

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

# WE ARE CALLED



# INTO COMMUNITY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - GRADE SIX

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Nihil Obstat:

Fr. John McCarthy SVD

Imprimatur:

Rev. Bishop Gerard J. Deschamps SMM

Prepared by :

- \* Commission for Christian Education  
Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands
- \* Sr. Helen Warman OLSH, Alotau
- \* Teachers of Catholic Schools in Alotau
- \* Christian Education Coordinators

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*Sr. Ehrentrude Pretzl SSpS, Coordinator*

## 1. OUR JOURNEY WITH GOD

In the Bible we read of stories how people experienced God being on the journey with them.

Early the next morning Abraham cut some wood for the sacrifice, loaded his donkey, and took Isaac and two servants with him. They started out for the place that God had told him about. Gen 22:3

Then Jacob made a vow to the LORD: "If you will be with me and protect me on the journey I am making and give me food and clothing, and if I return safely to my father's home, then you will be my God. Gen 28:20-21

During all their wanderings they could see the cloud of the LORD's presence over the Tent during the day and a fire burning above it during the night. Ex 40:38

There by the Ahava Canal I gave orders for us all to fast and humble ourselves before our God and to ask him to lead us on our journey and protect us and our children and all our possessions. Ezra 8:21

They said to him, "Please ask God if we are going to be successful on our journey." The priest answered, "You have nothing to worry about. The LORD is taking care of you on this journey." Judges 18:5-6

**God  
is always with us.**

**The new school year is a new stage in our journey.**

### **Song:**

We are companions of the journey, breaking bread and sharing life,  
and in the love we bear is the hope we share, f  
or we believe in the love of our God.

No longer strangers to each other, no longer strangers in God's house.

We are fed and we are nourished by the strength of those who care.

We have been gifted with each other, and we are called by the word of the Lord,  
to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with our God.

We will seek and we shall find, we will knock and the door will be opened.

We will ask and it shall be given, for we believe in the love of our God.

*Lord, be with us on our journey.*



## **2. THE TRINITY IS THE PERFECT COMMUNITY**

The Trinity, the one true God, is a community of Persons. God calls us his children, to share in the life and joy of this perfect community.

**"I will ask the Father and he will give you another Helper, who will stay with you forever." The helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and make you remember all that I have told you. My Father will love them, and my Father and I will come to them and live with them."**  
Jn 14:16, 26, 23b;

**It is the Father who gives life, the Son who became man to redeem us, and the Holy Spirit who comes from the Father and the Son to make us holy.**

**"When, however, the Spirit comes, who reveals the truth about God, he will lead you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own authority, but he will speak of what he hears. And will tell you of things to come. He will give me glory, because he will take what I say and tell it to you. All that my Father has is mine; that is why I said that the Spirit will take what I give him and tell it to you."**  
Jn 16:13-15

**"The Helper will come – the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God and who comes from the Father. I will send him to you from the Father, and he will speak about me." Jn 15:26**

***I will try to make the community/family I live in, more like the Trinity.***



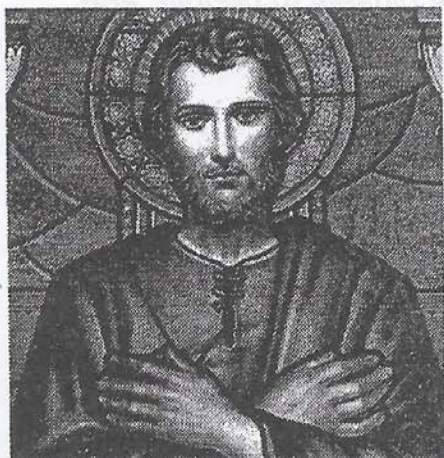
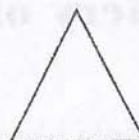
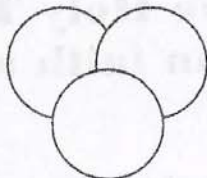


### 3. THE HOLY TRINITY

The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith and of Christian life. God alone can make it known to us by revealing himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We use symbols to express in some way what we believe about the Trinity.

#### Symbols of the Trinity



#### Story: Augustine and the Trinity

One day a small boy was digging a hole in the sand by the sea. He had a shell and began taking the water from the sea and putting it into the hole. Walking up and down along the beach, thinking very hard, was the great Bishop Augustine. He was trying to understand the mystery of the Trinity -Three Persons; Father, Son, Spirit but only One God. How could it be? Suddenly he noticed the small boy running backwards and forwards from the sea to the hole. Augustine stopped and asked the small boy what he was doing. The boy replied, "I am

emptying all the water from the sea into this hole." "Oh, you can never do that," laughed the great Augustine. "If I can never do that," the small boy replied, "you will never understand how there can be Three Persons in the One God." Augustine realized God was giving him an important lesson. There are some things we cannot understand. We must have faith.

The Trinity is a mystery revealed to us by Jesus. It is too great for us to understand, however, we are baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and in faith we share in the life of the Trinity.

What is the Trinity?

**THE TRINITY IS GOD, FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT.**

**I will honour the Trinity each time I make the sign of the cross.**



#### **4. IN THE CREED WE PROFESS OUR FAITH IN THE TRINITY**

**Each time I make the Sign of the Cross, I am calling on the Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit.**

**“The mystery of the Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life.”**

*The whole history of salvation shows the way and the means how the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, reveals himself to people “and reconciles and unites with himself those who turn away from sin.”*

THERE IS ONE  
GOD. GOD IS  
FATHER, SON AND  
HOLY SPIRIT.  
THEY ARE A  
COMMUNITY OF  
LOVE.

**I believe in God the Father,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God’s only Son, our Lord.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit.**



## 5. CREATION IS A REFLECTION OF THE TRINITY

God created all things to depend upon each other. Nothing in God's creation can exist by itself. They complete and serve each other. (Birds need air, fish need water, plants need soil, animals need plants...)



**"I have provided all kinds of grain and all kinds of fruit for you to eat; but for all the wild animals and for all the birds I have provided grass and leafy plants for food" – and it was done." Gen. 1:29-30**

*The order and harmony in creation comes from the relationship that exists among all things that God has created. This harmony and relationship reflects the harmony and relationship that exists between Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*



**"O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder consider all the works your hands have made....."**

**I will become more aware of my own relationship with the rest of creation.**



2. (4) What does the interdependence of all things in creation reflect?  
**The interdependence of all things in creation reflects the unity and harmony between Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**



## 6. HARMONY IN THE BEGINNING

When God created the world it was good. He had a plan. There was harmony between God and human beings, between man and woman, between human beings and the rest of creation. This harmony would continue as long as we followed God's plan.



Genesis 1:26-31a

"Then God said, 'And now we will make human beings; they will be like us and resemble us. They will have power over the fish, the birds and all the animals, domestic and wild, large and small.' So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female, blessed them, and said, 'Have many children, so that your descendants will live all over the earth and bring it under their control. I am putting you in charge of the fish, the birds, and all the wild animals. I have provided all kinds of grain and all kinds of fruit for you to eat; but for all the wild animals and for all the birds I have provided grass and leafy plants for food' -- and it was done." God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased."

Psalms 104:1a and 24

"Praise the Lord my soul! O Lord, my God, how great you are!  
Lord, you have made so many things! How wisely you made  
them all! The earth is filled with your creatures."

The beauty and harmony of creation ought to inspire my respect for God and obedience

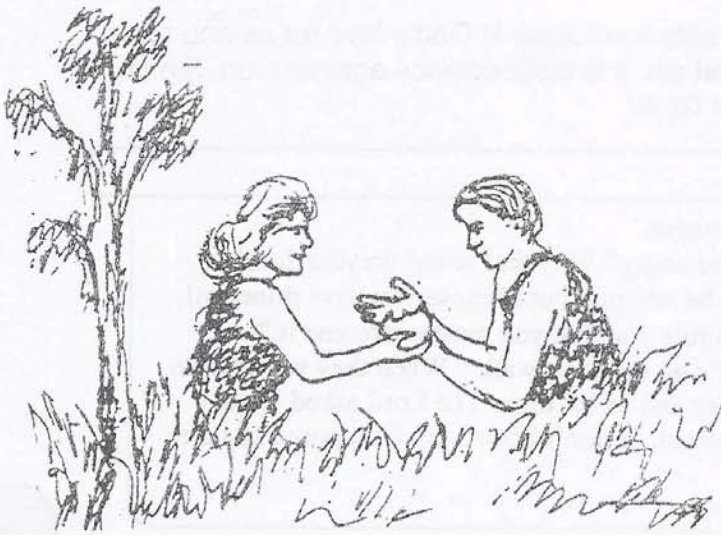
I will try to maintain harmony by following God's plan.

(5) What was everything in the world like when God created it?

**When God created the world there was harmony between God and human beings, between man and woman, between human beings and the rest of creation.**



## 7. HARMONY IS DESTROYED



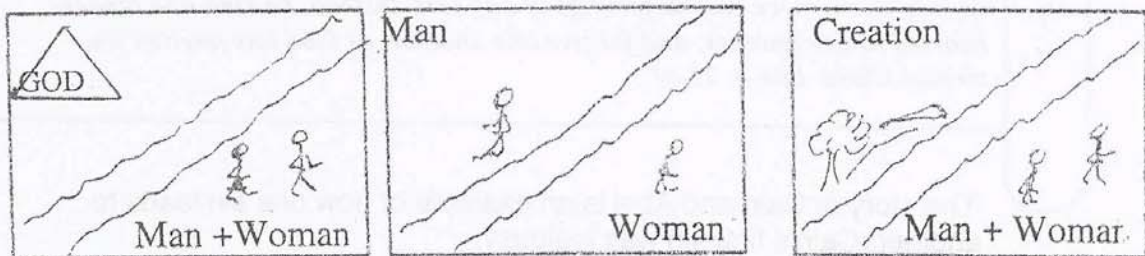
"God created human beings in his image and established him in his friendship. Human beings can live this friendship only when they obey God. The command not to eat "of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil" spells this out: "for in the day that you eat of it, you shall die."

The story of the **Fall** tells of the refusal of God's creatures to obey God, their Creator.

Read Gen. 3:8-13,16-19.

God created all things in perfect harmony. Man and woman created in the image of God lived in friendship with God. All this changed when man and woman disobeyed God.

We call this first disobedience **ORIGINAL SIN**.



The friendship and harmony between God and people and the rest of creation was destroyed.

**Disobedience destroys harmony.**

4. (6) What was lost by original sin?

**By original sin the friendship and harmony between God and people and the rest of creation was destroyed.**



## 8. SIN CAUSES DISHARMONY

"Sin is an offence against God: Sin sets itself against God's love for us and turns our hearts away from it. Like the first sin, it is disobedience against God. Sin is "love of oneself even to contempt of God."

Cain became furious, and he scowled in anger.

Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why that scowl on your face? If you had done the right thing, you would be smiling; but because you have done evil, sin is crouching at your door. It wants to rule you, but you must overcome it."

Then Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out for a walk." When they were out in the countryside, Cain turned to his brother and killed him. The Lord asked Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" He answered, "I don't know. Am I supposed to take care of my brother?" Gen. 4:5b-9

*"No more lying, then! Each of you must tell the truth to each of the other believers, because we are all members together in the body of Christ. If you become angry, do not let your anger lead you into sin, and do not stay angry all day. Don't give the Devil a chance. If you used to rob you must stop robbing and start working, in order to earn an honest living for yourself and to be able to help the poor. Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you. And do not make God's Holy Spirit sad; for the Spirit is God's mark of ownership on you, a guarantee that the day will come when God will set you free. Get rid of all bitterness, passion and anger. No more shouting or insults, no more hateful feelings of any sort. Instead, be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you through Christ. Eph. 4: 25-31*

The story of Cain and Abel is an example of how one sin leads to another. Cain's first sin was jealousy.

Cain's sin began in his heart. He felt jealous and angry. God in his love warned him, but Cain did not listen.

For us too, sin starts in our heart. We have to be attentive to the warning, God in his love gives us. We can never say, "This is only a little sin." We have to say "No" to sin from the start. A sin often leads to another.

5. (7) What happens when we sin? **When we sin we reject God's love.**



## 9. DISUNITY - THE TOWER OF BABEL



"At first the people of the whole world had only one language and used the same words. As they wandered about in the East, they came to a plain in Babylonia and settled there. They said to one another, "Come on! Let's make bricks and bake them hard." So they had bricks to build with and tar to hold them together. They said, "now let's build a city with a tower that reaches the sky, so that we can make a name for ourselves and not be scattered all over the earth."

Then the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which they had built, and he said, "Now then, these are all one people and they speak one language; this is just the beginning of what they are going to do. Soon they will be able to do

anything they want! Let us go down and mix up their language so that they will not understand each other." So the Lord scattered them all over the earth, and they stopped building the city. The city was called Babylon, because there the Lord mixed up the language of all the people, and from there he scattered them all over the earth." Genesis 11:1-9

**The people of Babel wanted to do things on their own, without God, so they started quarreling and did not understand each other any longer. They separated and created disunity.**

Sin is the root of divisions and war. Sin separates us from God, nature, others, other groups of people (nations).

People (we) are trapped in sin. This sad 'state' or situation is the consequence of "original sin".

Original sin opened the door to evil in the world. It affects the whole human race. Because of Original Sins we do not share in God's life when we are born.

**Only Jesus Christ can save us.**

Faith and Baptism gives Christians the power to overcome sin and live a new life in Christ.



## 10. JEALOUSY CAUSES DISUNITY

Gen. 37: 2b-11

Joseph took care of the sheep and goats with his brothers. He brought bad report to his father about what their brothers were doing. Jacob loved Joseph more than his other sons. He made a long robe with full sleeves for him. When his brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than he love them, they hated their brother so much that they would not speak to him in a friendly manner.

One night Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it they hated him even more.....

Joseph had another dream and told his brothers about it. "I saw the sun, the moon, and eleven stars bowing down to me."

His father scolded him: "What kind of dream is that? Do you think that your mother, your brothers and I are going to come and bow down to you?"

Joseph's brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept thinking about the whole matter.



Joseph's brothers could not accept the fact that their father loved Joseph very much. They were jealous of him.

**Jealousy is the  
root of many sins .**

- in families, communities,  
villages, in our country,  
in the world. When we  
feel jealous, we have to

fight against it. A good way to  
do this is to say something

good about the person, do something good

for him / her or pray for that person.

*I will pray for someone of whom I have been jealous.*

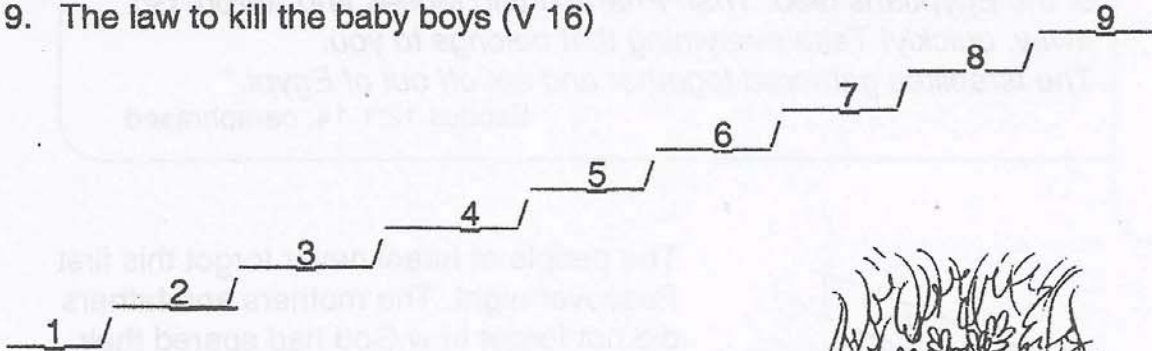


## 11. GOD HIMSELF RESTORES UNITY

The experience of Jacob's descendants in Egypt.

