

Lesson 19 – We Give Thanks

Grade 1 – Chapter 19

KEY CONCEPT

At Mass, we gather to worship God by reading from the Bible, giving thanks, and receiving Holy communion. Jesus shares his Body and Blood with us in the Eucharist.

QUICK SESSION OVERVIEW

STEP 1 - WELCOME

STEP 2 - INVITE

STEP 3 - DISCOVER

STEP 4 - LIVE

STEP 5 - CLOSING

3 Helpful Tips to Finish the Year Strong

1. Don't coast through the finish line – be even more intentional than before about teaching these kids the beauty of the Faith
2. Draw on the relationships you built – you've built relationships with these kids and they respect you, use that to challenge them to live out their faith more
3. Choose to enjoy the little moments that might be even more profound to these kids than you will ever know

STEP 1 - WELCOME

TIP

Community Activity

STEP 2 - INVITE

TIP

Let us Pray

- **Say the Our Father**
- **Use this story after the opening prayer, before explaining that Jesus gave his life for us.**
 - Read aloud the story as the children follow along.
 - Have the children discuss Thanksgiving and all the festivities associated with that special celebration—food, family members, prayer, decorations.
 - When finished, transition back to the lesson instruction.

A Traditional Meal

- Carlos helped his mother with the grocery shopping for Thanksgiving. He found the items on the shopping list and put them into the cart.
- “Here’s the bread for Uncle Tony’s favorite stuffing. I found the onions for Grandpa’s favorite green beans. It is in the same aisle as the pumpkin for Dad’s favorite pumpkin pie. I think we already passed your favorite cranberries, Mom. They were back by Aunt Marlene’s favorite sweet potatoes.”
- “What is your favorite part of the meal, Carlos?” asked Mom.
- “I like turkey and warm rolls with butter the best!” said Carlos.

Read God’s word section

- **Talk about What do you wonder questions.**

STEP 3 – DISCOVER

TIP

The Eucharist (pg. 252)

Ask: Who is present in the Eucharist?

- **Read the paragraph**
- **Read God's Word**
- **Ask when you hear these words at Mass?**
- **Explain that the priest says these words when God changes the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ.**

Giving Thanks

- **Read paragraph**
- **Do the Share your faith section**

Activity – I Can Celebrate sheet

During Mass

- **Ask – What do we celebrate at Mass?**
- **Read the paragraphs**
- **Remind the children that Mass is a celebration. The Church family gathers as a community on Sundays to honor and praise God. Jesus is present at Mass in the assembly itself, in the priest who preside, and in the words of Scripture that are read. He is uniquely and truly present in the Eucharist.**

Activity – Connect your faith Word scramble (pg. 255)

STEP 4 – LIVE

TIP

Our Catholic Life

- **Ask: What do you see and do at Mass?**
- **Read paragraph**
- **Review the At Mass box and talk about the people and things you might see and the things you might do.**

Ascension:

Talk about the Ascension (see attached sheet) This is celebrated on May 13th this year.

Activity – Ascension coloring sheet

Talk about Blessed Pope John, XXIII

Activity – Can do unit review together as a class if time permits.

Take Homes

- **Remind the children to review the Faith and Family section with their parents**
- **Chapter Review.**

STEP 5 – CLOSING

TIP

Closing Prayer

- **Review Our Father and Hail Mary**



Name _____ Date _____

I Can Celebrate

Jesus is at Mass. I can give Jesus my love. At Mass people bring gifts to God. Some gifts are promises to do good. I give a gift.

Draw a picture of your gift to God.



The Ascension

Question: "What is the meaning and importance of the ascension of Jesus Christ?"

After Jesus rose from the dead, He "presented Himself alive" to the women near the tomb, to His disciples, and to more than 500 others). In the days following His resurrection, Jesus taught His disciples about the kingdom of God.

Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus and His disciples went to Mount Olivet, near Jerusalem. There, Jesus promised His followers that they would soon receive the Holy Spirit, and He instructed them to remain in Jerusalem until the Spirit had come. Then Jesus blessed them, and as He gave the blessing, He began to ascend into heaven. The account of Jesus' ascension is found in [Luke 24:50-51](#) and [Acts 1:9-11](#).

It is plain from Scripture that Jesus' ascension was a literal, bodily return to heaven. He rose from the ground gradually and visibly, observed by many intent onlookers. As the disciples strained to catch a last glimpse of Jesus, a cloud hid Him from their view, and two angels appeared and promised Christ's return "in just the same way that you have watched Him go".

The Ascension of Jesus Christ is meaningful for several reasons:

- 1) It signaled the end of His earthly ministry. God the Father had lovingly sent His Son into the world at Bethlehem, and now the Son was returning to the Father. The period of human limitation was at an end.
- 2) It signified success in His earthly work. All that He had come to do, He had accomplished.
- 3) It marked the return of His heavenly glory. Jesus' glory had been veiled during His sojourn on earth, with one brief exception at the Transfiguration.
- 4) It symbolized His exaltation by the Father. The One with whom the Father is well pleased was raised up in honor and given a name above all names.
- 5) It allowed Him to prepare a place for us.
- 6) It indicated the beginning of His new work as High Priest and Mediator of the New Covenant.
- 7) It set the pattern for His return. When Jesus comes to set up the Kingdom, He will return just as He left-literally, bodily, and visibly in the clouds.

Currently, the Lord Jesus is in heaven. The Scriptures frequently picture Him at the right hand of the Father-a position of honor and authority Christ is the Head of the Church, the giver of spiritual gifts, and the One who fills all in all.



**Then Jesus went back to heaven
to make a home for his followers.**

Dot • to • Dot

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son.” Follow the alphabet in order and draw a line from dot to dot. Complete the picture and color it.

