For Catechists and Teachers

Scripture Background
A stranger joins Cleopas and another disciple as they walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus on Easter evening. The stranger talks about passages in Scripture that say God’s servant would have to suffer in order to show God’s glory. The stranger’s words rekindle their hopes that Jesus might be the Messiah. The disciples discover that the stranger is Jesus when he blesses bread, breaks it, and gives it to them. They know Jesus in the breaking of bread.

Connecting Scripture and Doctrine
We believe in Jesus’ Real Presence in the bread and wine that become his Body and Blood during the Mass. When we receive Holy Communion, we say “Amen.” Our “Amen” says that we believe the bread and wine are really Jesus.

It is by this action (the breaking of bread) that his disciples recognize Jesus after his Resurrection, and it is this expression that the first Christians use to designate their Eucharistic assemblies; by doing so they signified that all who eat the one broken bread, Christ, enter into communion with him and form but one body in him” (CCC, 1329).

Sharing the Lesson with Families
Encourage the families to talk with their child about the Mass and its meaning to them. Suggest that they look at their child’s booklet and affirm their child for following Jesus’ way.

Materials
- Good News Student Lesson for 4/26
- Catechism handbook, pages 14 and 22
- CD player and Promise/New Good News CD-2
- pencils or crayons
- map of the Holy Land
- Bible open to Luke 22:19-20

Suggested Music
- “New Life” (CD-2, #1)
- “Come and Follow Me” (CD-2, #14)
- “Gospel Acclamation” (CD-2, #24)
- “He Is Risen, Alleluia” (CD-2, #2)

Lesson Resources
- Good News Activity Book, Activity #17
- Lesson Assessment (gospelweeklies.com/assessment)
- Video Links (gospelweeklies.com/weekly-videos)

Single-Session Lesson Pacing Guides

Note: These pacing guides are suggestions for how to present the lesson. Please adapt the lesson to suit your needs.

60-Minute Lesson
Share Experiences (15–20 minutes)
- Gathering Song and Prayer • “New Life” (CD-2, #1)
- Cover Activity • Who Is Making Loving Choices? (page 1)
- Bible Story • Saint Paul Changes His Mind (page 2)

Discover Gospel and Doctrine (25–30 minutes)
- Gospel Ritual • “Gospel Acclamation” (CD-2, #24)
- Sunday Gospel • On the Road to Emmaus (page 3)
- Discuss the Know question related to the Gospel.
- Connecting Gospel and Doctrine (page 4)
- Catholic Faith Word • Real Presence (page 4)

Live the Gospel (15–20 minutes)
- Activity • Jesus’ Followers Make Loving Choices (page 4)
- Activity • I Follow Jesus’ Way (pages 1–4)
- Closing Prayer and Song • “He Is Risen, Alleluia!” (CD-2, #2)

Take-Home
- Good News Activity Book, Activity #17
- Remind the children to share their lesson with their families and do the Family Corner activities and prayer on page 4 together.

90-Minute Lesson
Share Experiences (20–25 minutes)
- Gathering Song and Prayer • “New Life” (CD-2, #1)
- Cover Activity • Who Is Making Loving Choices? (page 1)
- Bible Story • Saint Paul Changes His Mind (page 2)
- Activity • Stretch and Sing “Come and Follow Me” (CD-2, #14)

Discover Gospel and Doctrine (45–50 minutes)
- Gospel Ritual • “Gospel Acclamation” (CD-2, #24)
- Sunday Gospel • On the Road to Emmaus (page 3)
- Discuss the Know question related to the Gospel.
- Connecting Gospel and Doctrine (page 4)
- Catholic Faith Word • Real Presence (page 4)

Live the Gospel (16–20 minutes)
- Activity • Jesus’ Followers Make Loving Choices (page 4)
- Activity • I Follow Jesus’ Way (pages 1–4)
- Closing Prayer and Song • “He Is Risen, Alleluia!” (CD-2, #2)

Take-Home
Remind the children to share their lesson with their families and do the Family Corner activities and prayer on page 4 together.

For monthly gatherings, family catechesis, RCIA, and summer intensive pacing plans, visit gospelweeklies.com/pacing-plans
Teaching This Week’s Lesson

Share Experiences

Objectives • The children will:
• Identify loving choices.
• Recognize how Saint Paul became a Christian teacher.

🎶 Gather in a circle. Greet the children by saying, “Happy Easter!” Point out that Easter isn’t over. The Easter season will continue for several more weeks. Play and sing “New Life” (CD-2, #1).