### A time chart of the Israelites in Egypt

1. Joseph in Egypt (Ex. 1:5b) (Ex. 1)
2. Jacob and his sons go to Egypt (Ex. 1: 1-4)
3. Jacob and his sons die (V 6)
4. Their descendants increase and become strong (V 7b)
5. They spread all over Egypt (V 7b)
6. The Egyptians come to fear them (V 9)
7. The Israelites are made into slaves (V 11)
8. The work got harder and the masters more cruel (V 14)
9. The law to kill the baby boys (V 16)



*"The angel of the Lord appeared to Moses as a flame coming from the middle of the bush. Moses saw that the bush was on fire but that it was not burning up...."Why isn't the bush burning up? I will go closer and see." When the Lord saw that Moses was coming closer, he called to him from the middle of the bush and said, Moses! Moses! He answered, "Yes! Here I am!" God said, "Do not come closer. Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."....Then God said, "I have seen how cruelly my people are being treated in Egypt. I have heard them cry out to be rescued from their slave drivers. I know all about their sufferings, and so I have come down to rescue them from the Egyptians.....Now I am sending you to the king of Egypt so that you can lead my people out of this country." Ex 3: 2-10*



**"I will never forget you, my people."**

*I believe that God cares about all that happens in my life.*



## 12. PASSOVER

### The First Passover:

*"Then God said to Moses: Today, this very night, Pharaoh will let you go. Make yourselves ready to set out. Each family must slaughter a lamb. You must smear a sign on the door posts with its blood. Put on sandals. Take a staff in your hand. Eat hastily and leave nothing over. This night all the first-born sons of the Egyptians will die. But the Angel of Death will pass over your houses, which have been marked by the blood of the lamb. Everything happened just as God had said. The first-born sons of the Egyptians died. Then Pharaoh told Moses and Aaron: Go away, quickly! Take everything that belongs to you. The Israelites gathered together and set off out of Egypt."*

Exodus 12:1-14, paraphrased



The people of Israel never forgot this first Passover night. The mothers and fathers did not forget how God had spared their own first-born sons. Since then they have always brought God an offering after the birth of their first-born son. Each year they still celebrate the Passover, the feast of the Exodus, and they explain it to their children like this:

**"By using great power the Lord brought us out of Egypt, the place where we were slaves." (EX 13:14)**

**The Passover is a sign of the sacrifice of Jesus, the lamb of God. We are saved through his blood.**

*I will try to be grateful for everything, especially to Jesus for saving me through his blood.*



### 13. FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM

The Lord told his people he would take them from the slavery of Egypt to freedom, but as soon as trouble came, the people complained. Moses believed and trusted in God. He told the people, "Don't be afraid, the Lord will fight for you." In this event God clearly showed that it was He who brought the Israelites from slavery to freedom. They were not saved by any effort of their own.



	<u>Complaint</u>	<u>Action</u>
<u>Egyptians:...</u>	The Lord is fighting against us. Ex 14:25	Let's get out of here. Ex 14:25
<u>Israelites:</u>	Did you have to bring us out here? Ex 14:11	They cried to the Lord for help. Ex 14:10b
<u>Moses:</u>	-----	Stand your ground. Ex. 14:13



***"YOU ARE MY  
DEFENDER AND  
PROTECTOR. YOU  
ARE MY GOD, IN YOU  
I TRUST."***

Ps 91:2



## 14. THE LAW IS GIVEN

Laws are necessary if people are to have order and harmony in life.



God had brought his people from the slavery of Egypt through the Red Sea to freedom. Now he wanted to make them into a strong united people. To do this he gave them a set of laws.

### THE TEN COMMANDMENTS:

1. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
2. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day.
3. Honour your father and mother.
4. You shall not kill.
5. I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
9. You shall not covet you neighbour's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbour's goods.

*"You saw what I, the Lord, did to the Egyptians and how I carried you as an eagle carries her young on her wings, and brought you here to me. Now, if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own people." Exodus 19:4-5a.*

When PNG became independent, our Constitution, a law for the people in the country to follow, was drawn up.

The Ten Commandments were the Constitution of God's people.

Today we are God's people and the Ten Commandments are still laws for us to observe.

*I will continue to obey God's Law as it is given in the Ten Commandments.*



## **15. THE LAW IS GIVEN FOR A PURPOSE**

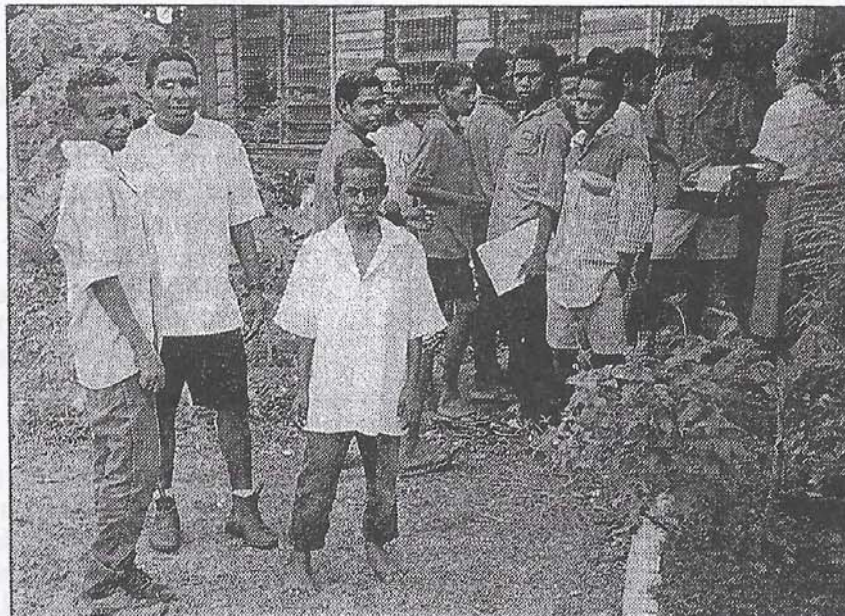
**Laws bring order and harmony into our lives.**

*"Go back, Moses, and listen to everything that the Lord our God says. Then return and tell us what he said to you. We will listen and obey.' When the Lord heard this he said to me, 'I have heard what these people said, and they are right.*

***If only they would always feel this way! If only they would always honour me and obey all my commands, so that everything would go well with them and their descendants forever.***

*"Go and tell them to return to their tents. But you, Moses, stay here with me, and I will give you all my laws and commands. Teach them to the people, so that they will obey them in the land that I am giving them.'*

*"People of Israel, be sure that you do everything that the Lord your God has commanded you. Do not disobey any of his laws. Obey them all so that everything will go well with you and so that you will continue to live in the land that you are going to occupy." Deut. 5: 27-33*



**WE WILL LISTEN AND OBEY.**

Deut. 5:27



## 16. THE LAW IS FOR LIFE

"Today I am giving you a choice between good and evil, between life and death. If you obey the commands of the Lord your God, which I give you today, if you love him, obey him, and keep all his laws, then you will prosper and become a nation of many people. The Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are about to occupy. But if you disobey and refuse to listen, and are led away to worship other gods, you will be destroyed - I warn you here and now. You will not live long in that land across the Jordan that you are about to occupy. **I am now giving you the choice between life and death, between God's blessing and God's curse,** and I call heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. **Choose life. Love the Lord your God, obey him and be faithful to him, and then, you and your descendants will live long in the land that he promised to give your ancestors, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.**" Deut. 30:15-20

### "CHOOSE LIFE !" (Deut. 30:19)

<b>GOOD</b> <b>Life</b> - love - obey - keep his laws	<b>EVIL</b> <b>Death</b> - disobey - refuse to listen - worship other gods
<u>What will happen ?</u> - prosper - become a nation - receive God's blessing	<u>What will happen?</u> - be destroyed - not live long in the land - God's curse



God greatly desired that all would go well for his people. For this reason he gave them the laws. He also gave them the freedom to choose what they wanted. Whatever their choice, there would be consequences.

To choose to love him and obey his laws, would mean life.  
To choose not to listen and disobey would mean death.  
We often have to make a choice between good and evil. I will choose what is good.

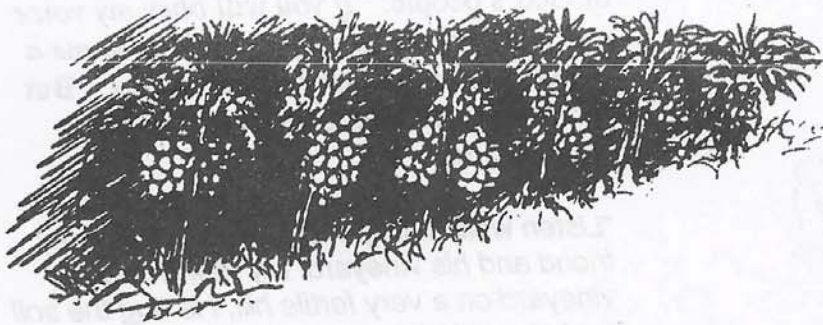
6. (15) What choice did God give to his people?

**God gave his people the choice between good and evil, between life and death.**



## 17. THE LAW GUIDES US

"Near King Ahab's palace there was a vineyard owned by Naboth. One day Ahab



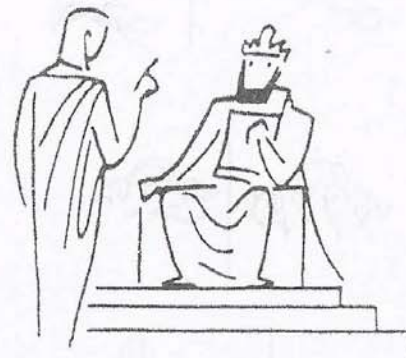
said to Naboth, "let me have your vineyard.....I want to use the land ..."  
Naboth replied, "The Lord forbid that I should let you have it". Ahab went home, depressed and angry. Jezebel, his

wife, ordered Naboth to be killed. As soon as she received the message that Naboth was killed, she told Ahab, "Naboth is dead." At once Ahab went to the vineyard to take possession of it.

Then the Lord said to the prophet Elijah, "Go to King Ahab. ...Tell him that I, the Lord, say to him, 'After murdering the man, are you taking over his property as well? ...You have devoted yourself completely to doing what is wrong in the Lord's sight.'"

When Elijah finished speaking, Ahab tore his clothes, took them off, and put on sackcloth. He refused food, slept in the sackcloth, and went about gloomy and depressed.

The Lord said to Elijah, "Have you noticed how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Since he has done this, I will not bring disaster on him." 1Kg. 21:1-10, 15-20, 27-29a.



It is good to have desires, hopes and plans for the future. The achieving of our good desires brings development for ourselves and others. There are desires that help others and desires that just concern self. They motivate us to work for what we want to achieve. **Our plans, hopes and desires must always respect others and consider their rights.**

**The Commandments are meant to guide us in the achieving of our hopes and plans.**

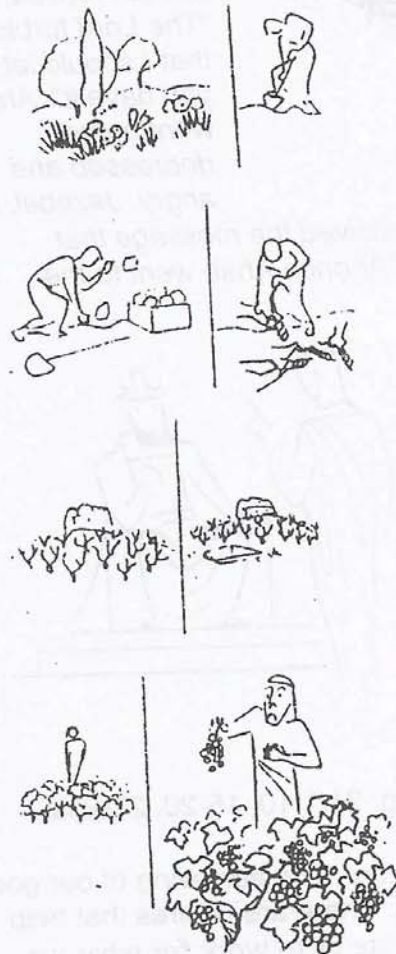
**"Explain your law to me, and I will obey it; I will keep it with all my heart. I will look carefully at my plans and desires." Ps 119:34**





## 18. GOD'S PEOPLE DID NOT FOLLOW THE LAW

The law, the sign of God's promise and covenant, ought to have governed the hearts of God's people. *"If you will obey my voice and keep my covenant you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."* But Israel wanted to become a kingdom like other nations.



*"Listen while I sing this song, a song of my friend and his vineyard: My friend had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug the soil and cleared it of stones; he planted the finest vines. He built a tower to guard them, dug a pit for treading the grapes. He waited for the grapes to ripen, but every grape was sour. So now my friend says, 'You people who live in Jerusalem and Juda, judge between my vineyard and me. Is there anything I failed to do for it? Then why did it produce sour grapes and not the good grapes I expected? – This is what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge around it, break down the wall that protects it, and let wild animals eat it and trample it down. I will let it be overgrown with weeds...I will let thorns cover it. I will even forbid clouds to let rain fall on it.*

*Israel is the vineyard of the Lord Almighty; the people of Juda are the vines he planted. He expected them to do what was good, but instead they committed murder. He expected them to do what was right, but their victims cried out for justice."* Is. 5:1-7

God had a plan for his people. He brought them from the slavery of Egypt through the hardships of the desert to the promised land. God kept his promise to be their God, but they did not keep their promise to be his people. They became like the pagan people around them and caused others to suffer.

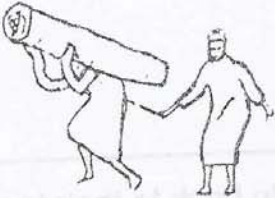





**My life produces "fruits". It's my responsibility to make them "sweet."**



## 19. THE MESSAGE OF THE PROPHETS - A

"Israel, you are like a young wife, deserted by her husband and deeply distressed. But the Lord calls you back to him and says, 'For one brief moment I left you; with deep love I will take you back. I turned away angry for only a moment, but I will show you my love forever.' So says the Lord who saves you.... The mountains and hills may crumble, but my love for you will never end. I will keep for ever my promise of peace.' So says the Lord who loves you." Is.54:6-8, 10

**The story of the Israelites in their relationship to God.**

<b>Slavery</b> 	<b>Called to God</b> 	<b>Saved - freedom, Red Sea</b> 
<b>Covenant and law, Moses</b> 	<b>Unfaithfulness, idols</b> 	<b>God's message, prophets</b> 

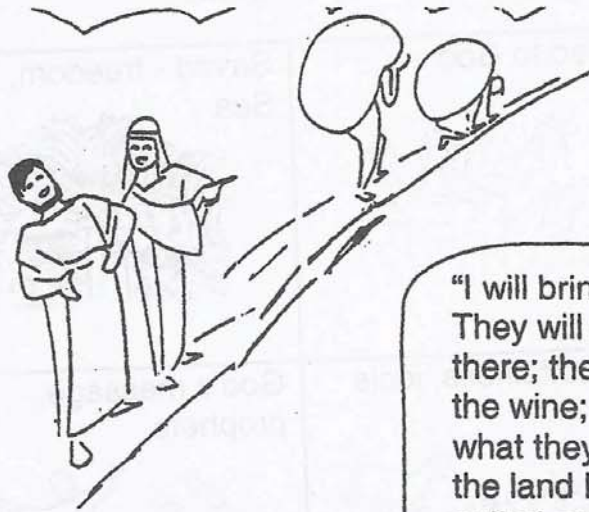
God was disappointed in his people. He had done so much for them, but they refused to recognize his goodness to them. People continued to do evil. Through the prophets God gave his message to the people. He told them to stop doing evil and do what is right and follow the law. If they did then God would bless them.

