they are strongly encouraged to be considered. Looking over these resources should take no longer than a few minutes and can all be found online.

Scripture: [Isaiah 55:1-11](#), [John 19:31-37](#), [John 6:1-15](#)

CCC: [1127](#), [1128-29](#), [1130](#)

YouTube:

- *Bishop Barron on Catholics Misunderstanding the Eucharist*
Channel: Bishop Robert Barron
Publication: August 6, 2019
<https://youtu.be/0yTGIYClvks>
- *Bishop Barron on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist*
Channel: Bishop Robert Barron
Publication: July 13, 2011
<https://youtu.be/bJjW3LXuHzo>
- *Aren't All Churches the Same?*
Channel: Ascension Presents
Published: May 4, 2016
https://youtu.be/Q5G_6I4DIIE

Podcast:

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- *S3 Ep20: How-to Sacraments*
Podcast: How-to Catholic
Published: April 29, 2018
**Can be found on the Apple Podcast app*
- *#195 Did Jesus Institute All Seven Sacraments?*
Podcast: Catholic Answers Focus
Published: June 18th, 2019
<https://podcasts.apple.com/mu/podcast/195-did-jesus-institute-all-seven-sacraments-tim-staples/id955874270?i=1000442052143>

Book:

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*
Author: Image Book
Sections: Part II Section II
Publisher: USCCB Publishing (1995)
- *Swear to God: The Promise and Power of the Sacraments*
Author: Scott Hahn
Sections: All
Publisher: Image; 4/18/04 edition (May 18, 2004)

Family Activities

Conversation Starters

Sharing the faith as a family is a great way for it to stick/grow. Here are some conversation ideas based on what your son/daughter was recently learning in formation. Consider using these immediately after picking up your child(ren) from Catechesis or at the dinner table.

- What are three new things you learned during catechesis class today?
- What is something you learned that you already knew?
- Do you think you might have learned something that I don't know or you think is important for me to know? If so, what?
- Why do you think it is important to pay attention in Mass?
- *Share your earliest experience of attending Mass or an experience of Mass that sticks out to you.*
- *Ask your child(ren) to share a memorable time or moment at Mass that they have experienced.*
- *Explain what a homily is to your children.*
- *Ask your child(ren) to share what they do or do not like about the homilies they hear.*
- *Set some goals or challenges for your next Mass together. Examples include: getting there 10 minutes early, sitting still, staying a few minutes afterwards to pray, listening for keywords such as "holy, Christ, peace."*
- Do you have any questions about what you learned in class this week?

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Prayer Activity

With your family, read Colossians 1:15-20 2-3 times. Then, pause for a moment of reflection. Discuss with your family how this passage corresponds to the order of the Mass and what the Church teaches about the sacraments.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the *Father's* good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, *I say*, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

**For further guidance on the order of the Mass:*

- Open Laudate App → Order of The Mass
- <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/order-of-mass/>

Physical Activity

Fish Bowl

Divide your family into two even-numbered groups — groups A and B. If you have an odd number of players, have someone sit out for each round or let them be the score keeper, time keeper, or referee, making sure all the rules are followed by the players. Have everyone sit in a semicircle with the two teams facing each other. On small pieces of paper, have each player write one random noun on each piece, fold them up, and then place them into a bowl.

The object of the game is for team members to guess a word by using one of three ways – by giving a description, by acting out the word, or saying only a single describing word. Each method lasts for one round and can only be done by one chosen member of the group.

Therefore, the first round consists of the chosen team members of each group explaining the word through a description, the second by having them act it out, and the third consists of them using only ONE word to describe it. Each round lasts for 60 seconds. Every round, have a different member from each group stand as the person who presents the word to their group.

Groups A and B take turns going, while the other watches. After every correct guess, hold on to the piece of paper with the correctly guessed noun. After the 60 seconds of each round, count the amount of correctly guessed nouns that were kept and tally the points. After tallying the points, place the papers back in the bowl for the next group and the next round. The third round is the last round. The team with the most amount of points added from all three rounds wins.

**For more information on how to play:*

<https://icebreakerideas.com/fishbowl-game/>

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The point of the game is to help create an analogy of our participation in the sacraments and how doing so helps us grow closer to Christ in that we understand Him more fully. Similarly to the way we participate in the nouns and grow in a better understanding of them by having to think of how we are to relay and explain them to others, so too do we come to know and understand Christ by participating in the sacraments He has given us. As time goes on in the game, members grow more familiar with the different nouns. Likewise, we grow more familiar with Christ as we stay consistent in participating in the sacraments.

Closing Prayer

**Begin and end every prayer with the Sign of the Cross*

Dear Lord, You have given us sacraments as a means for us to know You and understand You more fully. Thus, allowing us to love You more intentionally. Give us the grace to remember this each time we participate in the sacraments and help us to truly enter into each Mass as we should when entering into prayer. Amen.