

## Faith Lesson Plan and Faith Activity

### Chapter 7 - Leaders for God's People

#### Grades 5 & 6

#### Doctrinal Content

- Anointing is the use of oil to mark someone as chosen for a special purpose: priest, prophet, or king. (CCC, 695)
- The Israelites requested an earthly king, such as David, to lead them as God's People, and Jesus can be compared to King David. (CCC, 2579)
- Many of the Psalms, poems, and hymns first used in the worship of the Israelites are included in the Old Testament and are used in our liturgy. (CCC, 1177)
- Each of us possesses gifts that could be used for the good of the Church. (CCC, 2003)

#### Invite - Let Us Pray

Invite the young people to gather in the prayer space and make the sign of the Cross. Read aloud the leader's prayer. Proclaim the verse from Jeremiah 3:15 together. Have the young people move out of the prayer space and back to their seats.



#### Let Us Pray

**Leader:** Great and gracious God, be our leader. Lead us always to you.

“I will appoint for you shepherds after my own heart, who will shepherd you wisely and prudently.”

**Jeremiah 3:15**

**All:** Shepherd us, O God. We are the sheep of your pasture. Lead and we will follow. Amen.

Use the story, “A Good Leader,” after the opening prayer, before talking to the children about leaders of Israel.

**Ask:** What are the most important qualities of a good leader?

Have the children share memories of others who have been good leaders for them.

**Read** the story.

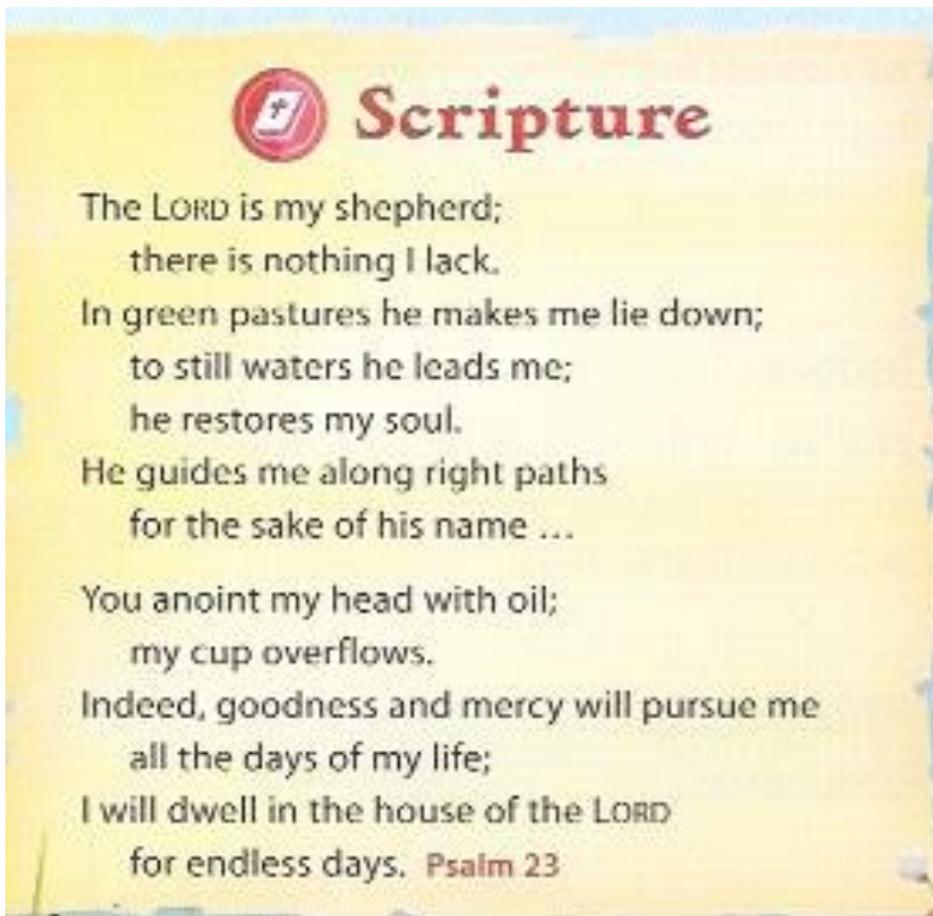
## A Good Leader

Hiking up a wooded mountain trail can be quite an adventure. But a good adventure depends on guides who can lead you safely to your destination. Good leaders are also essential for families, schools, businesses, churches, and governments.

