

Faith Lesson Plan and Faith Activity

Signs of Grace Session 4 - The Church Continues

Grade 2

Doctrinal Content

- The Church is how God reveals and fulfills his plan of salvation.
- The Church and its Sacraments manifest the mystery of salvation through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
- The Seven Sacraments are special signs and celebrations that Jesus gave his Church that allow us to share in God's life and work.
- Jesus continues to share his life and love with us in the Sacraments.
- Baptism, the first Sacrament we received, makes a person a child of God and member of the Church, taking away Original Sin and all personal sin.
- The Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist—celebrate our beginning, and membership in the Catholic Church.
- (CCC 748-780; 1113-1134; 1213-1284)

Objectives

- Jesus establishes the Church to continue his mission on earth.
- Jesus gave his Church the Seven Sacraments. Jesus continues to share his life with us through the Sacraments.
- Through Baptism we die to our sins and rise to a new life in Christ.
- Baptism makes us part of God's family and sharers in Christ's saving mission.

Let Us Pray

Make the sign of the cross.

Say: Dear Jesus, I love you. Thank you for the gift of the Church. Thank you for the gift of your grace. Please help me to live a holy life. Please help me to share your love with other people. I want to share in your saving mission. Amen. (*Student guide page 47*)

Pray the Act of Contrition

Make the sign of the cross.

Memory Verse Review

Encourage each child to recite from memory the verse from last week. Give a reward when appropriate effort is given to reciting the memory verse.

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.” (John 10:27)

New Memory Verse (*Student guide page 57*)

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation.” (Mark 16:15)

Saint of the Day

Pope Saint John Paul II (1920-2005)

Feast Day Oct 22nd

Patron of Families and World Youth Day (*Student guide page 57*)

- From Wadowice, Poland was born Karol Wojtyla. Karol experienced much suffering from a young age. His mother died when he was still a little boy. He had an older brother who was a doctor and he passed away a few years after his mother. When he was still a young man, his father also passed away. He lived in Poland during WWII and the Soviet occupation which meant that it was very dangerous and illegal to practice the Catholic faith.
- Karol did not let the sad circumstances of his youth bring him down. Instead, he drew closer to Jesus and Mary. He faithfully practiced his faith. He was a talented actor, loved skiing, and playing soccer. As a young man, he heard Jesus calling him to be a priest.
- As a priest he would take young people hiking and camping and teach them to pray and think about heaven. He would even celebrate Mass outside on their trips. He went from being a Priest to Bishop to Cardinal to Pope. When he became Pope, he took the name John Paul II.
- While he was Pope, he wanted all young people, and everyone in the church, to move closer to Jesus so they could find true happiness in their lives. He started World Youth Day so that he could meet with millions of young people from around the world and share the love of Jesus with them.

Display the following.



Say: Has anyone ever asked you to help them do something really important? Was it exciting to be involved? When Jesus ascended into Heaven after his resurrection, he told his apostles to continue his mission of teaching, healing, and forgiving sins. In fact, Jesus's saving mission is so important that he asks all of us to be a part of it. Everyone who is part of the Church shares in Jesus's mission.

Let's Watch

Say: Jesus loves you so much. But how can we know that he loves us? How does he reach us? Let's watch a short video to learn about how Jesus does this.

Watch: The Sacraments: God is Here with Us (2:39)

<https://watch.formed.org/signs-of-grace/season:1/videos/you-are-forgiven-ep-4>

Ask & Say: (encourage the Children to answer)

How do the Sacraments make God's love real in our lives? *It is how Jesus reaches out to us today by making invisible things visible. The sacramental signs make real for us how God is loving and saving us.*