Gathering Prayer Pray: “Dear Jesus, we want to follow your way. Help us to make loving choices and show people your love.” The children respond, “Amen.”


Read aloud the last two sentences. Direct the children to find the letters and figure out Jesus’ message: Love.

Bible Story • Saint Paul Changes His Mind (page 2) Like all of us, Saint Paul never knew the historical Jesus, but his experience of the Risen Jesus became the center of his life. Read the introduction at the top left of the page with the children, making sure they understand that Saul and Paul are the same person. Use a map to point out where Jerusalem and Damascus are.

Explain what A.D. 40 means. A.D. stands for Anno Domini, which means “Year of the Lord” in Latin. We count our years from the year of Jesus’ birth. This means A.D. 40 is about forty years after Jesus was born and about seven years after his Death and Resurrection. Ask: How many years is A.D. 2020 from the year of Jesus’ birth? About 2,020.

Explain that after Jesus’ Resurrection, those who followed Jesus were often persecuted. This means that some people treated them badly—put them in prison, hurt, or even killed them.

Invite the children to read the story quietly to themselves. Review the details as a group. Ask: Why did Saul persecute the Christians? Why does he stop persecuting Christians? Jesus tells Saul that when he persecutes his followers, he is persecuting Jesus. Ask: Why is the man (Ananias) afraid to talk to Saul? Why do you think he baptizes Saul and teaches him about Jesus? What does Jesus call Saul (Paul) to do?

Activity • Stretch and Sing Lead the children around the room as you play and sing “Come and Follow Me” (CD-2, #14).

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

Objectives • The children will:
• Identify that Jesus’ followers knew him in the breaking of bread.
• Recognize that Jesus is really present in Holy Communion.
• Recognize that we call the Mass a sacrifice.

🎶 Stand and sing “Gospel Acclamation” (CD-2, #24) as preparation for the proclamation of the Gospel.

Sunday Gospel • On the Road to Emmaus (page 3) Have the children identify an event of Jesus’ life that they recognize in the picture at the top of the page. Jesus broke bread and shared a cup of wine at his Last Supper with his followers. Jesus is breaking bread in this picture too.

Assign five readers to proclaim the Gospel. The rest of the class can take the part of Friends.

Discuss the Know question related to the Gospel. First ask: Why did Jesus’ friends feel sad? Jesus had been killed. They had hoped he was the Messiah who God sent to save them. Then ask the Know question on page 2. They knew him when he blessed the bread and broke it like he did at the Last Supper.

Connecting Gospel and Doctrine (page 4) Read aloud “Jesus Is with Us.” Ask: What did Jesus say at the Last Supper when he gave his Apostles bread? This is my Body. Take it and eat. Do this in memory of me. Ask: What did Jesus say at the Last Supper when he gave his Apostles wine? This is my Blood. Take it and drink. Do this in memory of me. Emphasize that we believe that Jesus really meant what he said—that the bread and wine had become his Body and Blood. At every Mass, the bread (hosts) and wine still look and taste like bread and wine, but they really become Jesus’ Body and Blood. Jesus is really present in them.

Catholic Faith Word • Real Presence (page 4) Read aloud the definition of Real Presence. Ask: When does this happen at Mass? During the Eucharistic Prayer. When the priest tells the story of the Last Supper and repeats Jesus’ words, the bread and wine become Jesus’ Body and Blood.

Believes and Teaches handbooks.

Distribute the children’s What the Church
What the Church Believes and Teaches

Amen (page 14), Eucharist (page 22)

Ask: When do we say “Amen”? At the end of prayers, when we receive Holy Communion, after the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass. Ask: What does Amen mean? Direct the children to turn to page 14 in their handbooks and find the section on Amen. Invite a volunteer to read aloud the last sentence.


Print the word Eucharist on the board. Ask: What does Eucharist mean? It’s from the Greek for thanksgiving, it’s another name for the Mass, it’s Jesus’ Body and Blood. Direct the children to turn to page 22 in their handbooks. Invite a volunteer to read aloud the first paragraph under the heading “Eucharist.”

Ask: What is a sacrifice? To give up something, usually for the sake of something or someone else. Ask: What is a sacrifice you have made? Encourage them to think back to Lent and the things they gave up or the extra things they did. Those were sacrifices. Ask: What kinds of sacrifices do your parents make for you? What sacrifice did Jesus make to save us? He sacrificed his life because of his love for us.