Good leaders are guides who give directions, urge caution when necessary, and help manage changes along the way. Through their ideas, personalities, and examples, good leaders earn your trust and make you want to follow them. In this way, leaders serve as role models.

God called many people to serve as leaders of his People. David, the singing shepherd, was the greatest of Old Testament leaders. He firmly established the kingdom of Israel. See if you recognize this Psalm.

**Display and Read the following.**



**Guide** the young people through the process of Scripture reflection below.

**Invite** them to close their eyes, be still, and open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them in this passage.

**Proclaim** the Scripture.

**Maintain** several moments of silence.

## What Do You Wonder?

**Say:** Jesus, Son of David, Son of God, would establish a new and eternal Kingdom. He too would lead God's People as a shepherd.

**Ask:** Why did God choose a shepherd like David to be King? (Engage the young people to respond.)

**Ask:** Why is Jesus called the Good Shepherd when he was not a shepherd? (Engage the young people to respond.)

## Discover (1)

### Objectives

- Identify some of the past leaders of God's People.
- Understand anointing as the use of oil to mark someone as chosen for a special purpose: priest, prophet, or king

### Display the names of following Leaders:

- *Moses*
- *Joshua*
- *Deborah*
- *Gideon*
- *Jephthah*
- *Samuel*
- *Saul*

**Explain** to the young people that these leaders are important, and that they will find the answers to the following questions in the upcoming story entitled, "The Bible Research Team - The Period of Judges."

1. Identify some of the past leaders of God's people. Describe who they were and what they did.
2. Which were judges? Which were military leaders? Which were prophets?
3. Who selected them and gave them their authority and power?
4. Did the Israelites like their leaders? Did they complain they wanted someone else to lead them?

**Ask & Say:** How did Israel get its first king? We're going to explore the answer to that question in today's lesson.

**Say:** Good leaders are guides who give direction, urge caution when necessary, and manage change. Good leaders earn your trust and make you want to follow them. Moses had many of the qualities of a strong leader, but he died just before the Israelites entered the Promised Land.

**Ask:** Who would be their new leader?

**Print this page and distribute to the young people for reading the various parts.**

## **The Bible Research Team - The Period of Judges**

Act as the narrator while the children perform a dramatic reading of the following text. Select volunteers to read the parts of Ms. Gomez and her students.

**Narrator:** Ms. Gomez asked her class to read through the Books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings, and to tell who followed Moses as leader.

**Jamal:** I know! After Moses died, Joshua led the Israelites into Canaan. God chose Joshua because he was a good military leader and he trusted God. Under Joshua's leadership, the people fought the tribes of Canaan and defeated them. After Joshua's death, other heroes were chosen to lead the tribes.

**Shannon:** That's where I pick up. These heroes were called judges. Gideon and Jephthah were military leaders. Other judges, such as Samuel and Deborah, were prophets.

**Gracie:** Israel wasn't governed by human power, but by God alone. But the people of Israel were not always happy about this. They wanted a human king.

**Justin:** The last judge of Israel, the prophet Samuel, thought that the Israelites were very foolish to reject God as their only king. Samuel warned the people that the king they wanted would have power over them. But he knew that God would give his People the freedom to find out for themselves.

**Eldon:** So, God sent Samuel to anoint Saul with oil as the first king of Israel. This anointing showed that God chose Saul to be king. Saul was strong, tall, and very handsome. He seemed to be the sort of king that the people of Israel were looking for.

**Ms. Gomez:** Was Saul a good king?

**Kelly:** Saul became a great military leader, but he didn't always obey God's commands. Soon his armies began to be defeated. Saul became angry and lost his popularity with the people.