**I will respond to God's challenge to obey him.**



## 20. THE MESSAGE OF THE PROPHETS - B

**"I know how terrible your sins are and how many crimes you have committed. You persecute good people, take bribes, and prevent the poor from getting justice in the courts. And so, keeping quiet in such evil times is the clever thing to do! -Make it your aim to do what is right, not what is evil, so that you may live. Then the Lord God Almighty really will be with you, as you claim he is. Hate what is evil, love what is right, and see that justice prevails in the courts." Amos 5:12-15a .**



**"I will bring my people back to their land. They will rebuild their ruined cities and live there; they will plant vineyards and drink the wine; they will plant gardens and eat what they grow. I will plant my people on the land I gave them, and they will not be pulled up again. The Lord your God has spoken." Amos 9:14-15**

Amos criticized his people for a purpose. He wanted them to change their attitudes towards others. As God's people they had to live according to God's ways. Then truly he would be their God and they would be his people.

**We too need to change our ways and live according to God's ways. When good people criticize us, they are like the prophet Amos. They want to help us to change our attitude and live according to God's ways.**

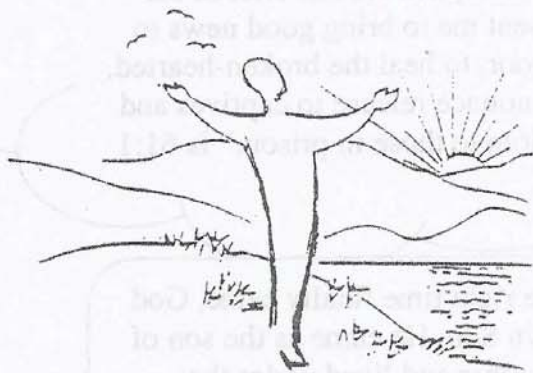
### **Memory verse:**

**"What God requires of us is this:  
to do what is just,  
to show constant love,  
and to live in humble fellowship with our God." Micah 6:8b**



## 21. ISRAEL LONGS FOR A SAVIOUR

In the course of its history, Israel was able to discover that God had only one reason to reveal himself to them, for choosing them from among all peoples as his special possession: his love. And thanks to the prophets, Israel understood that it was again out of love that God never stopped forgiving their unfaithfulness and sins.



The people were longing for the Messiah God had promised. They wanted him, they needed him, but they realized that he would come at God's own time, so they had to wait in patience and keep on hoping, as they called on the Lord to send a Saviour. Israel cried to be saved.

*"The thought of my pain, my homelessness, is bitter poison. I think of it constantly, and my spirit is depressed. Yet hope returns when I remember this one thing: **The Lord's unfailing love and mercy still continue**, fresh as the morning, as sure as the sunrise. ...So it is best for us to wait in patience – to wait for him to save us."* Lamentations 3:19-23, 26



### Song:

*Christ, come quickly, there's danger at the door, poverty a-plenty, hearts gone wild with war. There's hunger in the city and famine on the plain. Come, Lord Jesus, the light is dying, the night keeps crying: Come, Lord Jesus.*



## 22. GOD SENDS A SAVIOUR

"He will send you a prophet like me from among your own people and you are to obey him."  
Deut 18:15

"The Lord himself will give you a sign: A young woman who is pregnant will have a son and will name him 'Immanuel'. Is 7:14

"So the Lord will abandon his people to their enemies until the woman who is to give birth has her son. Then those Israelites who are in exile will be reunited with their own people." Micah 5:3

"The Sovereign Lord has filled me with his Spirit. He has chosen me and sent me to bring good news to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted, to announce release to captives and freedom to those in prison." Is 61:1

"When the right time finally came, God sent his own Son. He came as the son of a human mother and lived under the Jewish Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might become God's children." Gal:4:4-5



God made PROMISES in the OLD TESTAMENT through his Prophets. God fulfilled these PROMISES when He sent his Son, born of a woman, into the world as our Saviour.

Memory verse:

*"When the right time finally came, God sent his own Son. He came as the son of a human mother and lived under the Jewish Law." Gal 4:4*



## 23. THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

For Jesus his baptism was very important. It was the beginning of his mission. He wanted to do exactly what God had planned for him to do. He allowed himself to be numbered among sinners; he is already "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."



Mt. 3: 13 - 17.

"Jesus arrived from Galilee and came to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptized by you," John said, "and yet you have come to me!" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so for now. For in this way we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and landing on him. Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased."

Memory Verse:

*The Father said, "This is my own dear Son with whom I am pleased."* Mt.3:17b

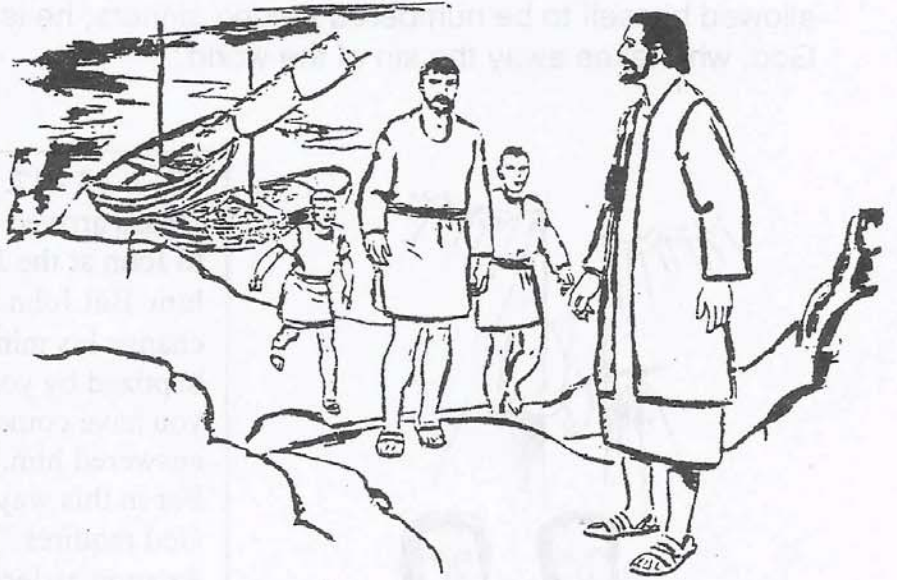
My baptism has given me the responsibility to behave as a child of God, my Father.



## 24. JESUS CHOSE HELPERS

*Then Jesus went up a hill and called to himself the men he wanted. They came to him and he chose twelve, whom he named apostles. "I have chosen you to be with me," he told them. "I will also send you out to preach, and you will have authority to drive out demons."*

*Mk. 3:13 - 15*



Jesus wanted to have helpers in doing the Father's work, so he chose the twelve and called them to be with him. Before he sent them out to preach they needed to spend time with him to learn his ways. They were to become his special friends.



Jesus' work is not finished. He still needs helpers. Each one of us is called to become his friend and helper. We too need to spend time with Jesus so that we can be his helpers.

*Every day I will spend time with Jesus.*



## 25. TEACHINGS OF JESUS --THE BEATITUDES

### True Happiness: Mt. 5: 3 - 10

"Happy are those who know they are spiritually poor; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

Happy are those who mourn; God will comfort them!

Happy are those who are humble; they will receive what God has promised.

Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires; God will satisfy them fully!

Happy are those who are merciful to others; God will be merciful to them!

Happy are the pure in heart; they will see God!

Happy are those who work for peace; God will call them his children!

Happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

Happy are you when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of evil lies against you because you are my followers. Be happy and glad, for a great reward is kept for you in heaven."

- \* Spiritually poor - know they need God's help - people of prayer.
- \* Mourn - are sorry for sin, their own and what they see in the world: war, injustice, poverty.
- \* Humble - ready to serve and help others.
- \* Merciful - ready to forgive and be kind to others.
- \* Pure in heart - not deceiving others or be jealous of what others have.
- \* Work for peace - bringing peace to family, school, play.
- \* Persecuted for doing what God requires - doing what is good and right, even when others criticize us and make fun of us.



Which of my attitudes reflect a beatitude?



## 26. THE BEATITUDES

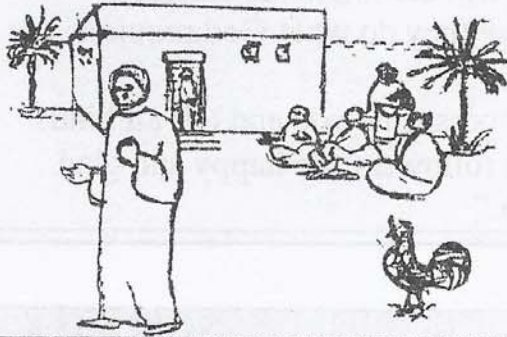
Lk. 18: 35 - 43



Lk. 15: 20 - 24



Lk. 22: 60 - 62



Lk. 16: 19 - 22a



Lk. 18: 10 - 13



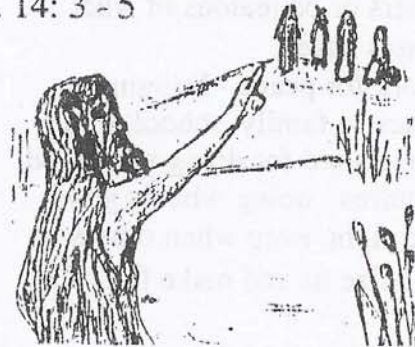
Lk. 10: 30, 33 - 35



Lk. 1: 38



Mt. 14: 3 - 5





## 27. WHAT DOES JESUS SAY ABOUT THE LAW?

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill." Mt 5:17



But I say to you!.....

*"You have heard the people were told in the past, 'Do not commit murder; anyone who does will be brought to trial.' But now I tell you: If you are angry with your brother you will be brought to trial."*  
Mt. 5: 21 -22a

*"You have heard that it was said, 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But now I tell you: do not take revenge on someone who wrongs you. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, let him slap your left cheek too."* Mt. 5:38-39

*"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your friends, hate your enemies.' But now I tell you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may become the children of your Father in heaven."* Mt.5:43-45

"From the inside, from the heart, come the evil ideas which lead you to do all sorts of evil things." Mt. 7:21



## 28. JESUS' TEACHING ON PRAYER

When Jesus prays he is already teaching us how to pray to his Father. But the Gospel also gives us Jesus' explicit teaching on prayer. Like a wise teacher he leads us towards the Father.

Lk 11:5 - 10.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Suppose one of you should go to a friend's house at midnight and say, 'Friend, let me borrow three loaves of bread. A friend of mine who is on a trip has just come to my house, and I haven't got any food for him! And suppose your friend should answer from inside, 'Don't bother me! The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' Well, what then? I tell you that even if he will not get up and give you the bread because you are his friend, yet he will get up and give you everything you need because you are not ashamed to keep on asking." And so I say to you: Ask, and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For those who ask will receive, and those who seek will find, and the door will be opened to anyone who knocks."

Jesus often spent time praying to the Father. In this Bible story Jesus teaches us to keep on praying and not to give up, even if we do not seem to get what we ask for. Prayer was very important to Jesus.

## PRAYER IS THE TIME SPENT WITH GOD



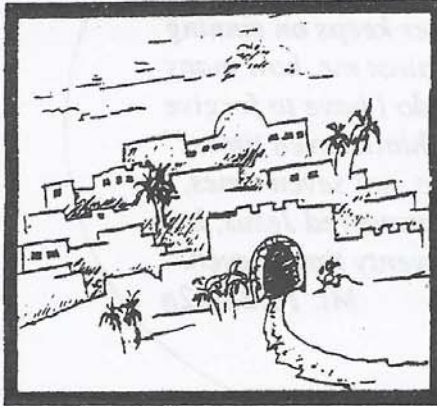
*Each day I will ask God for all I need.*



## **29. JESUS' TEACHING ON FORGIVENESS. (THE FATHER FORGIVES)**

Jesus was merciful toward sinners just as his Father was merciful toward them.

Scripture: Lk. 15: 11 - 32.



*"This son of mine was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found."*

**Jesus teaches us that God always forgives when we come back to him. Forgiving others and being forgiven involves being humble.**

**Whenever I sin I will turn to God my Father for forgiveness.**



### **30. JESUS TEACHING ON FORGIVENESS - WE HAVE TO FORGIVE**



*Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, if my brother keeps on sinning against me, how many times do I have to forgive him? Seven times?" "No, not seven times," answered Jesus, but seventy times seven."  
Mt. 18:21-22a*

In the parable of the unforgiving servant Jesus teaches us that God the Father forgives us. God forgives us again and again when we have sinned. He expects us to do the same. We have to forgive anyone who does wrong to us. We have to pass on to others the forgiveness God gives to us. We pray for this in the Our Father when we say,  
**"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."**



When I say,  
"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us" I will really forgive those who have done wrong to me.



### **31. JESUS' TEACHING ON FAITH**

"Jesus got into a boat, and his disciples went with him. Suddenly a fierce storm hit the lake, and the boat was in danger of sinking. But Jesus was asleep. The disciples went to him and woke him up. 'Save us, Lord!' they said. 'We are about to die.'



"Why are you so frightened?" Jesus answered. "What little faith you have!" then he got up and ordered the winds and the waves to stop, and there was a great calm. Everyone was amazed. "What kind of man is this?" they said. "Even the winds and waves obey him."

Mt. 8:23-27

**Jesus asks us to have faith in him.**

*Jesus is with us always.*

**When we turn to him, he gives us peace.**

*Whatever happens to us, he is with us.*

**"Lord Save me".**



## **32. JESUS WANTS US TO HAVE FAITH**



*"A Canaanite woman came to him.*

*"Son of David!" she cried out.*

*"Have mercy on me, sir! My daughter has a demon and is in a terrible condition. "*

*"But Jesus did not say a word to her. His disciples*

*came to him and begged him, "Send her away! She is following*

*us and making all this noise!" Then Jesus replied, "I have been*

*sent only to the lost sheep of the people of Israel." At this the*

*woman came and fell at his feet.*

*"Help me, sir!" she said.*

*Jesus answered, "It isn't right to take the children's food and throw*

*it to the dogs." "That's true, sir,"*

*she answered, "but even the dogs eat the leftovers that fall from their master's table."*

*So Jesus answered her, "You are a woman of great faith! What you want will be done for you." And at that very moment her daughter was healed." Mt. 15: 22 - 28*

**For many of His miracles Jesus expected faith.**

*"Seeing how much faith they had, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Mk. 2:5*

*"Courage, my daughter! Your faith has made you well." Mt. 9:22.*

*"Don't be afraid, only believe." Mk. 5:36b*

*"Because they did not have faith, he did not perform many miracles there." Mt. 13: 58*

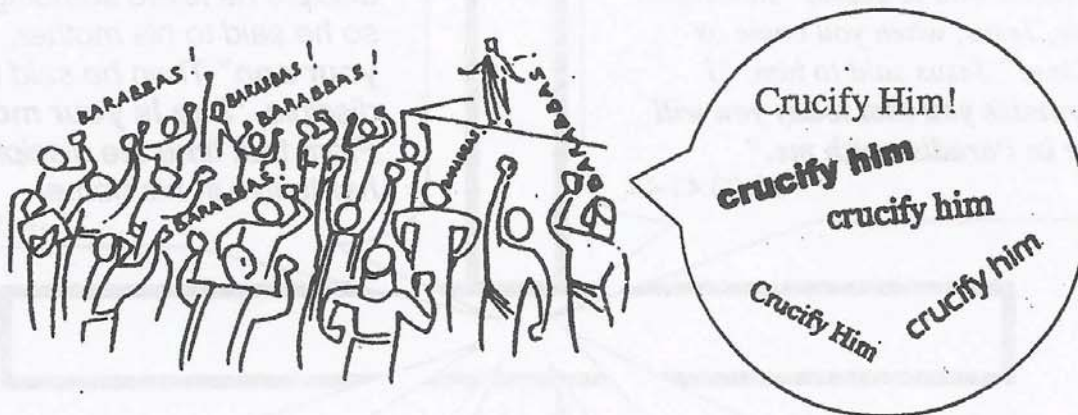
**O my God, I believe in you , increase my faith  
O my God, I hope in you, strengthen my hope.  
O my God, I love you above all things.  
Teach me to love you more and more. Amen.**



### **33. JESUS AND HIS TEACHINGS WERE REJECTED**

Toward the end of his life, Jesus gave his followers a warning: "The son of Man will be handed over to those who will kill him." Mk 9:31.