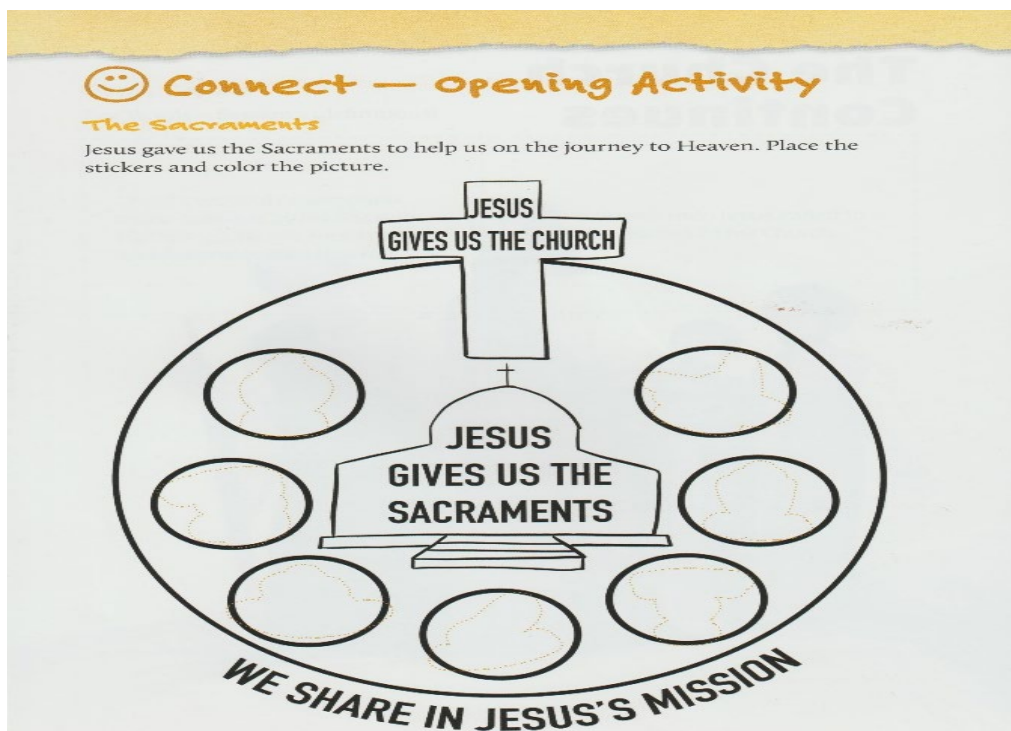
What happens in the sacrament of Reconciliation when the priest says your sins are forgiven? *You are cleansed of your sins. Your sins are really forgiven.*

Let's Connect (Student Activity Book Lesson 4)

****Open your Student Activity book to the session four connect-opening activity. Place stickers (found on a separate page) for the seven sacraments in the correct places on the activity page.**

Say: Jesus gave us the Seven Sacraments to show his love and help us on our journey to heaven. Let's have some fun as we remember the Seven Sacraments.

Display the Following



Say: See how we share the mission of Jesus. He gave us the Church and the Seven Sacraments to help us.

Let's Learn About Our Faith *(Student Guide page 50-52)*

Ask: Who remembers from last week why Jesus became man and came to live with us on earth? *Remember, Jesus' mission on earth was to save us from our sins. His death and resurrection freed us from the power of sin and death.*

Say: In the Old Covenant, before Jesus, God made his Chosen People part of his family. When Jesus came, he established a **NEW COVENANT** to invite everyone back into God's family. Through the New Covenant, Jesus restores our friendship with God and makes it possible for us to live forever with him in Heaven.

In order to invite every person to enter into the New Covenant, Jesus established the Church. The Church continues Jesus's saving mission of love and forgiveness. Jesus chose 12 Apostles to lead the Church after he ascended into Heaven. He chose Peter to be the leader of the Apostles and the first Pope.

During his life on earth, Jesus showed his love by forgiving sins, teaching people about God's love, and healing people. After he ascended into Heaven, he gave his Church the Seven Sacraments. Today, Jesus continues to share his life and love through his Sacraments.