**Ms. Gomez:** Then what happened?

**Kelly:** God told Samuel to find someone new to anoint as king. I think that's where we ended our research.

**Say:** Now, let's revisit the questions that were asked at the beginning of this section of today's lesson.

1. Identify some of the past leaders of God's people. Describe who they were and what they did.
2. Which were judges? Which were military leaders? Which were prophets?
3. Who selected them and gave them their authority and power?
4. Did the Israelites like their leaders? Did they complain they wanted someone else to lead them?
  - *Moses - Prophet*
  - *Joshua - Judge & Military Leader*
  - *Deborah - Judge & Prophet*
  - *Gideon - Judge & Military Leader*
  - *Jephthah - Judge & Military Leader*
  - *Samuel - Judge & Prophet*
  - *Saul - Military Leader*

**Say:** God chose who He wanted to lead Israel. However, during the time of these leaders, Israel was ruled by God alone, through a time of government called a theocracy.

**Theocracy** - A form of civil government in which [God](#) himself is recognized as the head.

**Ask:** Why do you think the Israelites wanted a human king? **Possible response:** *They wanted to be like other nations.*

The First King of Israel - **Play Video** <https://youtu.be/Xvr2W8SzKvs>



**Quick Review:**

**Say:** In Israel's history, God called many different men and women to lead his People. Anointing is a way to mark someone chosen for this special purpose.

## Work with Words

**Anoint** - To use oil to mark someone as chosen for a special purpose. In biblical times, the priests, the kings, and sometime the prophets were anointed as sign of God's favor.

## Discover (2)

### Objectives

- Compare the kingship of David and Jesus.
- Recognize that some of the Psalms, poems, and hymns first used in the worship of the Israelites are used in the Church's liturgy today.
- Reflect on the gifts we each possess that can be used for the good of the Church

**Say:** We are going to learn about how David became a leader.

A Line of Kings - **Play Video** <https://youtu.be/41vnmcocZ1A>

**Display, read, and discuss the following.**

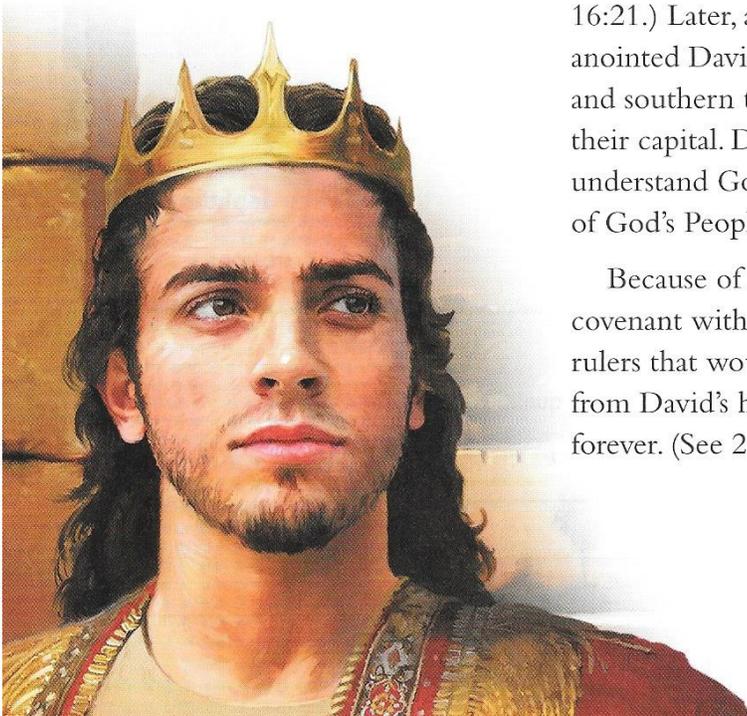
### Scripture

#### Samuel anoints David

Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed him in the midst of his brothers, and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David. **1 Samuel 16:13**

David became a leader in Saul's army. (See 1 Samuel 16:21.) Later, after the death of Saul, the men of Judah anointed David as their king. David united the northern and southern tribes under his rule and made Jerusalem their capital. David was a great king who tried to understand God's will. He was a model for other leaders of God's People. (See 2 Samuel 2:1-7.)