The Jewish leaders plotted to kill Jesus. Jn 11:53.



*The High Priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered, "I have always spoken publicly to everyone; all my teaching was done in the synagogues and in the temple, where all the people come together. I have never said anything in secret. Why then do you question me. Ask them what I told them. – They know what I said."*

*When Jesus said this, one of the guards there slapped him and said, "How dare you talk like that to the High Priest!" Jesus answered him, "If I have said anything wrong, tell everyone here what it was. But if I am right in what I have said, why do you hit me?" Jn 18:19-24*

Although Jesus did only good to everyone, the Jewish leaders rejected him. However, Jesus stood by the truth. He did not 'apologize' for any of his teachings or any of his works to gain the leaders' favour. He knew that he did the Father's will, and for that he was even willing to accept rejection.

*If we know that we have done or said what God wanted us to do or say, we need not be afraid of anyone. Just be brave as Jesus was, and be secure in your action, even if you have to suffer for it.*



## 34. JESUS ACCEPTED DEATH ON THE CROSS THE LAST WORDS OF JESUS

*And he said to Jesus, "Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!" Jesus said to him, "I promise you that today you will be in Paradise with me."*

Lk 23:42-43,

*Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "**He is your son**" Then he said to the disciple, "**She is your mother.**" From that time the disciple took her to live in his home.*

.In 19:26-27

*...in order to make the Scripture come true, he said, "**I am thirsty.**"*

Jn 19:28b

*Jesus drank the wine and said, "**It is finished!**" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

Jn 19:30

*At about three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud shout, "**Eli, Eli, lema sabachtani?**" which means, "**My God, my God, why did you abandon me?**" Mt.27: 46*

*Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "**Father! In your hands I place my spirit!**" He said this and died.*

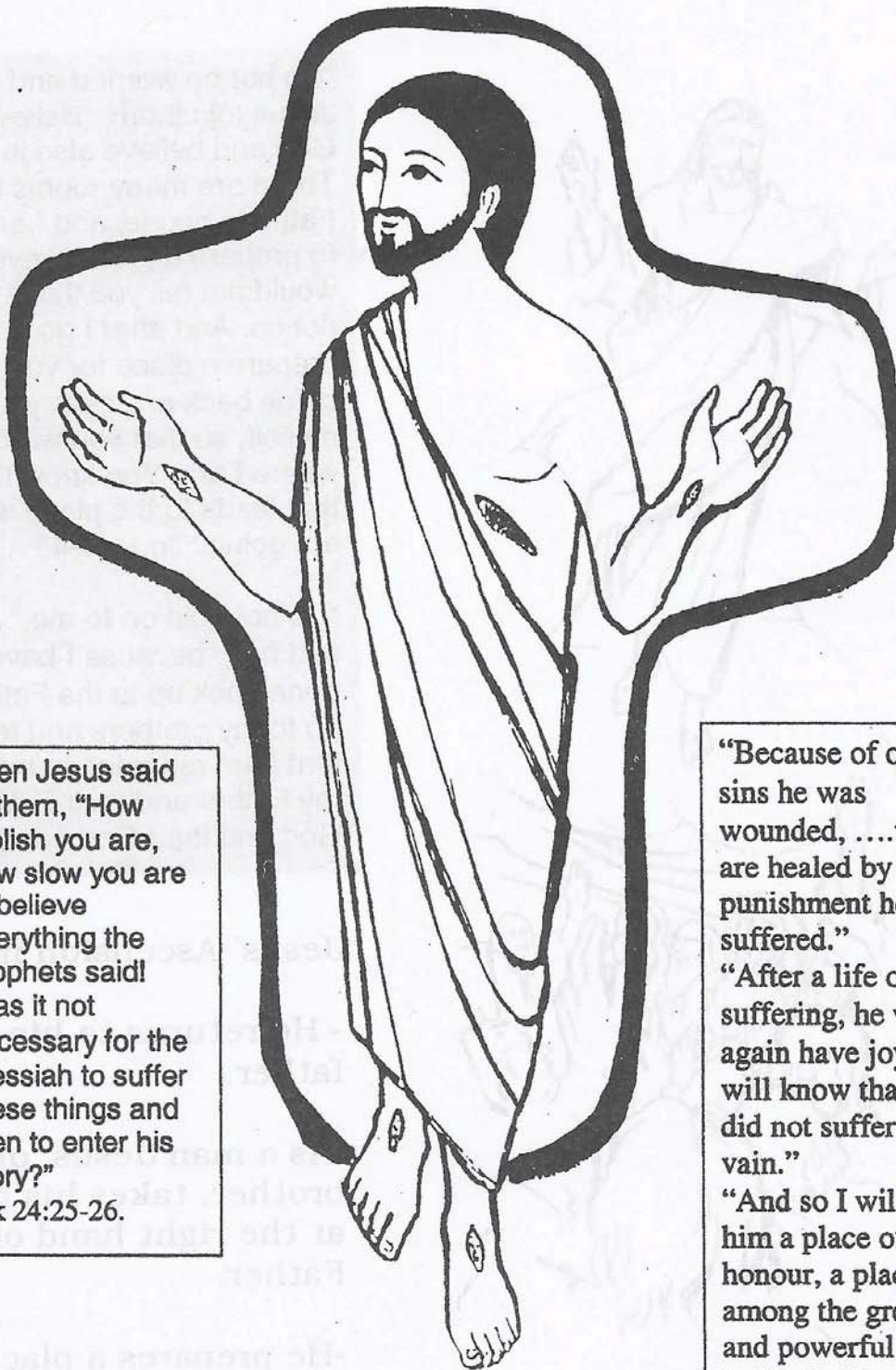
Lk 23:46

***Jesus again gave a loud cry and breathed his last.***

Mt. 27:50.



### **35. THE FATHER RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD**



Then Jesus said to them, "How foolish you are, how slow you are to believe everything the prophets said! Was it not necessary for the Messiah to suffer these things and then to enter his glory?"

Lk 24:25-26.

"Because of our sins he was wounded, ....we are healed by the punishment he suffered."

"After a life of suffering, he will again have joy; he will know that he did not suffer in vain."

"And so I will give him a place of honour, a place among the great and powerful."

Is 53: 5, 11a, 12a

The disciples rejoiced. They realized, that what the prophets said about Jesus has been fulfilled.



### 36. JESUS RETURNS TO THE FATHER-ASCENSION



"Do not be worried and upset," Jesus told them. "Believe in God and believe also in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so. And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am. You know the way that leads to the place where I am going." Jn.14: 1-4.

"Do not hold on to me," Jesus told her, "because I have not yet gone back up to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them that I am returning to him who is my Father and their Father, my God and their God." Jn.20: 17.

Jesus' Ascension means:

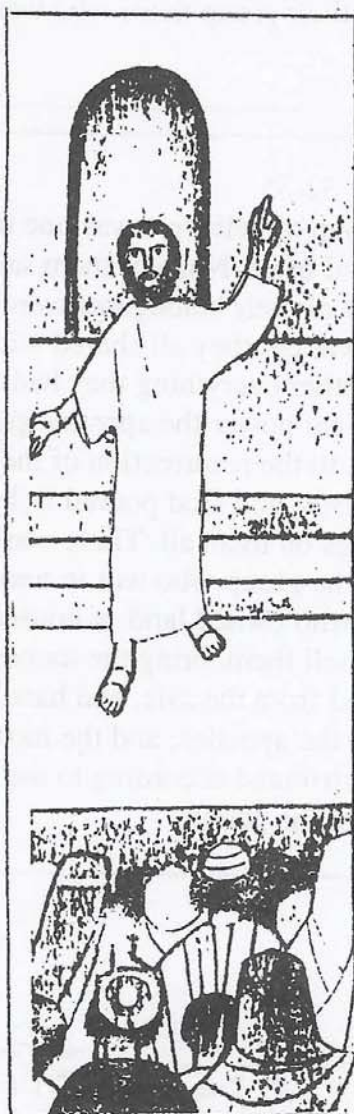
- He returns to his father.
- As a man Jesus, our brother, takes his place at the right hand of the Father.
- He prepares a place for us.

*My aim is to reach the place Jesus has prepared for me.*



### 37. THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS THE CHURCH

On several occasions Christ promised to send the Holy Spirit, a promise which he fulfilled first on Easter Sunday and then more strikingly at Pentecost. Filled with the Holy Spirit the apostles began to proclaim "the mighty works of God." Those who believed in the apostolic preaching and were baptized received the gift of the Holy Spirit in their turn.



*"God has raised this very Jesus from death, and we are all witnesses to this fact. He has been raised to the right-hand side of God, his Father, and has received from him the Holy Spirit, as he had promised. What you now see and hear is his gifts that he has poured out on us." Acts 2:32-33*

*"Many of them believed his message and were baptized, and about three thousand people were added to the group that day. They spent their time in learning from the apostles, taking part in the fellowship meals and the prayers." Acts 2:41-42*

The Holy Spirit gathered the people and enabled them to believe Peter's message. The Holy Spirit enabled them to proclaim the wonderful works God has done.

As baptized Christians this is what we have to do: to come together to pray, learn more about Jesus, and share in the Eucharist.

**Catechism:**

(48) What is my responsibility as a member of the Church?

**AS A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH I MUST GROW IN MY KNOWLEDGE AND LOVE OF JESUS THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD, THE RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENTS AND PRAYER.**



## 38. THE LIFE OF THE EARLY CHRISTIANS

All the believers continued together in close fellowship and shared their belongings with one another. They would sell their property and possessions, and distribute the money among all, according to what each one needed. Day after day they met as a group in the Temple, and they had their meals together in their homes, eating with glad and humble hearts, praising God, and enjoying the good will of all the people. And every day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved. Acts 2:44-47

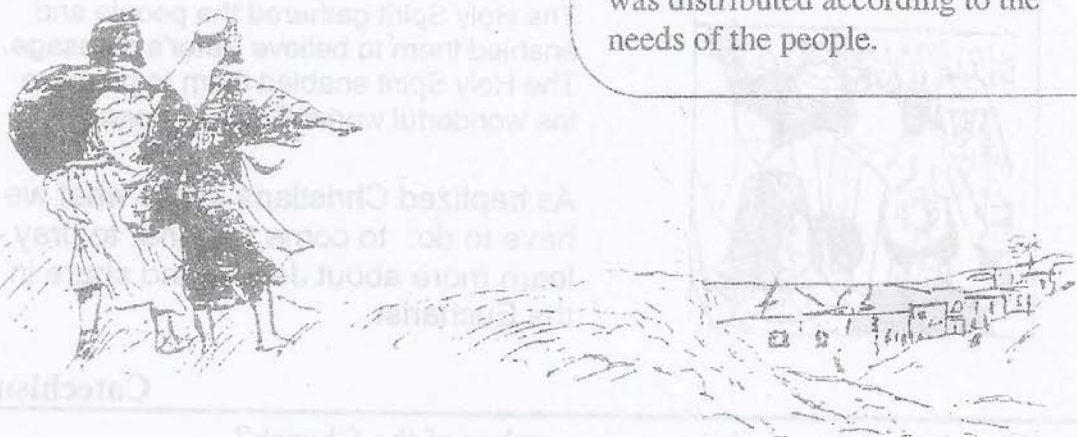
Acts. 4:24, 31

*When the believers heard it, they all joined together in prayer to God: "Master and Creator of heaven, earth, and sea, and all that is in them!...."*

*When they finished praying, the place where they were meeting was shaken. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to proclaim God's message with boldness.*

Acts. 4: 32-35

The group of believers was one in mind and heart. None of them said that any of their belongings were their own, but they all shared with one another everything they had. With great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God poured rich blessings on them all. There was no one in the group who was in need. Those who owned land or houses would sell them, bring the money received from the sale, and hand it over to the apostles; and the money was distributed according to the needs of the people.



**The believers who were scattered went everywhere, preaching the message. Acts. 8: 4**



### **39. THE FORMATION OF THE EARLY CHURCH**



As the number of disciples kept growing, there was a quarrel between the Greek-speaking Jews and the native Jews. The Greek-speaking Jews claimed that their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of funds. So the twelve apostles called the whole group of believers together and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the preaching of God's Word in order to handle finances. So then, friends, choose seven men among you who are known to be full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, and we will put them in charge of this matter. We ourselves, then, will give our full time to prayer and the work of preaching.

The whole group was pleased with the apostles proposal, so they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a Gentile from Antioch who had earlier been converted to Judaism. The group presented them to the apostles, who prayed and placed their hands on them. - And so the Word of God continued to spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem grew larger, and a great number of priests accepted the faith." Acts. 6:1-7.

The apostles saw preaching, teaching and praying as their main work which is also the main work of the priests. Other members of the Church do different kinds of work. (Teachers, nurses, looking after the poor and children.)

***I WILL TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THE LIFE OF MY PARISH.***



## **40. THE HOLY EUCHARIST, OUR THANKSGIVING**

(Lesson 1)

The Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father for all the blessings which we receive, for creation, redemption and sanctification.

Eucharist means "thanksgiving".