Invite a strong reader to read the next paragraph under “Eucharist.” We call the Mass a sacrifice because we are remembering Jesus’ great sacrifice for us. We thank Jesus for his sacrifice by going to Mass and participating, receiving Holy Communion with respect, clearly saying “Amen” and meaning that we believe we’re really receiving Jesus’ Body and Blood, and following Jesus’ way after we leave Mass.

Invite the children to bow their heads as you pray: “Dear Jesus, we believe that Holy Communion is really your Body and Blood. Thank you for this great gift! Help us to always receive you with love and respect.” The children respond, “Amen.”

Have the children close the What the Church Believes and Teaches handbooks and return to Good News, page 4.

Live the Gospel

Objectives • The children will:
• Apply Jesus’ teachings and dramatize loving choices.
• Complete a booklet about following Jesus.

Activity • Jesus’ Followers Make Loving Choices (page 4) Assign partners and give each pair a story to read and resolve. Direct them to read the story starter and brainstorm three solutions. They may act out their solutions for the class. Vote on the best solution to each situation.

Activity • I Follow Jesus’ Way (pages 1–4) Distribute scissors and have the children open Good News so the cover and page 4 are showing. Demonstrate how to cut off the lower part of the page on the heavy dark line. Direct the children to find the words “I Follow Jesus’ Way” in blue. This will be the first page of the folding booklet. Call attention to the diagram on page 1 that shows what the finished booklet will look like. Have your own copy ready for them to see. Give the children time to make the creases and folds. Distribute pencils and crayons. Give them time to finish the booklet.

Closing Prayer • Gather in a prayer circle with their booklets. Pray: “Loving God, here is how we follow Jesus’ way.” (Volunteers take turns reading a page from their booklets.) “Please bless us and keep us safe.” The children respond, “Amen,” and exchange a sign of peace.

🎵 Play and sing “He Is Risen, Alleluia!” (CD-2, #2) to close your prayer and Good News gathering.

Lesson Wrap-Up

Visit gospelweeklies.com/assessment to download this week’s lesson assessment.

Use Activity #17 from the Good News Activity Book as a take-home activity or lesson wrap-up.

Unit 4: Jesus Brings Us New Life • TG4-27
Good News
We Follow Jesus’ Way

Who Is Making Loving Choices?

Draw a heart around each pair of children who show they have Jesus’ Spirit. Draw the “Don’t Do It” sign over the children who are not acting in Jesus’ Spirit. Find the hidden letter inside each heart you have drawn. Unscramble the four letters to spell Jesus’ message:

I share money or things with people who need them.

☐ I give money to the collection at church.
☐ I share my toys and clothes.
☐ I learn about other people’s needs.
☐ ________________________

I forgive.

I ask for forgiveness.

you.

I am ____________________ 

PFLAUM GOSPEL WEEKLIES Faith Formation Program
Saint Paul Changes His Mind

Jerusalem about A.D. 40

A Christian named Stephen is stoned to death for teaching about Jesus. A Jewish man named Saul (Paul) watches.

But on the road Saul heard a voice:

Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?

Who are you?

I am Jesus. Go to Damascus. I will send someone to you.

Saul is blind!

Brother Saul, the Lord sent me to help you recover your sight and fill you with the Holy Spirit.

I can see! Please baptize me.

Isn’t that Saul, the man who used to arrest Christians?

God raised Jesus from the dead. He is the Messiah.

Hear the Good News. God raised Jesus from the dead.

Paul traveled three times around the Mediterranean Sea.

I join the Christian community to praise God.

Whom do you pray with on Sundays or other days of the week?

I pray for the living and the dead.

Write names of people you pray for.

I follow Jesus’ Way
On the Road to Emmaus

Narrator 1: Two of Jesus’ followers were walking from Jerusalem to the town of Emmaus. It was the Sunday after Jesus’ Death.

Cleopas: Why did Jesus have to die?
Other Follower: He could have made our nation great again.

Narrator 2: Jesus joined them, but they didn’t recognize him.

Jesus: What is wrong?
Cleopas: Don’t you know what happened in Jerusalem?
Other Follower: They crucified Jesus. We hoped that he would save us.

Cleopas: Now his body has been taken from the tomb.
Jesus: Don’t you know that these things had to happen?
Narrator 1: The stranger explained the Scriptures that said the Messiah would suffer before receiving glory.