Because of David's faithfulness, God renewed the covenant with him. God promised to establish a line of rulers that would start with David. One day, someone from David's house would sit on the royal throne forever. (See 2 Samuel 7:8-17.)



**Ask:** Who selected David king?

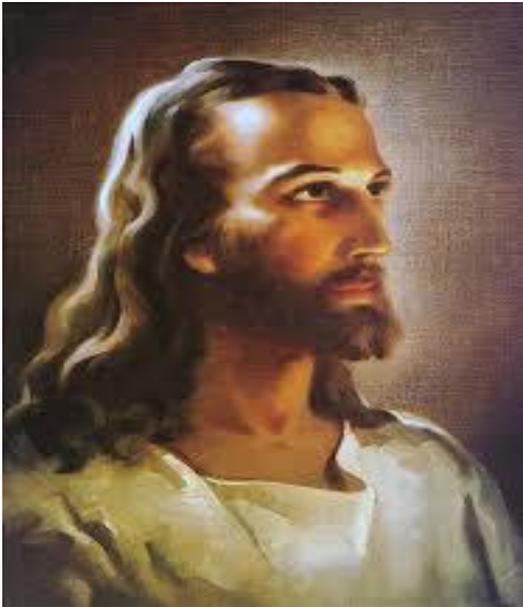
**Ask:** Who anointed David?

**Ask:** What did God promise David?

**Ask:** Who from the House of David would set on the royal throne forever?

**Display the following.**

## Jesus, Son of David



**Read:** A thousand years after David ruled, Jesus was born and fulfilled the promises made to David. Christians proclaim Jesus the King of Kings and that his reign will last forever.

Jesus was like David in many ways, although David sinned, and Jesus was without sin. Jesus' foster father, Joseph, was a descendant of David. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, where David lived when God called him through Samuel. Like David, Jesus was a shepherd to God's People and called himself the Good Shepherd.

Both David and Jesus were anointed. In fact, the title Christ means "anointed one." God the Father anointed his Son with the Holy Spirit to be a prophet, priest and king. Both David and Jesus were great kings, but only Jesus is king for all eternity. Both David and Jesus were men of prayer. David is credited for writing some of the Psalms we sing or recite at Mass. This psalm is called responsorial because the assembly sings a response after each verse. Jesus prayed often to his Father and taught his followers how to pray. The Lord's Prayer that Jesus taught is one of the first prayers all Christians learn today.

**Invite** the young people to answer the following questions:

**Ask:** How were David and Jesus alike?

**Ask:** How were David and Jesus different?

## Work with Words

**Christ** - a title for Jesus, the One anointed by God as Messiah.

**Psalms**- Poems and hymns that were first used in the liturgy of the Israelites. Today, the psalms are also prayed and sung in the public prayer of the Church.

### Quick Review

David was a man of prayer and a leader who followed God. Jesus, the Son of God, is the perfect example of following the will of God the Father. We have been given gifts and qualities to serve the Church.

## Live: Our Catholic Faith

**Ask:** How does the Church celebrate Jesus as King all year long?

**Say:** Catholics everywhere think of Jesus Christ as their king and leader. Jesus' kingship is so important that the Church celebrates the feast of Christ the King on the last Sunday of the liturgical year, just before Advent begins.

**Ask:** How does your life show that you are a follower of Christ the King? (Allow time for discussion.)

**Say:** We all need to follow the example of Christ the King. As one of the King's subjects (one who is under his authority), you can follow his example in your attitudes, words, and actions by living according to his teachings all year long. Jesus shows us the way to true happiness and tells us the way to live in God's Kingdom now and always.