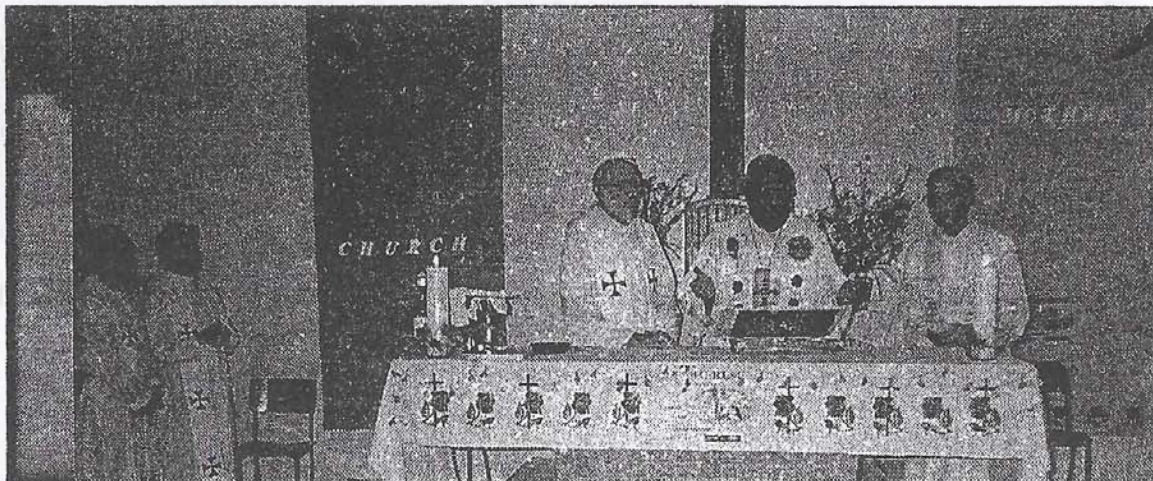
*It is good to give thanks to the Lord.*

**There are two main parts of Mass:**

1. The Liturgy of the Word.
2. The Liturgy of the Eucharist.

**The first part of Mass, the Liturgy of the Word.**

1. Entrance Procession
2. Greeting
3. Confession of our sins
4. Praise God in the Gloria
5. Pray
6. Readings and response, Alleluia
7. Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)
8. Gospel
9. Homily
10. Creed
11. Prayers of the Faithful



*At Mass I am giving thanks to God.*



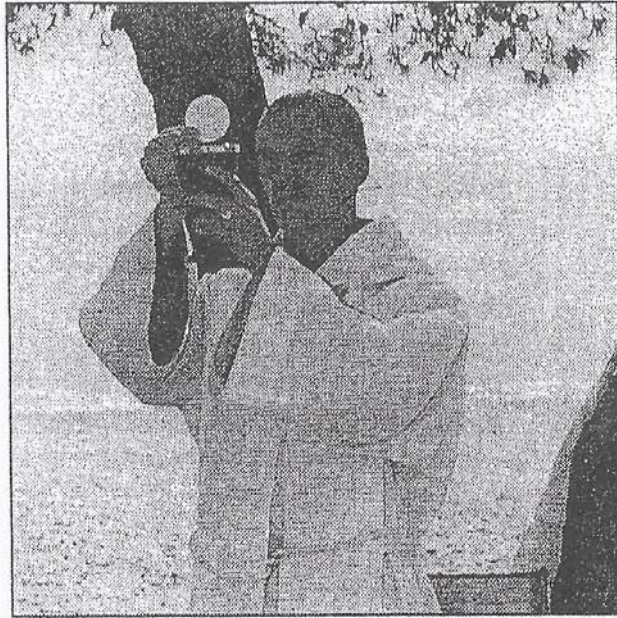
## 41. THE HOLY EUCHARIST - OUR THANKSGIVING (lesson 2)

### The Liturgy of the Eucharist:

1. Presentation of the gifts
2. The Preface-Holy, holy, holy
3. The Eucharistic Prayer
  - Consecration
  - Proclamation of our faith
  - The Great Amen
  - Our Father
  - Communion
4. Final Prayer and Blessing.

*Song: this is my Body, take now and share  
Deep in the memory of my own prayer.  
This is my Blood, come drink and live.  
In all completeness this power I give.*

*You are my people, my chosen friends  
Come share the Spirit my Father sends.  
And hold within you, in constant hope  
My peaceful presence, gift of my heart.*



I will be grateful and thank God for the good He does for me.  
I will participate fully in the celebration of the Eucharist.



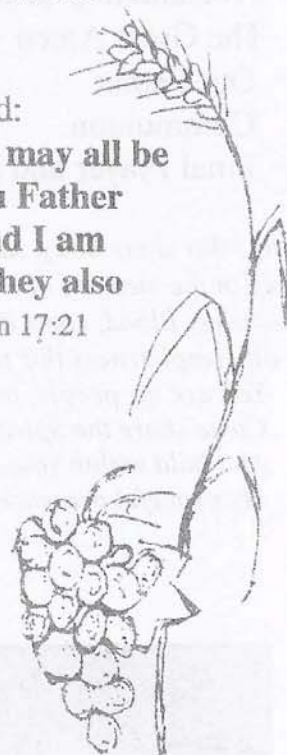
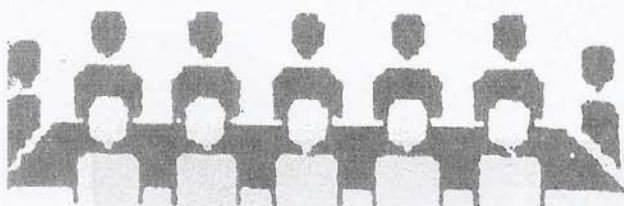
## 42. THE EUCHARIST--SACRAMENT OF UNITY

*"The cup we use in the Lord's Supper and for which we give thanks to God: when we drink from it, we are sharing in the blood of Christ. And the bread we break: when we eat it, we are sharing in the body of Christ. Because there is the one loaf of bread, all of us, though many, are one body, for we all share the same loaf." 1Cor.10:16-17*

The Eucharist makes the Church.  
Those who receive the Eucharist are united more closely to Christ.

Through the Eucharist Christ unites all the faithful into one body - the Church.

Jesus prayed:  
**"That they may all be one. As you Father are in Me and I am in You, may they also be one in Us."** Jn 17:21



What happens to us, when we, each one of us, receive the body and blood of Christ?

The Eucharist joins us, unites us, makes us one. Just as many grains of wheat become flour for one loaf of bread, so in the Eucharist, we become the one body of Christ.

By being kind to others, I will show that I am one with Jesus and one with others.

### CATECHISM:

(54) What does Holy Communion do?

**HOLY COMMUNION UNITES US WITH JESUS CHRIST AND WITH EACH OTHER.**



## **43. THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

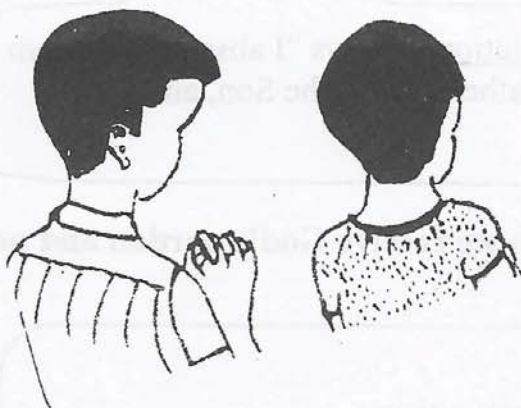
There is a need and desire for reconciliation in our lives.

When we go to confession

1. We acknowledge that we have sinned and need to be reconciled with God.
2. We are sorry for our sins.
3. We go to the priest and confess our sins.

In the Sacrament of Penance God the good Father welcomes his children. Through the priest, we receive God's forgiveness.

The penance we do, shows our willingness to do our part in repairing the harm caused by our sins. Through this penance we unite ourselves with Jesus who has suffered for our sins.



**O my God, I am very  
sorry that I have sinned  
against you, because  
you are so good, and  
with your help I will try  
not to sin again. Amen.**

**I will receive the Sacrament of Penance regularly to  
renew and strengthen my relationship with God my  
Father.**



## 44. THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

1 Cor 15:3-4

*"I passed on to you what I received, which is of the greatest importance: that Christ died for our sins, as written in the Scriptures; that he was buried and that he was raised to life three days later, as written in the Scriptures."*



When the priest gives us absolution, he says "I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

**In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we receive God's pardon and peace.**

### **The steps for Confession:**

1. Pray to the Holy Spirit. Think of your sins.
2. Be sorry for your sins and make up your mind not to sin again.
3. Confess your sins to the priest.
4. Receive Absolution.
5. Do your penance.

### **CATECHISM:**

9. (57) What does the priest say in the sacrament of reconciliation when he gives Absolution?

**WHEN THE PRIEST GIVES ABSOLUTION HE SAYS "I ABSOLVE YOU FROM YOUR SINS IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT."**



## **45. PARA - LITURGY OF RECONCILIATION**

*A suitable quiet place (church, chapel--not classroom if possible),  
A crucifix in centre. Children for reading and Reconciliation Prayers.  
Groups to stand for the "Response".*

**OPENING HYMN:** *Father, I have sinned*

**PRAYER:** Father, we have turned away from you and disobeyed you. We have sinned. But you are waiting for us to come back to you because you love us. Father, we come to you now and ask you to forgive us.

**READING:** Ps 51: 1a, 2, 3, 4a, 7, 8a, 10.

*Each verse is read by a different child.*

*At the end of each verse a flower is placed near the crucifix--by the reader, another selected child or volunteers.*

**RELECTION:**

*A time of quiet. (With soft music if possible).*

*Teacher softly asks slowly the questions.*

- When was a time I went my own way?
- When did I not say a word to defend others who were accused?
- Who is someone I don't care about?
- What lies have I told?
- Do I always do what God wants me to do?
- Can God say to me "I am pleased with you"?

Jesus has suffered for our sins . Let us pray for God's forgiveness.

*(Children are seated around the crucifix Each time the response is sung, one of the 7 groups stands as a sign of willingness to "get up and return" to the Father.)*

**RECONCILIATION:**

**Response:** Yes I shall arise and return to my Father.

1. For the times I have turned from God and walked my own way, I am sorry. **Res.**
2. For the time my words have hurt and humiliated others I am sorry. **Res.**
3. For the times others have been hurt or neglected because I have not cared for them, I am sorry. **Res.**
4. For my untruthfulness and dishonesty, I am sorry. **Res.**



5. For the times I have not done the good others have asked me for, I am sorry. **Res.**
6. For the times my actions have displeased God and turned me from Him, I am sorry. **Res.**
7. Because Jesus has suffered and died that I might return to my Father I say. **Res.**

**Leader:** Let us confess together that we are the ones who have sinned and been brought back to the Father through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

**All:** I confess to Almighty God. (in prayer section)

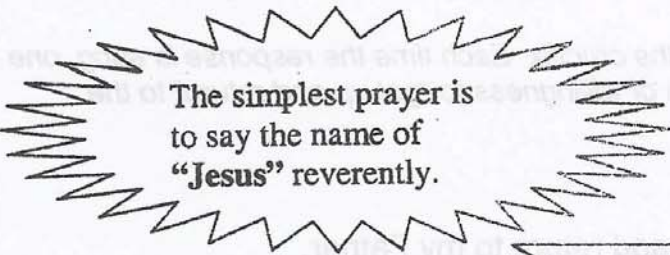
**Leader:** Let us show our reconciliation to the Father by being reconciled to each other. Let us share a sign of peace and unity as we say "Our Father."

**Leader:** We pray that the Father will bless us, keep us from all evil and bring us to life everlasting.

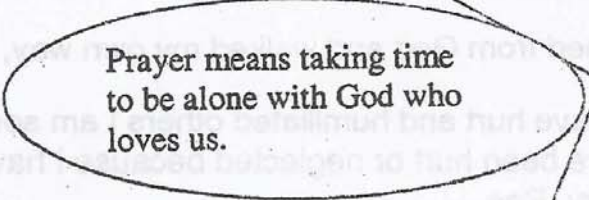
#### **CLOSING HYMN:**

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord. (or another thanksgiving Hymn).*

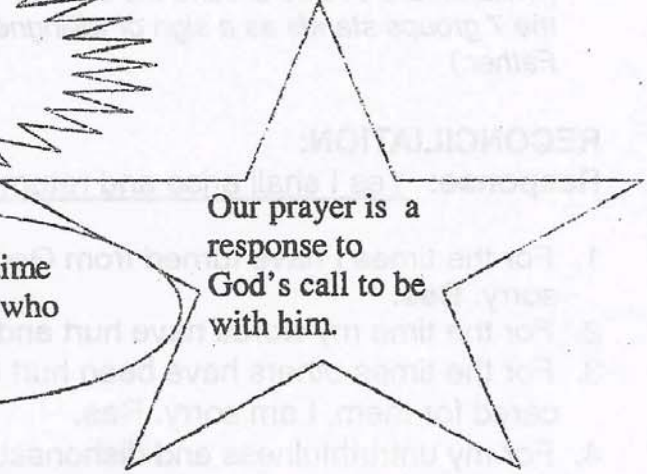
## **46. PRAYER**



The simplest prayer is  
to say the name of  
"Jesus" reverently.



Prayer means taking time  
to be alone with God who  
loves us.



Our prayer is a  
response to  
God's call to be  
with him.



## **47. A WAY OF PRAYING WITH THE BIBLE**

**Luke 18:35-43**

*Read the story twice, so that the story is well understood.*

*For the third time, one student reads the same story, putting him/herself in the place of the blind man:*

As Jesus was coming near Jericho, there was I, (a blind man) begging.

When I heard the crowd passing by, I asked, "What is this?"

"Jesus of Nazareth is passing by," they told me.

I cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me."

The people in front scolded me and told me to be quiet. But I shouted even more loudly, "Son of David! Have pity on me!"

So Jesus stopped and ordered me, (the blind man) to be brought to him.

When I came near, Jesus asked me, "What do you want me to do for you?"

"Sir", I answered, "I want to see again."

Jesus said to me, "Then see! Your faith has made you well."

At once I was able to see, and I followed Jesus, giving thanks to God.

When the crowd saw it, they all praised God."

*Several students have a turn in reading the same story in the same way.*

*Then each student reads the story again in the same way.*

*Spend a few minutes in silent prayer.*

*Encourage students to express their response to this way of praying.*

*(Imagine yourself to be the blind man)*

1. How did you feel begging at the side of the road?
2. What did you think when you heard that Jesus was approaching?
3. What did you do?
4. Did you worry about what the people said?
5. Then Jesus called you. Tell us, what happened from there on and how you felt.
6. What was your response?

*Finish with a song of praise. 'O how good is the Lord.'*





## 48. A WAY OF QUIET PRAYER

Prayer keeps our faith alive. Prayer is remembering God. We must remember God more often than we draw breath. But we cannot pray "at all times" if we do not pray at specific times, wanting to pray.

### Read Mk 6:31

*"There were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his disciples didn't even have time to eat. So he said to them, 'Let us go off by ourselves to some place where we will be alone and you can rest a while.'"*

*Try this way of prayer. It will be a quiet way of praying, just being with Jesus.*

*Prepare a quiet place, carefully decorated with a picture or a cross, flowers, candle. Sing softly and slowly:*



Father I adore you, lay my life before you, how I love you.  
Jesus I adore you, lay my life before you, how I love you.  
Spirit I adore you, lay my life before you, how I love you.

*Sit up straight, quietly, hands resting loosely opened on knees, eyes closed, breathing in and out slowly saying: "In"..... "Out"..... Continue this for a short time (not more than a minute).*

*After a short space, repeat this quiet process.*

*For the third time use prayer words as you breathe in and out slowly.*

**JE \_** (breathe in)      **SUS.** (breathe out).

*Do this exercise several times. Use other prayer words and do the exercise again. (A few simple words from the Gospel or a prayer)  
Sing song again, several times, if you wish.*



## 49. GOD IS AMONG US IN THE COMMUNITY



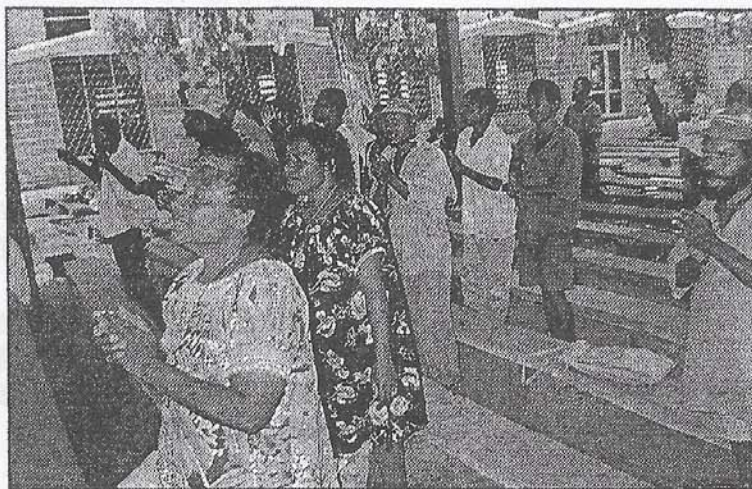
### Exodus 13:20-22

"The Israelites left Sukkoth and camped at Etham on the edge of the desert. During the day the Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud to show them the way, and during the night he went in front of them in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel night and day. The pillar of cloud was always in front of the people during the day, and the pillar of fire at night."