What is a Sacrament exactly? It is an outward sign (something you can see) instituted by Christ to give us **GRACE**. Grace is a special gift from God- through grace, God shares his own life with us. In each of the Sacraments, we hear the words being said and the visible sign of the sacrament. So, for example, with Baptism we hear the words said by the priest or deacon and we see the water being poured over the person's head. This outward sign communicates or shows us God's invisible gift of grace to us that we are washed clean of our sin.

Remember that the first Sacrament we receive is **BAPTISM**. In Baptism, we die to our sins, just as Jesus died on the cross. Then we are raised up to a new life in Christ, just as Jesus rose from the dead. The grace we receive in Baptism is not something that we earn or deserve but is a gift of God's love. This is one reason the Church offers the Sacrament of Baptism to children. Baptism frees us from Original Sin and any other sins we may have committed before being Baptized. It fixes our broken relationship with God that we inherited from Adam and Eve. In Baptism, we become temples of the Holy Spirit who comes to live in our souls. We are made members of God's family, the Church, and receive the gift of salvation.

Ask: Have you ever been to a Baptism? What was it like? What did you see and hear? *(Encourage the children to answer)*

How many Sacraments are there? *Seven*

Why did Jesus give us the Sacraments? *Jesus gave us the Sacraments through his Church so that he could continue to share his life and love with us after he ascended into Heaven. The Sacraments give us grace which lets us share in God's own life.*

Key Words

New Covenant: The new and eternal covenant established through Jesus' death and resurrection to invite everyone back into God's family and make it possible for us to live forever in Heaven with him.

Grace: A special gift from God through which God shares his own life with us.

Baptism: The first Sacrament that initiates us into the Christian life; it washes away our sins, gives us sanctifying grace, and makes us members of God's family, the Church.

Did You Know? (Student guide page 53-54)

Display and Read the following

Did You Know?

The Seven Sacraments

When each sacrament is celebrated it gives us the grace belonging to that sacrament. It produces fruit in us if we are prepared to receive these graces.

Sacraments of Initiation

(These make us part of the Church)

Name	Outward sign	Effect
Baptism	Pouring water on the head or immersing in water	Forgiveness of our sins and new life in Christ
Confirmation*	Anointing with Chrism Oil	Strengthening of the Holy Spirit
Eucharist	Bread and Wine	Nourished with Jesus's Body and Blood for transformation in Christ

Sacraments of Healing

(These heal our souls)

Name	Outward sign	Effect
Reconciliation (Penance)	Repentance, Confession of Sins, Penance	The forgiveness of sins
Anointing of the Sick	Anointing with the Oil of the Sick	Strengthening a person to prepare for death or a serious illness

Sacraments of Service

(These help us serve God and his Church)

Name	Outward sign	Effect
Holy Orders	Laying on of hands by a bishop	A man is ordained as a deacon, priest, or bishop
Matrimony (Marriage)	Vows of husband and wife	Joined in a lifelong union

Key Words

Sacraments of Initiation

The three sacraments that make us part of God's family, the Church: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

Sacraments of Healing

The two sacraments that heal our souls: Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick.

Sacraments of Service

The two sacraments that help us serve God and his Church: Matrimony (marriage) and Holy Orders (the priesthood).

* In the Roman Catholic Church, Confirmation is usually received after First Holy Communion (in the case of those who received Baptism as infants). Some dioceses have restored the order of the sacraments so that Confirmation is received before First Holy Communion, and in the Eastern Catholic Churches Confirmation and First Communion are received immediately after Baptism.

Say: See how each of the Seven Sacraments has something we can see or feel or hear that shows us what the sacrament is doing in an invisible way?

Ask: What is the outward sign for Reconciliation? *Repentance/being sorry for your sins, Confession/saying your sins, doing your penance.*

What is the invisible thing that is happening in the sacrament? *Our sins are forgiven.*

What is the outward sign of the Eucharist? *Bread and Wine*

What is the invisible thing that is happening in the sacrament? *We eat Jesus's Body and Blood which makes us more like Jesus*

Display and Read the following

Key Words
Sanctifying Grace
The gift of God's own divine life in us that makes us holy.

Actual Grace
God's gift to help us in each moment to love God and make the right choices.