Narrator 2: When they got to Emmaus, they invited Jesus to stay with them.

Narrator 1: At the meal, Jesus blessed bread and gave it to them.
Narrator 2: When Jesus did this, they recognized him. But Jesus vanished!
Cleopas: That was Jesus!
Other Follower: My heart felt on fire when he explained the holy writings.

Narrator 1: They headed right back to Jerusalem with their news.
Narrator 2: Some of Jesus’ other followers told them:
Friends: Jesus has been raised up! He appeared to Simon Peter.

Narrator 1: The two shared about meeting Jesus and how they knew him when he broke bread.

KNOW

What helped Jesus’ followers to recognize him?

I do loving actions.
Write a way you try to act like Jesus.

Name
Age
Date
We believe in Jesus’ **Real Presence** in the bread and wine that become his Body and Blood during the Mass. When we receive Holy Communion, we say, “Amen.” Our “Amen” says that we believe the bread and wine are really Jesus.

**Activity**

**Jesus’ Followers Make Loving Choices**

What will children with Jesus’ Spirit do in each of the following situations?

**Telling Lies**
Child 1: Vanessa says that you spilled paint on the carpet.
Child 2: That’s a lie.
Child 1: What are you going to do?

**Messy People**
Child 1: People who come to our ball games leave their trash on the ground and bleachers.
Child 2: Here’s what we can do about it.

**Who Started It?**
Child 1: Quit kicking me under the table.
Child 2: You kicked me first.
Child 1: No, I didn’t.
Child 2: Here’s what I am going to do.

**Catholic Faith Word**

**Real Presence** The Real Presence is the bread and wine truly becoming the Body and Blood of Christ at Mass.

**Family Corner**

**Scan here for parent resources.**

**Question of the Week**
When have you recognized that Jesus is with you?

**Family Prayer**
Jesus, our hearts are full of love for you. Help us to notice your presence with us. Amen.

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I praise God in Creation.
Learn the name of a flower or animal. Write a description or draw a picture.

I learn about God’s love in the Bible.
Draw a picture of your favorite story about Jesus.
... the resurrection of the body ...

Our bodies die at the end of our time on earth. But our souls do not die, and they never will. Our souls will live on forever. At the end of the world our bodies will rise, as Jesus did on the first Easter. Your body will be reunited with your soul. It will be new and beautiful.

... and life everlasting.

People who loved and served God will have an eternal life of happiness with God in Heaven.

Those who did not will have an eternal life separated from God—Hell. God wants all of us to come back to where we belong. God wants all of us to be happy forever with him.

Amen.

You say Amen at the end of many prayers. You say Amen when you receive Holy Communion. What does this word mean, anyway? It means “This is so” or “I believe this.”
**Eucharist**

The word *Eucharist* means “thanksgiving.” Gathering with your church family for the Eucharist is a lot like gathering with your family for Thanksgiving. You remember important stories, give thanks, and share a nourishing meal.

The Eucharist is the heart of the Church’s life. Jesus offered the sacrifice of his life once on the Cross. When we celebrate the Eucharist, he pours out the graces of salvation over and over again. The sacrifice of the Mass is offered for the whole Church, the living and the dead. Jesus’ Death on the Cross makes up for our sins. It gives us every kind of goodness and blessing.

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**The Mass**

The prayers and actions of the Mass make up one great prayer, one awesome act of worship. The Mass has two main parts.

I. **The Liturgy of the Word**

- We listen to the Word of God from Scripture, or the Bible.
- We say the Creed together. Remember, the Creed is the statement of what the Church believes and teaches.

II. **The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

- We offer bread and wine. The bread is made from wheat and the wine is made from grapes.
- We thank God for all of his blessings, especially the gift of Jesus, his Son.

- The priest consecrates the bread and wine. With the blessing of the Holy Spirit, the priest says the words of Jesus at the Last Supper.
  “For this is my Body, which will be given up for you.”
  “For this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many.”

The bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Christ.

- We receive Jesus in Holy Communion. We welcome Jesus into our body and soul. Jesus is so close to us. Jesus is so happy to be with us.
Luke 22

you will know that the Kingdom of God is about to come.
32 "Remember that all these things will take place before the people now living have all died. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

The Need to Watch
34 "Be careful not to let yourselves become occupied with too much feasting and drinking and with the worries of this life, or that Day may suddenly catch you. 35 Like a trap. For it will come upon all people everywhere on earth. 36 Be on watch and pray always that you will have the strength to go safely through all those things that will happen and to stand before the Son of Man."