### Ex.14: 19b-20:

"The pillar of cloud moved until it was between the Egyptians and the Israelites. The cloud made it dark for the Egyptians, but gave light to the people of Israel, and so the armies could not come near each other all night."

God is with us. The signs of God's presence may not be always clear. If we have faith we will be aware and see God present and at work in our community.



*When I see signs of God's presence in the community I  
will say, "Thank you God".*



## 50. GOD IS PRESENT TO US THROUGH OTHERS

"God is the master of his plan. But to carry it out he also makes use of his creatures "They fully become God's fellow workers and co-workers for his kingdom." Cf. CCC 307



1 Kg 17: 10-15, 24 -Paraphrased.  
Elijah fled to Zarephat. There he saw a widow gathering firewood. "Please bring me a drink of water," he said to her. "And some bread, too."  
She answered, "By the living Lord your God I swear that I haven't got any bread. All I have is a handful of flour and a bit of olive oil in a jar. I came here to gather some firewood and prepare what little I have for my son and me, and then we will die."  
"Don't worry," Elijah said to her. "Go and prepare your meal. But first make a small loaf from what

you have and bring it to me, and then prepare the rest for you and your son. God says, "The bowl will not run-out of flour, or the jar run out of oil before I send rain."

The widow did as Elijah had told her, and all of them had enough food for many days.

When she realized what had happened, she said, "Now I know that the Lord really speaks through you."

The woman realized that God came to her through Elijah who needed help, and it was God who helped her through Elijah.

*I will try to see God present in people who do good to me.*



## 51. GOD IS WITH ME

Genesis 45:4b-5, 7-8a,

*"I am your brother Joseph whom you sold into Egypt. Now do not be upset or blame yourselves because you sold me here. It was really God who sent me ahead of you to save people's lives.....God sent me ahead of you to rescue you in this amazing way and to make sure that you and your children survive. So it was not really you who sent me here, but God."*



Joseph discovered that it was God who was present and at work in all that happened to him.



*Yahweh, I know  
you are near,  
standing always  
at my side. You  
guard me from  
the foe,  
(enemy) you  
lead me in ways  
everlasting.*

1. Lord, you have searched my heart, and you know when I sit and when I stand. Your hand is upon me protecting me from death, - keeping me from harm. - Chorus.
2. Where can I run from your love? If I climb to the heavens you are there. If I fly to the sunrise or sail beyond the sea, - still I'd find you there. - Chorus.
3. You know my heart and its ways. You who formed me before I was born. In the secret of darkness, before I saw the sun, in my mother's womb. - Chorus.
4. Marvelous to me are your works. How profound are your thoughts, my Lord. Even if I could count them, they number as the stars: - You would still be there.

**GOD IS PRESENT AND AT WORK  
IN OUR LIVES!**

*"In Him we live and move and have our being."* Acts 17:28



## **52. GOD IS PRESENT TO US THROUGH THE SACRAMENTS**

God gave us special signs of his presence.

**Christ now lives and acts in and with his Church. He acts through the Sacraments.**

There are seven sacraments:

1. Baptism,
2. Confirmation,
3. Eucharist,
4. Penance,
5. The Anointing of the Sick,
6. Holy Orders,
7. Matrimony.



Baptism



Confirmation



Eucharist



Reconciliation



Anointing the sick



Holy Orders



Marriage

The seven sacraments can be looked at in three groups:

1. SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION	2. SACRAMENTS OF HEALING	3. SACRAMENTS OF SERVICE
Baptism Confirmation Eucharist	Penance Anointing	Matrimony Holy Orders

### **Initiation:**

The faithful are born anew by Baptism, strengthened by the Sacrament of Confirmation, and receive in the Eucharist the food of eternal life."

### **Healing:**

"The Lord Jesus Christ, has willed that his Church continue, his work of healing and salvation. This is the purpose of the two sacraments of healing.

### **Service:**

Two sacraments are directed towards the salvation of others. They give a particular service for mission in the Church to build up the People of God.

*I want to receive the Sacraments because I want to meet Christ.*



## **53. GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES**

In Sacred Scripture, God the Father meets his children.

*"Remember that ever since you were a child, you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living." 2 Tim 3:15-16*



God's Word comes to us now through the Old Testament and the New Testament. We hear God's message at Mass, when reading the Bible, in Religion class, School Liturgy, Bible sharing, Bible dramas, retreats etc.....)

**Teachings we have received through the Scriptures:**

OT	NT
➤ Commandments	➤ Beatitudes
➤ God is with me.	➤ Love one another
➤ _____	➤ _____
➤ _____	➤ _____

**"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." Mt.24:35**

*I will listen to God's message for me when I hear the Scriptures.*



## 54. GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH THE CHURCH

"Remember, that none of us can explain by ourselves a prophecy in the Scriptures. People were under the control of the Holy Spirit as they spoke the message that came from God." 2Pt 1:20-21

*"How can they call to him for help if they have not believed? And how can they believe if they have not heard the message? And how can they hear if the message is not proclaimed? And how can the message be proclaimed if the messengers are not sent out?" Rom 10:14-15a*

"Some men came from Judea and Antioch and started teaching the believers, "You cannot be saved unless you are circumcised as the law of Moses requires." Paul and Barnabas got into a fierce argument with them about this, so it was decided that Paul and Barnabas and some of the others in Antioch should go to Jerusalem and see the apostles and elders about this matter."

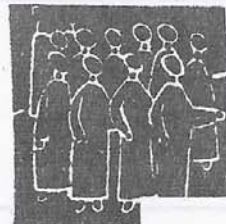
After a long debate Peter stood up and said, "My friends, you know that a long time ago God chose me from among you to preach the Good News to the Gentiles so that they could hear and believe. **The Holy Spirit and we have agreed** not to put any other burden on you besides these necessary rules..... Acts 15:1-2, 7, 28

Anyone who wants to preach the Good News has to be sent by the Bishop. The Bishop is the official teacher in the Church. Parish priests share in his teaching ministry and guide and direct others who help in this ministry. The parish priest has authority from the Bishop to direct those who work in the parish.

**Jesus:**  
ALL AUTHORITY HAS  
BEEN GIVEN TO ME:  
Mt. 28:19-20



↓  
**Apostles:**  
WE CHOOSE  
MESSENGERS TO SEND TO  
YOU.  
They are given power by Jesus.  
Mt. 28:19-20



↓  
**Bishops:**  
HAVE BEEN GIVEN AUTHORITY FROM THE  
APOSTLES.  
They are given power by Jesus. Mt. 28:19-20





## ***55. BY BAPTISM WE BECOME MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH***

Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life. It opens the door for us to receive the other sacraments.

Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons and daughters of God. We become members of the Church and so we share in her mission. The promises we make at Baptism are for life.

### **The Baptismal Promises:**

**Priest:** Do you reject Satan?

**All:** I do...

**Priest:** And all his works?

**All:** I do.

**Priest:** And all his empty promises?

**All:** I do.

**Priest:** Do you believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

**All:** I do.

**Priest:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died and was buried, rose from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

**All:** I do.

**Priest:** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

**All:** I do.



### **The Church expects every baptized person to**

- ◇ *reject Satan.*
- ◇ *believe in God.*
- ◇ *believe in Jesus*
- ◇ *believe in the Holy Spirit*
- ◇ *believe in the Holy Catholic Church and all she teaches.*



## 56. WE LIVE THE FAITH WE PROFESS AT BAPTISM



### Peter preaches and baptizes:

"Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd: 'Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, listen to me and let me tell you what this means.' Acts 2:14,

"Jêsus of Nazareth was a man whose divine authority was clearly proven to you by all the miracles and wonders which God performed through him. You yourselves know this, for it happened here among you. In accordance with his own plan God had already decided that Jesus would be handed over to you; and you killed him by letting sinful men crucify him. But God raised him from death, setting him free from its power, because it was impossible that death should hold him prisoner." Acts 2: 22-24.

"When the people heard this they were deeply troubled and said to Peter and the other apostles, 'What shall we do, brothers?'" Acts 2:37

"Many of them believed his message and were baptized, and about three thousand people were added to the group that day. They spent their time in learning from the apostles, taking part in the fellowship, and sharing in the fellowship meals and the prayers." Acts 2:41-42.

In our baptismal promises we have expressed our faith. We are committed to live what we believe.

*By living my Baptismal Promises I become a faithful member  
of God's holy people, the Church.*



## **57. WE LIVE AS MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH**

"Just as Baptism is the source of responsibilities and duties, the baptized person also enjoys rights within the Church:

- \* to receive the sacraments
- \* to be nourished by the Word of God
- \* to be strengthened by the other spiritual helps of the Church.

As members of the Church we have a right to all these helps. It is up to each one of us to make use of these helps and request them.



"God our Father, these children of yours have been enlightened by Christ. They are to walk always as children of the Light. May they keep the flame of faith alive in their hearts. When the Lord comes may they go out to meet Him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom."



## 58. THE HOLY SPIRIT DIRECTS OUR LIVES

*"What I say is this: let the Spirit direct your lives, and you will not satisfy the desires of the human nature.... The Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control. There is no law against such things as these. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have put to death their human nature with all its passions and desires. The Spirit has given us life; he must also control our lives. We must not be proud or irritate one another or be jealous of one another." Gal 5:16, 22-26*

In Confirmation we receive the Holy Spirit who helps us to change our lives. By our actions we can help others to let the Holy Spirit work in them also.



*By Confirmation the Holy Spirit strengthens me to live a holy life, proclaim the Gospel and love others as Jesus did.*

Song:

1. Lord the light of Your love is shining, In the midst of the darkness shining.

Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me. Shine on me.

**Refrain.** Shine Jesus shine, fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow river, flow, flood the nations with grace and glory. Send forth Your word, Lord and let there be Light.



## **59. THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKES US RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH**

*"When I was a child, my speech, feelings, and thinking were all those of a child; now that I am an adult, I have no more use for childish ways."*

1 Cor. 13:11

*"Do not be like children in your thinking, my friends; be children so far as evil is concerned, but be grown up in your thinking."* 1 Cor. 14:20

*"Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind of the teaching of deceitful people, who lead others into error by the tricks they invent. Instead, by speaking the truth in a spirit of love, we must grow up in every way to Christ, who is the head."*

Eph. 4:14-15

In baptism we become  
God's children.

Confirmation is the  
Sacrament that helps us to  
live as a responsible adult  
in God's family, the  
Church. When we receive  
the Sacrament of  
Confirmation we show we  
are ready to accept full  
responsibility as disciples  
of Christ.

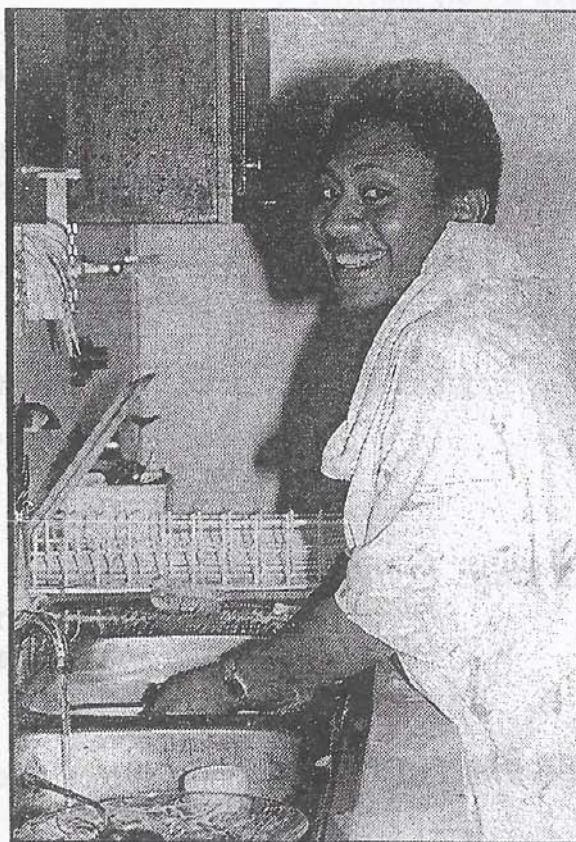
The responsibilities of an adult  
in the Church are:

To be people who ..... and  
show by their ..... that they  
believe in Jesus. To be .....  
members of his Church.

Use the ..... of the Spirit in  
their.....

To be ready to carry the .....  
with Jesus.

(pray) (actions) (faithful) (gifts) (lives) (cross)





## **60. PRAYER - SERVICE**

OPENING HYMN: *Come Holy Spirit I need you.*

PRAYER: Come Holy Spirit, fill our hearts and make burn within us the fire of your love. Help us to be strong so that people will see in our lives your gifts, hear in our words Jesus' Teaching and find us ready to serve others in their needs.

**1st Student:** (Hold up strip and read)

Live a holy life.....

.....Like Peter To Rot who served his people  
**Blessed Peter To Rot, pray for us.**

.....Like Francis of Assisi who loved all God's creatures  
**St Francis of Assisi pray for us.**

.....Like Martin de Porres who served the poor  
**St Martin de Porres, pray for us.**

.....Like Elizabeth who shared her food with the hungry  
**St Elizabeth, pray for us.**

*(Other saints may be added)*

**All sing:** *Come Holy Spirit I need you.....  
Come with your care and compassion  
Come in your own special way.*

**2nd Student:** (Hold up strip and read, another student holds up candle / torch / lamp)

Bring the light of the Gospel.....

..... to your village by speaking God's word  
..... to your heart by praying God's word  
..... to your family by living God's word

**All sing:** *Come Holy Spirit I need you  
Come with your light and give courage  
Come in your own special way.*



**3rd Student:** (Hold up strip and read) Serve Jesus in serving others

**Jesus says:**

I was hungry .....| ...and I gave you to eat. (different students finish the sentence)

I was thirsty .....|....and I gave you a drink.

I was sick .....|....and I visited you.

I was in prison....|....and I came to you.

I was a stranger..|...and I welcomed you.

I was naked.....|...and I clothed you.

*This could be mimed with a student doing the action to the leader.*

**All sing:** *Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers that you do unto me.*

As children, with Jesus in God's family, **let us pray: Our Father**

**Leader:** Jesus you call us to be your disciples and you give us the Holy Spirit so that we can live as you did. Teach us to listen to the Holy Spirit and his gifts in our lives. We make our prayer with you and the Holy Spirit to God, our Father who is God forever. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN:**

*If the Spirit of God lives in you, sing to the Lord. Praise him for his goodness, deep in the Spirit your song.*





## **61. LITURGY – OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF GOD**

"The word 'liturgy' originally meant a 'public work' or a service on behalf of the people. In Christian tradition it means the participation of the People of God in 'the work of God.' Through the Liturgy Christ, our redeemer and high priest, continues the work of our redemption, with and through his Church." CCC 1069

*"When you have harvested your crops, celebrate this festival for seven days, beginning on the fifteenth day of the seventh month. The first day shall be a special day of rest. On that day take some of the best fruit from your trees, take palm branches and branches of leafy trees, and begin a religious festival to honour the Lord your God. Celebrate it for seven days, so that your descendants may know that the Lord made the people of Israel live in simple shelters when he led them out of Egypt. He is the Lord your God." Lev. 23: 39-43*

**Celebrating together is an important means of helping us remember the great works of God and participate in them. This is what we mean by Liturgy.**



**Song:**

*It is good to give  
thanks to the  
Lord! To make*

*music to your name o Most High!*

*To proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the night!*

*With the murmuring sound of instruments I sing!*

*Those who love will flourish like the palm and grow like a cedar firm and tall!*

*The justice of the Lord will be my saving song. In him, my Rock, there is no wrong.*

*It is good.....*



## 62. OUR ROLE IN THE LITURGY

### Vat.2 on the Liturgy:

"In the celebration of the Liturgy, full and active participation by all the people is the aim before all else.