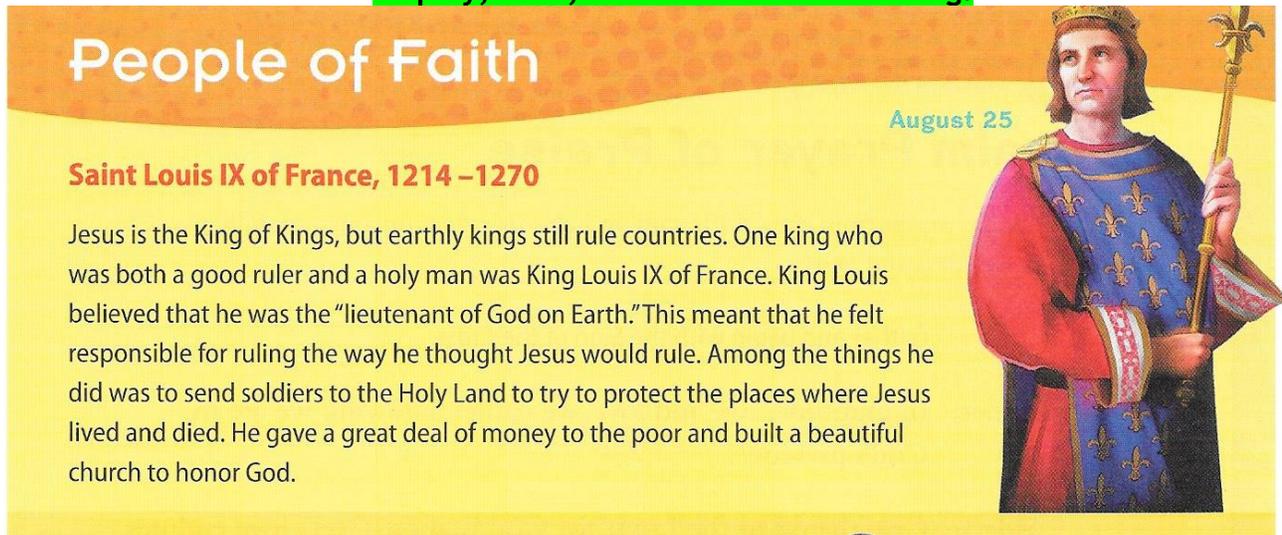
**Review** "The Liturgical Year" chart below with the young people.

The Liturgical Year	
<b>Advent</b> the four Sundays of Advent before the Christmas season begins	<b>Triduum</b> includes Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday
<b>Christmas</b> includes Christmas Day, the Feast of the Holy Family, and the Feast of Epiphany	<b>Pentecost</b> occurs fifty days after Easter
<b>Ordinary Time I</b> the Sundays between Epiphany and Ash Wednesday	<b>Easter</b> includes Easter Sunday, the second through seventh Sundays of Easter, and Pentecost Sunday
<b>Lent</b> includes Ash Wednesday, the five Sundays of Lent, and Passion (or Palm) Sunday	<b>Ordinary Time II</b> the Sundays between Pentecost and the first Sunday of Advent

## People of Faith - Saint Louis IX of France, 1214-1270; Feast Day - August 25

**Say:** King Louis IX was both a good ruler and a holy man. He believed that he was the "lieutenant of God on Earth." He felt responsible for ruling the way he thought Jesus would rule. He sent soldiers to the Holy Land to try to protect some of the places where Jesus lived and died. King Louis gave a great deal of money to the poor and built a beautiful church to honor God.

**Display, read, and discuss the following:**



**People of Faith**

August 25

**Saint Louis IX of France, 1214 – 1270**

Jesus is the King of Kings, but earthly kings still rule countries. One king who was both a good ruler and a holy man was King Louis IX of France. King Louis believed that he was the "lieutenant of God on Earth." This meant that he felt responsible for ruling the way he thought Jesus would rule. Among the things he did was to send soldiers to the Holy Land to try to protect the places where Jesus lived and died. He gave a great deal of money to the poor and built a beautiful church to honor God.

**Ask:** When you are a leader, how should you act? (Engage the young people to respond.)

**Display and Read the following.**

**Emphasis Lectio Divina (Divine Reading) Point out that during their faith lesson today, they began with prayerful reflection on Scripture.**

### Fun Fact of the Day

**Say:** When Moses went up the mountain to talk to God and receive the Ten Commandments, the chosen people were not making good choices and were doing many things to hurt God and each other. Moses was so angered by the people's lack of faith that he smashed the original Ten Commandments that God gave him. God was good and rewrote the Ten Commandments for Moses and the chosen people.