Did You Know?

Grace
We receive two kinds of grace in the sacraments: **sanctifying grace** and **actual grace**.

Sanctifying grace is the gift of God that gives us new spiritual life. With sanctifying grace we share in God's own divine life. To "sanctify" means to make holy. Sanctifying grace makes us holy.

Actual grace is the gift of God that helps us to choose good instead of evil. In every moment of our lives, actual grace helps us follow God's laws and live as members of his family.

How to Baptize
Normally a priest or deacon celebrates the Sacrament of Baptism in a church. However, in the case of an emergency, anyone can perform a Baptism. The person baptizing needs to have the intention of doing what the Church does. He or she must pour water over the other person's head while saying, "**Name**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Say: Here is one way remember the difference between **ACTUAL GRACE** and **SANCTIFYING GRACE**. Actual grace helps us to act. Actual = Act. It is the strength that God gives us to act according to his will. Sanctifying grace is a state in which God allows us to share in his life and love. This grace comes to us first in baptism and then in the other sacraments.

Key Words

Sacraments of Initiation: The 3 sacraments that make us part of God's family, the Church: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Sacraments of Healing: The 2 sacraments that heal our souls: Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.

Sacraments of Service: The 2 sacraments that help us to serve God and his Church: Matrimony (marriage) and Holy Orders (the priesthood).

Sanctifying Grace: The gift of God's own divine life in us that makes us holy.

Actual Grace: God's gift to help us in each moment to love God and make the right choices.

Let's Live It (*Student Activity Book Lesson 4*)

Display the Following

Let's Live It

Jesus's Mission – Our Mission!
Use the Word Bank to fill in the missing words in each sentence to reveal how we share in Jesus's mission.

Jesus came into the world to save us from sin, and he gave us the Church as his _____ on earth. He called _____ and the _____ to lead the Church after he went to Heaven. Jesus wants all the world to be part of God's family, the _____.

Today, the Church gives us the seven _____. The sacraments make us part of God's family and give us _____ to be holy. Our _____ is to bring God's love to others and welcome the whole world into God's family!

WORD BANK

Peter	Kingdom
Church	Grace
Mission	Apostles
Sacraments	

Jesus Said,
"You are the light of the world."
—Matthew 5:14

Say: Open your Student Activity Books so we can complete the work page together.

Read the Paragraph together and fill in the blanks on the board. If time allows, have the children answer the question on the next page "My Mission" by drawing a picture in the box.

Do you recall the memory verse?

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation." (Mark 16:15)

Faith Activity- “Which Sacrament is it” game in the Multi-Room

Sort the children into teams of 2-3 children. Scatter the sets of Sacrament symbols around the multi-room. Tell the children to go to the symbol that answers the questions found below (there may be multiple) as quickly as possible and bring it back to you. If they are correct, ask them to put the symbol back out on the floor, then ask them the next question. Let the teams work their way through all the questions or until you run out of time. Candy Reward?

1. Which is the first sacrament most Catholics receive as babies? (Baptism)
2. In which sacrament are we sealed with or receive the strength of the Holy Spirit? (Confirmation)
3. In which sacrament do we tell God we are sorry for hurting Him? (Reconciliation)
4. Which sacrament do you get when you are old or sick? (Anointing of the sick)
5. Which Sacrament makes you a deacon, priest, or bishop? (Holy Orders)
6. In which Sacrament do we receive Jesus body, blood, soul, and divinity? (Eucharist)
7. Which Sacrament makes a man and woman a family? (Matrimony)
8. Which 3 Sacraments are the Sacraments of Initiation? (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation)
9. Which 2 Sacraments do you usually receive again and again on a regular basis? (Eucharist and Reconciliation)
10. Which Sacrament do you need water for? (Baptism)
11. Which Sacrament usually uses a ring for its symbol? (Matrimony)
12. In which sacrament do men serve God and the Church? (Holy Orders)
13. Which sacrament has the sacramental or outward sign of bread and wine? (Eucharist)