Servers, readers, choir have a very special role.

There should be time for both song and silence .

Sacred Readings are an essential part of all liturgy.

***Our Liturgy is not a "show" or "concert".***

***Songs and actions should highlight the meaning of the feast.***

More important feasts like Easter and Christmas should be well prepared and celebrated with special songs and decorations.

Everyone present should join in prayers, songs, responses.

Liturgy is the action of the whole people of God

Liturgy means: An action, the work of the people,— our way of showing as a community we serve and worship God.

**Memorize:**

**Liturgy is the official, public worship of the Church.**



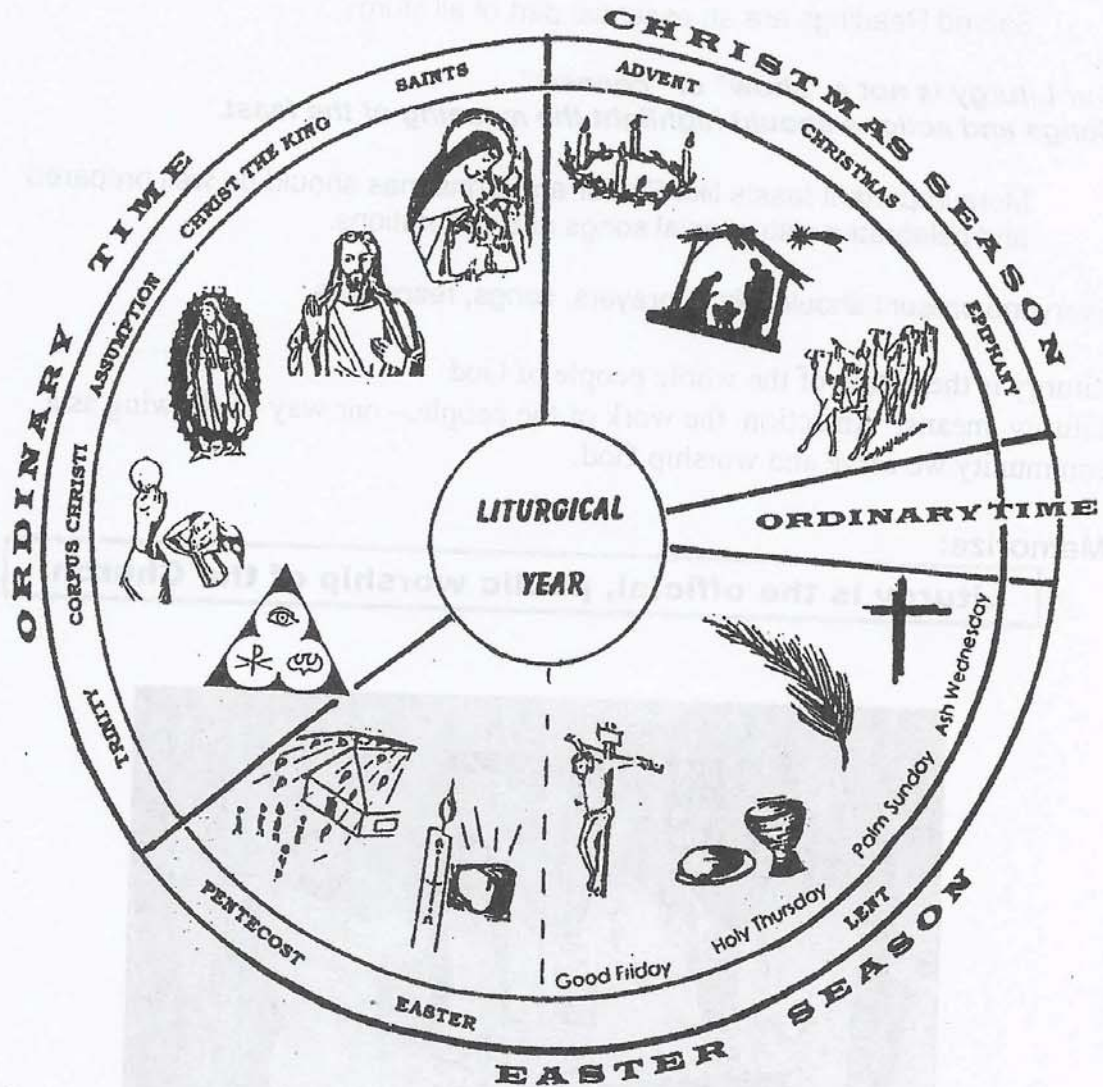
Song: *Arise, come to your God, sing him your songs of rejoicing.*

*I will actively take part in the Liturgy.*



### 63. LITURGICAL SEASONS

The Church, in the course of the year, celebrates the whole mystery of Christ from his Incarnation and Nativity through his Ascension, to Pentecost and the expectation of the second coming of the Lord.

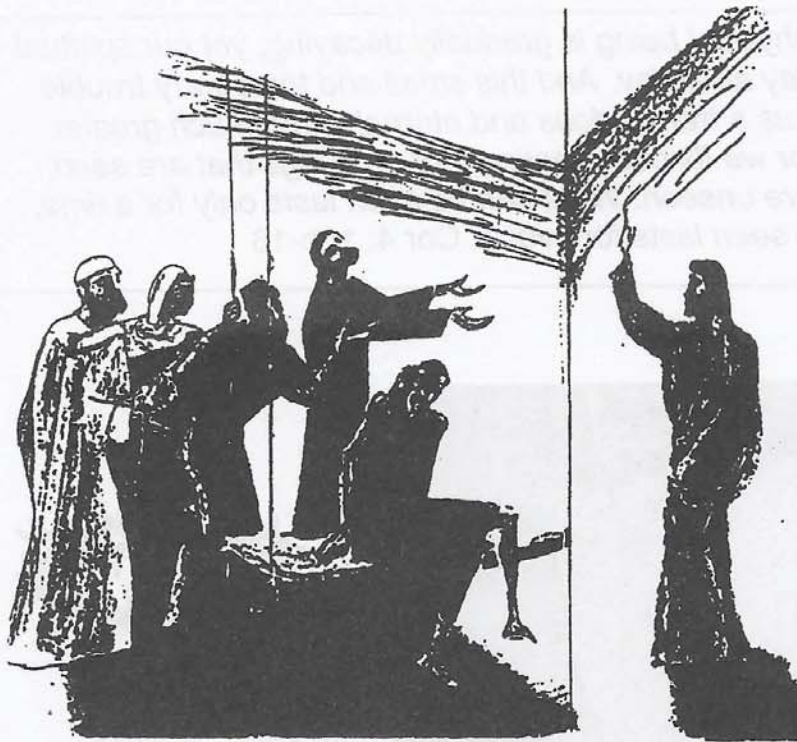


By celebrating the feasts of the saints – first of all the Holy Mother of God, then the apostles, the martyrs and other saints – on fixed days of the Liturgical year, the Church on earth shows that she is united with the liturgy of heaven.

She gives glory to Christ for having accomplished his salvation in his glorified members, the saints. Their example encourages her on her way to the Father.



## 64. THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK (1)



<Jesus got into the boat and went back across the lake to his own town, where some people brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a bed. When Jesus saw how much faith they had, he said to the paralyzed man, "Courage, my son! Your sins are forgiven." Then some teachers of the law said to themselves, "This man is speaking blasphemy!"

Jesus perceived what they were thinking, and so he said, "Why are you thinking such evil things? Is it easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk?' I will prove to you, then, that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the paralyzed man, "Get up, pick up your bed, and go home!"

The man got up and went home. When the people saw it, they were afraid, and praised God for giving such authority to people.> Mt 9:1-8

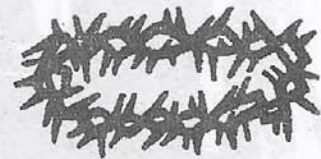
Through the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick Jesus continues his work of healing the sick and forgiving their sins. Jesus now acts through the priest who anoints the sick person.

Song: Reach out and touch the Lord as he passes by. You'll find he's not too busy to answer your cry. He's passing by this moment your needs to supply. Reach out and touch the Lord as he passes by.



## **65. THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK (2)**

*"Even though our physical being is gradually decaying, yet our spiritual being is renewed day after day. And this small and temporary trouble we suffer will bring us a tremendous and eternal glory, much greater than the trouble. For we fix our attention, not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen. What can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts for ever. 2 Cor 4: 16b-18*



We experience suffering similar to Paul's.

Through the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick Jesus gives us the strength, peace and courage to suffer our illness or old age in a Christian manner. If we remain united with Jesus in our sufferings we can help ourselves and the Church.

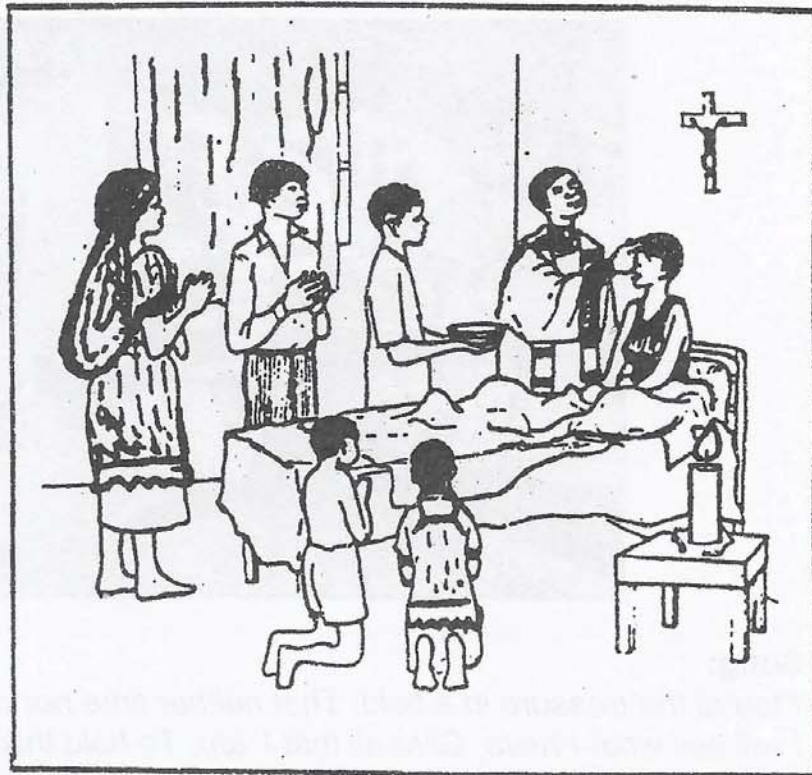


## 66. THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK (3)

*"Are any among you sick? They should send for the church elders, who will pray for them and rub olive oil on them in the name of the Lord. This prayer made in faith will heal the sick; the Lord will restore them to health, and the sins they have committed will be forgiven." James 5:14-15*

**The special grace of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is to:**

- ❖ unite the sick person with the sufferings of Jesus
- ❖ give strength, peace, and courage to the sick person
- ❖ forgive sins
- ❖ restore to health if God wants it
- ❖ prepare for eternal life



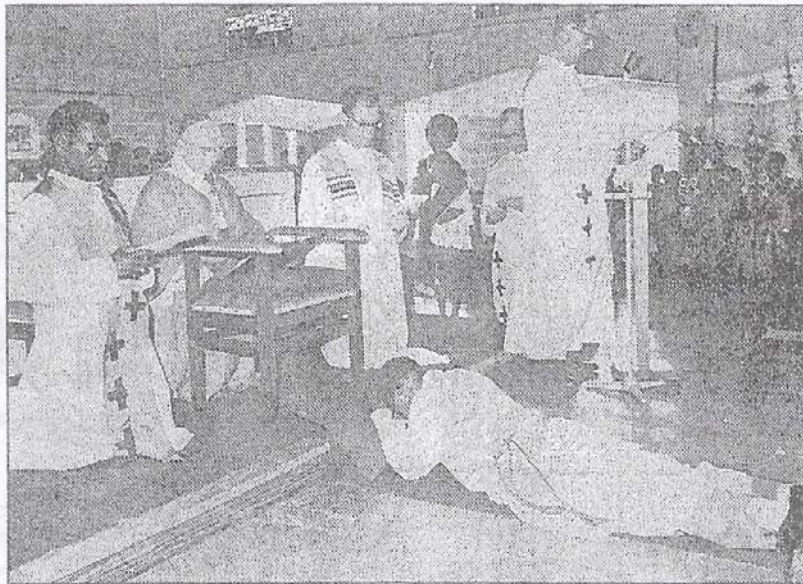


## 67. THE CALL TO PRIESTHOOD

*"No one chooses for himself the honour of being a high priest. It is only by God's call that a man is made a high priest – just as Aaron was." Heb 5:4*

A person does not take the honour of becoming a priest on himself. He is called by God.

*Holy Orders is a call and gift from God.*



### **Song:**

*I found the treasure in a field, That neither time nor death can steal,  
I will sell what I have, Give all that I am, To hold this treasure as my own.  
Jesus Lord of my life,  
I can ask for nothing more, Then to see and believe,  
That my life lies in you, In the kingdom of my Lord.*

*I will pray for priests*



## 68. HOLY ORDERS IS A SACRAMENT OF SERVICE

*"Then Jesus went up a hill and called to himself the men he wanted. They came to him and he chose twelve, whom he named apostles. "I have chosen you to be with me," he told them. "I will also send you out to preach, and you will have authority to drive out demons." Mk 3:13-15*



*Holy Orders gives the special grace of service —  
to teach, to sanctify and to lead the people of God.*



## ***69. BISHOPS AND PRIESTS SHARE IN THE PRIESTHOOD OF CHRIST***

When Jesus left his apostles he said he would be with them forever, but they could no longer see him. To make his presence visible to us he calls certain men to be bishops and priests.



Bishops and priests represent Christ to the people  
when they preach the Word of God,  
give the Sacraments,  
celebrate Mass and  
present the prayers of the people to God.



## 70. GOD'S PLAN FOR MARRIAGE

*"God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female, blessed them, and said, 'Have many children, so that your descendants will live all over the earth and bring it under their control. I am putting you in charge of the fish, the birds, and all the wild animals.'" Gen. 1:27-28*

*"Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to live alone. I will make a suitable companion to help him.' That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united with his wife, and they become one." Gen. 2:18, 24.*



Man and woman leave their parents and become husband and wife. It is in God's plan that husband and wife love each other and have children. Married couples should make the world a better place.