### What the Young People Should Know

- Anointing is the use of oil to mark someone as chosen for a special purpose: priest, prophet, or king. (CCC, 695)
- The Israelites requested an earthly king, such as David, to lead them as God's People, and Jesus can be compared to King David. (CCC, 2579)
- Many of the Psalms, poems, and hymns first used in the worship of the Israelites are included in the Old Testament and are used in our liturgy. (CCC, 1177)
- Each of us possesses gifts that could be used for the good of the Church. (CCC, 2003)

## Faith Activity 1: Prayer

Make the Sign of the Cross.

Have the young people echo you as you pray together, **Lord Jesus Christ, make us leaders like you. (echo) Teach us to be kind, to heal, to forgive (echo) and to be examples of you to others (echo). Amen.**

## Faith Activity 2: Beatitude Games

Explain to the children that because Jesus is our leader we follow his example. The Beatitudes give us a good description of what we need to do to "follow the leader."

Distribute index cards to the children.

Review the Beatitudes with them. Tell them they have three minutes to write an action, attitude, or habit that matches a Beatitude. Give examples such as, *stand up for someone who is being bullied* (hunger and thirst for justice); *forgive my brother for taking my skateboard* (mercy).

Draw a target on the board or on chart paper. Organize the group into two teams. Have them choose a name for their team. Write their team-name on either side of the target:

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_ TARGET Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Draw seven blanks below each team name.

Team members should take turns identifying the correct Beatitude from the descriptions on the file card.

For each correct answer the child fills in a blank below his or her team's name to spell *Blessed*.

The first team to spell *Blessed* wins.

Faith Activity 3: **Print page 11 and distribute to the young people to complete.**

## Chapter 7 Activity Master

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Leadership

Respond to the directions below.

Think about a person in your life who is an admirable leader. On the lines below, explain what makes this person a good leader.

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Discuss with your teacher(s), parent(s), or guardian(s) the roles and qualities of good leaders. On the lines below, summarize your discussion.

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Imagine yourself as a king, prophetic judge, military judge, or military leader. What would you want to accomplish? Write your response on the lines below.

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121E *Alive in Christ*, Grade 6 Chapter 7

Allow the young people to share their responses.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. As a very young man, David was anointed, or \_\_\_\_\_, by the prophet Samuel because God had chosen him as king of Israel.
  - a. given Scripture to read aloud
  - b. marked with blessed oil
  - c. given a special sword
  - d. given a new name
2. The kingship of Jesus is so important that the Church celebrates it with a feast on \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the Third Sunday of Lent
  - b. in the middle of Ordinary Time in the summer
  - c. the last Sunday of the liturgical year, right before Advent begins
  - d. the First Sunday of Easter
3. \_\_\_\_\_ are poems and hymns that were first used in the liturgy of the Israelites and are collected in one book in the Bible.
  - a. Lamentations
  - b. Psalms
  - c. Proverbs
  - d. Letters
4. David, a shepherd, musician, and poet, was the \_\_\_\_\_ son of Jesse in Bethlehem.
  - a. youngest
  - b. strongest
  - c. oldest
  - d. weakest
5. Saul, a tall, handsome, and successful military leader, was anointed as Israel's king by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. twelve Israelite priests
  - b. Samuel
  - c. David
  - d. Joshua
6. Joshua, the successor of Moses, led the Israelites in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. returning to Egypt for a year
  - b. defeating the tribes in Canaan to take over the land God promised
  - c. prayer every Sabbath
  - d. building the Temple of Jerusalem

7. The word "Christ" means "\_\_\_\_\_, " and is a title for Jesus because God the Father anointed his Son, Jesus, with the Holy Spirit.
- anointed one
  - son of David
  - great carpenter
  - holy one
8. A man of prayer like Jesus, King David wrote \_\_\_\_\_.
- letters to his people about the love of God
  - many psalms sung today for the Responsorial Psalm in Mass
  - many prophets about the kings of Israel
  - poems to shared with his people
9. To anoint is to place \_\_\_\_\_ on a priest, king, or prophet to mark them as chosen by God for a special purpose.
- special oil
  - a special crown
  - a white and gold tunic
  - a wreath
10. Long before Israel had a king, it was led by Moses, Joshua, and by wise \_\_\_\_\_.
- shepherds
  - musicians
  - judges and prophets
  - farmers