Jesus spent those days teaching in the Temple, and when evening came, he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives. 38 Early each morning all the people went to the Temple to listen to him.

The Plot against Jesus
22 1 The time was near for the Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover. 2 The chief priests and the teachers of the Law were afraid of the people, and so they were trying to find a way of putting Jesus to death secretly.

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus
3 Then Satan entered into Judas, called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve disciples. 4 So Judas went off and spoke with the chief priests and the officers of the Temple guard about how he could betray Jesus to them. 5 They were pleased and offered to pay him money. 6 Judas agreed to it and started looking for a good chance to hand Jesus over to them without the people knowing about it.

Jesus Prepares to Eat the Passover Meal
7 The day came during the Festival of Unleavened Bread when the lambs for the Passover meal were to be killed. 8 Jesus sent Peter and John with these instructions: "Go and get the Passover meal ready for us to eat."
9 "Where do you want us to get it ready?" they asked him.
10 He answered, "As you go into the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters, 11 and say to the owner of the house: ‘The Teacher says to you, Where is the room where my disciples and I will eat the Passover meal?’ 12 He will show you a large furnished room upstairs, where you will get everything ready."
13 They went off and found everything just as Jesus had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

The Lord’s Supper
14 When the hour came, Jesus took his place at the table with the apostles. 15 He said to them, "I have wanted so much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer! 16 For I tell you, I will never eat it until it is given its full meaning in the Kingdom of God."
17 Then Jesus took a cup, gave thanks to God, and said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. 18 I tell you that from now on I will not drink this wine until the Kingdom of God comes."
19 Then he took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my
body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.” 20 In the same way, he gave them the cup after the supper, saying, “This cup is God’s new covenant sealed with my blood, which is poured out for you.

21 “But, look! The one who betrays me is here at the table with me! 22 The Son of Man will die as God has decided, but how terrible for that man who betrays him!”

23 Then they began to ask among themselves which one of them it could be who was going to do this.

The Argument about Greatness
24 An argument broke out among the disciples as to which one of them should be thought of as the greatest. 25 Jesus said to them, “The kings of the pagans have power over their people, and the rulers claim the title ‘Friends of the People.’ 26 But this is not the way it is with you; rather, the greatest one among you must be like the youngest, and the leader must be like the servant. 27 Who is greater, the one who sits down to eat or the one who serves? The one who sits down, of course. But I am among you as one who serves.

28 “You have stayed with me all through my trials; 29 and just as my Father has given me the right to rule, so I will give you the same right. 30 You will eat and drink at my table in my Kingdom, and you will sit on thrones to rule over the twelve tribes of Israel.

Jesus Predicts Peter’s Denial
31 “Simon, Simon! Listen! Satan has received permission to test all of you, to separate the good from the bad, as a farmer separates the wheat from the chaff. 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith will not fail. And when you turn back to me, you must strengthen your brothers.”

33 Peter answered, “Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you and to die with you!”

34 “I tell you, Peter,” Jesus said, “the rooster will not crow tonight until you have said three times that you do not know me.”

Purse, Bag, and Sword
35 Then Jesus asked his disciples, “When I sent you out that time without purse, bag, or shoes, did you lack anything?”

“Not a thing,” they answered.

36 “But now,” Jesus said, “whoever has a purse or a bag must take it; and whoever does not have a sword must sell his coat and buy one. 37 For I tell you that the scripture which says, ‘He shared the fate of criminals,’ must come true about me, because what was written about me is coming true.”

38 The disciples said, “Look! Here are two swords, Lord!”

“That is enough!” he replied.

Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives
39 Jesus left the city and went, as he usually did, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples went with him. 40 When he arrived at the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.”

41 Then he went off from them about the distance of a stone’s throw and knelt down and prayed. 42 “Father,” he said, “if you will, take this cup of suffering away from me. Not my will, however, but your will be done.”

43 An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. 44 In
A Mystery and a Miracle

At Mass we receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist, sometimes called the “eucharistic meal.” The priest offers us bread and wine and says, “The Body of Christ.... The Blood of Christ.” Are these truly the Body and Blood of Christ? Yes!

Use the mystery circle to discover another name for receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Beginning at the arrow, copy every other letter onto the blanks below to reveal the answer.

H______ _______ _______ _______