11. Match each option with its appropriate term.

**Options**

- (\_\_\_\_) Christ
- (\_\_\_\_) King David
- (\_\_\_\_) anoint
- (\_\_\_\_) King Saul
- (\_\_\_\_) Saint Louis IX

**Terms**

- title for Jesus who is anointed by God as Messiah
- first king of Israel, who lost favor with God through his disobedience
- to use oil to mark someone as chosen by God for a special purpose
- king of Israel whose descendant would rule forever
- generous French king who tried to rule as Jesus would

12. What kind of king was King David?

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13. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.

The Church celebrates the Feast of Christ the King on the Sunday before the First \_\_\_\_\_.

14. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.

"\_\_\_\_\_" is a title for Jesus which means the one anointed by God as our Messiah.

15. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.

\_\_\_\_\_, Jesse's youngest son, was a musician, poet, and shepherd of flocks in the hills and valleys near Bethlehem.

16. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.

Though he didn't agree that a kingship was right for Israel, the prophet Samuel anointed \_\_\_\_\_ as the first king, at God's direction.

17. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.

Good leaders are good \_\_\_\_\_ who can give direction, protect us, and change directions to get us where we need to go.

18. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.

"I will appoint for you \_\_\_\_\_ after my own heart," states Jeremiah 3:15, assuring us that God will send us good and holy leaders.

19. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.

When \_\_\_\_\_ died, Joshua led the Israelites into battle against the tribes of Canaan to claim the land God promised.

20. Fill in the blank in the sentence below.

In biblical times, priests, kings, and others were \_\_\_\_\_, or marked with blessed oil, since they were chosen for a special purpose.

## Answer Key

1. As a very young man, David was anointed, or \_\_\_\_\_, by the prophet Samuel because God had chosen him as king of Israel.
  - a. given Scripture to read aloud
  - b. marked with blessed oil
  - c. given a special sword
  - d. given a new name
2. The kingship of Jesus is so important that the Church celebrates it with a feast on \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the Third Sunday of Lent
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  - c. prayer every Sabbath

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- b. son of David
- c. great carpenter
- d. holy one

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- b. many psalms sung today for the Responsorial Psalm in Mass
- c. many prophets about the kings of Israel
- d. poems to shared with his people

9. To anoint is to place \_\_\_\_\_ on a priest, king, or prophet to mark them as chosen by God for a special purpose.

- a. special oil
- b. a special crown
- c. a white and gold tunic
- d. a wreath

10. Long before Israel had a king, it was led by Moses, Joshua, and by wise \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. shepherds
- b. musicians
- c. judges and prophets
- d. farmers

11. Match each option with its appropriate term.

- 1. 1 = title for Jesus who is anointed by God as Messiah
- 2. 2 = king of Israel whose descendant would rule forever
- 3. 3 = to use oil to mark someone as chosen by God for a special purpose
- 4. 4 = first king of Israel, who lost favor with God through his disobedience
- 5. 5 = generous French king who tried to rule as Jesus would

12. What kind of king was King David?

Answers should say that King David was the second king of Israel. David was anointed as king at a very young man. He had been a leader in King Saul's army. Though David sinned, he truly loved God and tried to serve him well. As a military leader, David united the two kingdoms - Israel and Judah. David seemed to understand God's will. David wrote many of the psalms in the Book of Psalms. God promised David that one of his descendants would

one day rule on his throne forever. That descendant would be Jesus. David trusted in God's promise and he praised God for his love and generosity.

13. The Church celebrates the Feast of Christ the King on the Sunday before the First \_\_\_\_\_.  
Sunday of Advent

14. "\_\_\_\_\_" is a title for Jesus which means the one anointed by God as our Messiah.  
Christ

15. \_\_\_\_\_, Jesse's youngest son, was a musician, poet, and shepherd of flocks in the hills and valleys near Bethlehem.  
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shepherds

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Moses

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anointed