**Marriage is a picture of God's faithful love  
for his people.**



## **71. SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

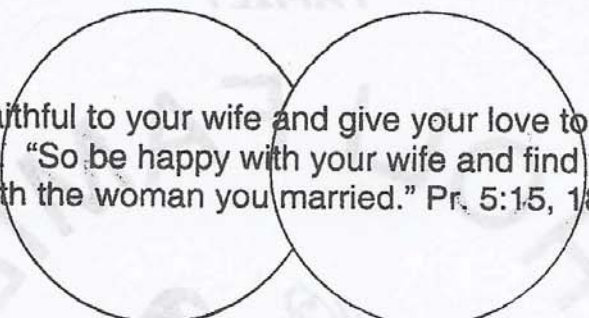
Christ, our saviour, joins Christian spouses through the Sacrament of Marriage. Christ lives with them, gives them the strength to carry their crosses and follow him, to forgive one another, to bear one another's burdens and to love one another with tender and fruitful love. In the joys of their love and family life Christ gives them here on earth a taste of the happiness of heaven.



**Christ unites the couple for life. In marriage the two become one, therefore marriage cannot be broken**



## 72. THE BLESSINGS OF MARRIAGE



"Be faithful to your wife and give your love to her alone. "So be happy with your wife and find your joy with the woman you married." Pr. 5:15, 18

"How hard it is to find a capable wife! She is worth far more than jewels! Her husband puts his confidence in her, and he will never be poor. As long as she lives, she does him good and never harm. She keeps herself busy making cloth from wool and linen. She brings home food from out-of-the-way places, as merchant ships do. She gets up before daylight to prepare food for her family and to tell her servant women what to do. She looks at land and buys it, and with money she has earned she plants a vineyard. She is a hard worker, strong and industrious. She knows the value of everything she makes, and works late into the night. She spins her own thread and weaves her own cloth. She is generous to the poor and needy. Her husband is well known, one of the leading citizens. She is strong and respected and not afraid of the future. She speaks with a gentle wisdom. She is always busy and looks after her family's needs. Her children show their appreciation, and her husband praises her. He says, 'Many women are good wives, but you are the best of them all.' Prov. 31:10-

*To live a happy married life, husband and wife have to make efforts to show their love, respect and appreciation of each other.*

*Children play their part by supporting and respecting their parents.*

**Song:** "Wherever you go, I shall go. Wherever you live, so shall I live.  
Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God too.



### 73. THE HOLY FAMILY IS A MODEL OF A CHRISTIAN FAMILY



JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH, I GIVE YOU MY HEART AND MY SOUL.

What does the Bible say about Jesus' family?

Jesus was born into a family. Jesus was legally the son of Joseph. Mt. 1: 1-24

Parents cannot "hold on" to their children, Mary was present at the Son's ministry, but did not interfere. Mt.12:46-49

Joseph was responsible for the safety of the family. They had to move. Mary cooperated with Joseph's arrangements. Together they bore the hardship of being refugees. Mt.2: 13-23

The family followed the religious and civil laws and customs of their community. Lk 1:26-56, 2:4-7, 2:21, 22-24, 39-40

Parents must be supportive of their children's work as Mary was. Jn 2:1-5:

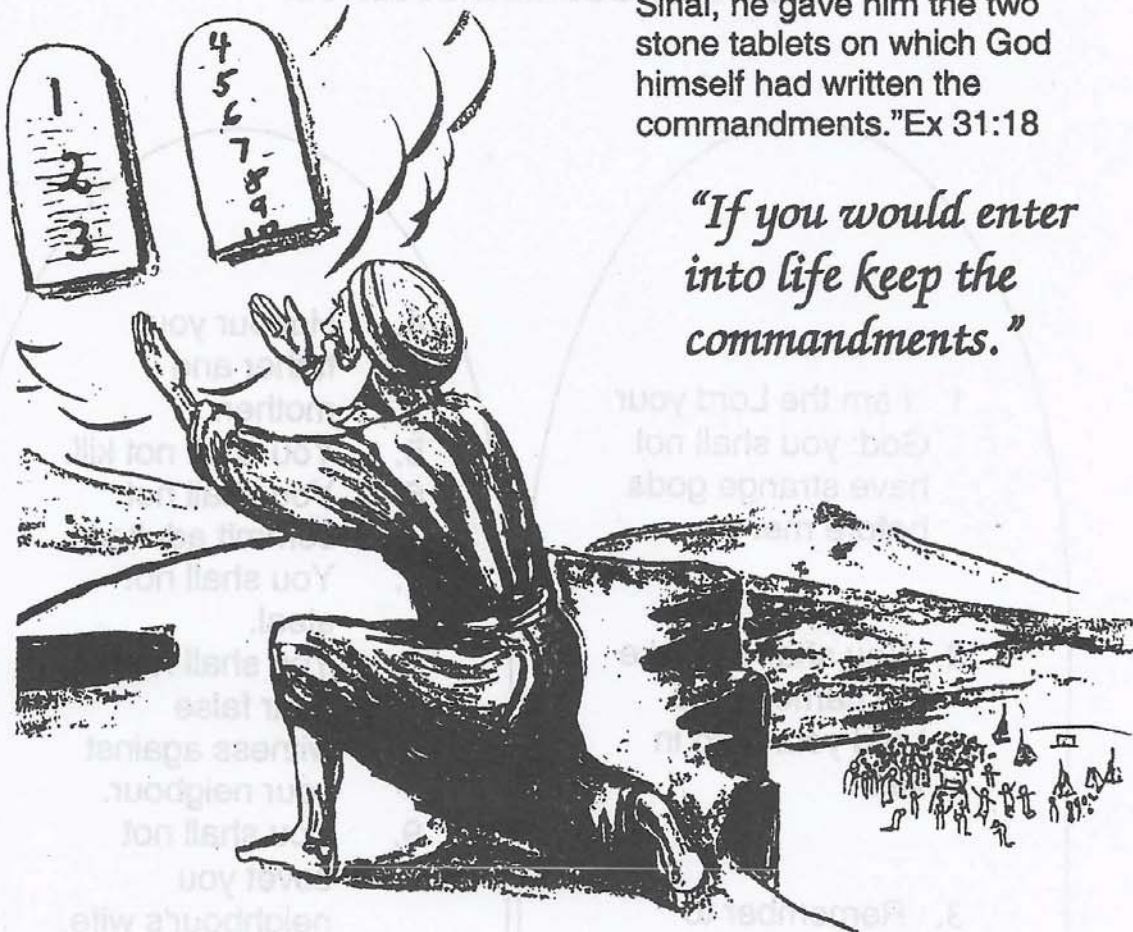
Taking care of old parents is the responsibility of children. Jn 19: 25-27:



## 74. THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

"When God had finished speaking to Moses on Mt. Sinai, he gave him the two stone tablets on which God himself had written the commandments." Ex 31:18

*"If you would enter into life keep the commandments."*



God made us. He loves us. He knows how we should live our lives to be happy and what we should do to be with him forever.

The Commandments tell us what to do and what not to do to show our love for God and others.

God gave the commandments out of love for us.

**THE COMMANDMENTS ARE A GUIDE TO LOVING GOD AND OTHERS.**

*I will keep the commandments because I love God and others.*



## **75. THE COMMANDMENTS LEAD TO HAPPINESS**

### **THE TEN COMMANDMENTS:**

1. I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.

2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day

4. Honour your father and mother.

5. You shall not kill.

6. You shall not commit adultery.

7. You shall not steal.

8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

9. You shall not covet you neighbour's wife.

10. You shall not covet your neighbour's goods.

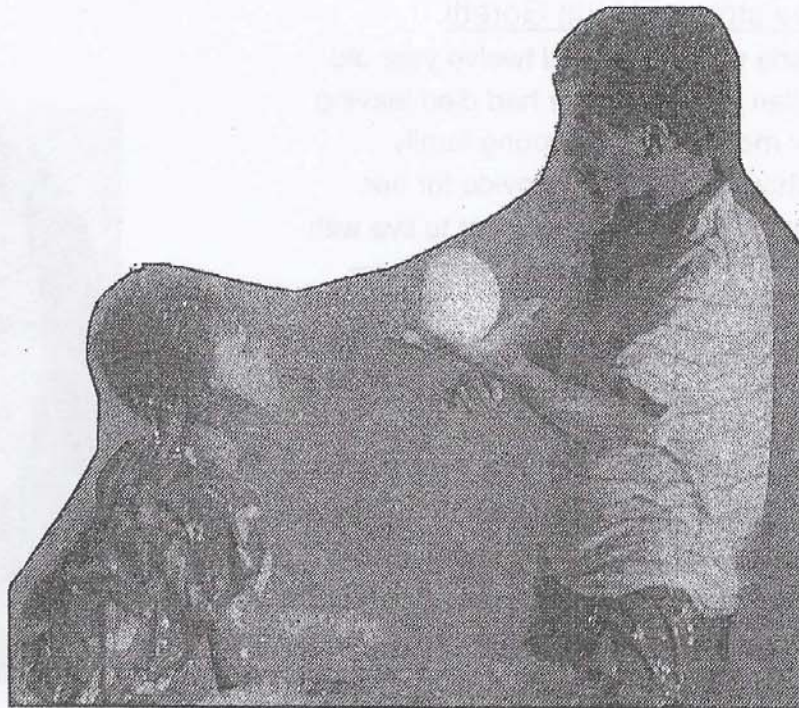
*"I find pleasure in obeying your commands, because I love them."* Ps. 119:47



## **76. WE MUST KNOW AND LIVE THE COMMANDMENTS**

*How can  
young people  
keep their  
lives pure? By  
obeying your  
commands.*

*With all my heart  
I try to serve you;  
keep me from  
disobeying your  
commandments.*



*I keep your law in my heart, so that I will not sin against you.  
I praise you, O Lord; teach me your ways.*

*I will repeat aloud all the laws you have given.  
I delight in following your commands more than in  
having great wealth.*

*I study your instructions; I examine your teachings, I take pleasure in  
your laws; your commands I will not forget."*

**Ps 119:9-16**

When we love someone we do not find it hard to do what they ask of us.

**If we really love God we will be happy to follow  
his Laws.**



## **77. SIXTH AND NINTH COMMANDMENTS**

### The story of Maria Goretti.

Maria was a beautiful twelve year old Italian girl. Her father had died leaving her mother and the young family without support. To provide for her family, Maria's mother went to live with a family of friends. They had a farm and the two families worked together in the fields each day. A boy in the friend's family, Alessandro, liked Maria and wanted her. One day when Maria was alone in the house, Alessandro came to her and tried to make her sleep with him. Maria knew what Alessandro asked for, was wrong. She loved God and did not want to disobey him. So she refused, saying, it was a sin. After that Maria made sure she was never alone when Alessandro was around.



When harvest time came everyone had to go to the fields. Maria was left home to care for the baby. When Alessandro saw that Maria was not in the field he slowly returned to the house. He came in and forced Maria to the ground. She kept calling out, "No Alessandro! No! It is a sin! I love God and I do not want to disobey Him!"

Alessandro became so angry, he pulled out a knife and stabbed Maria fourteen times. He ran from the house leaving her bleeding on the floor. Her mother found her there when she returned to the house. Maria was rushed, in an old wooden cart, along a very bumpy road, to the hospital. She died two days later saying, "I forgive Alessandro. I want him to be happy in heaven".

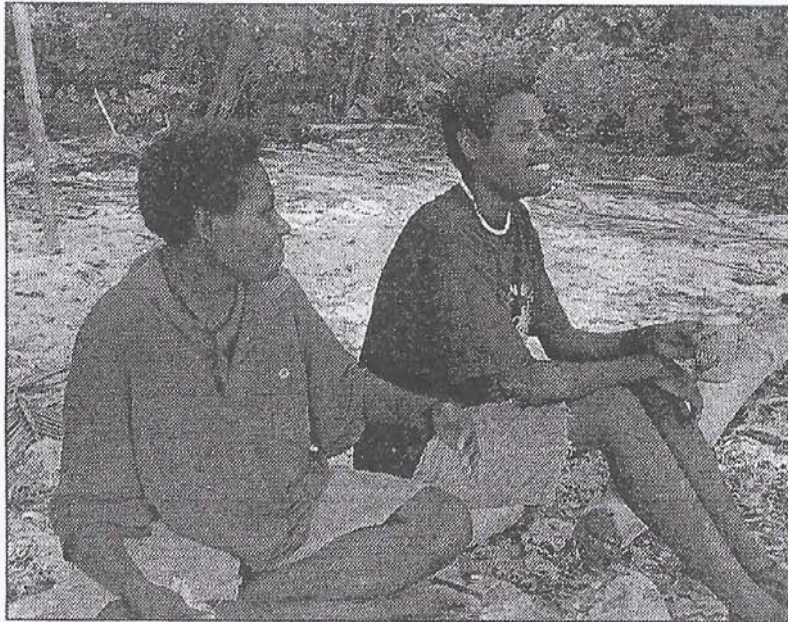
That happened in 1902. In 1950 Maria was named St Maria Goretti. Alessandro was also there and spoke of what he had done. Maria's prayers helped Alessandro to change his life and to ask God for forgiveness. She is the special patron of boys and girls. She can help us to be pure as she was. Her feast is celebrated on 6<sup>th</sup> July.

**The Sixth Commandment: You shall not commit adultery.**

**The Ninth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbors wife.**



## 77. THE SIXTH AND NINTH COMMANDMENTS -2



*"The body is not to be used for sexual immorality, but to serve the Lord; and the Lord provides for the body. God raised the Lord from death, and he will also raise us by his power. You know that your bodies are parts of the body of Christ.*

*Should I take a part of Christ's body and make it part of the body of a prostitute? Impossible!*

*Avoid immorality. Any other sin a man commits does not affect his body; but the man who is guilty of sexual immorality sins against his own body. Don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and who was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourselves but to God; he bought you for a price. So use your bodies for God's glory."*  
1Cor. 6: 13b-15, 18-20

*"You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But now I tell you: anyone who looks at a woman and wants to possess her is guilty of committing adultery 'with her in his heart.'" Mt. 5: 27-28*



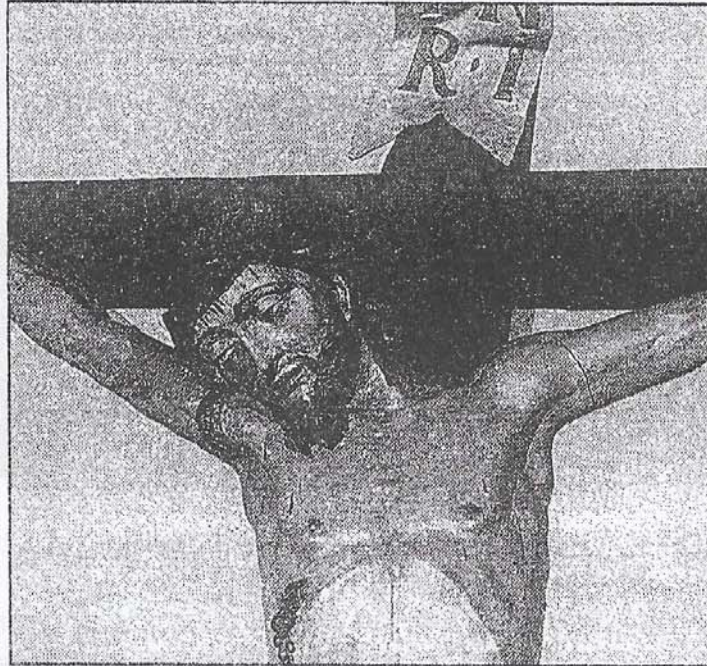


## 80. JESUS GAVE US A NEW COMMANDMENT

Jesus said,

"I give you a  
new  
commandment:  
love one  
another. As I  
have loved you,  
so must you  
love one  
another."

Jn 13:34



**"The message  
you heard  
from the very  
beginning is  
this: we must  
love one  
another. This  
is how we  
know what**

**love is: Christ gave his life for us. We, too, then ought to give our lives  
for others. My children, our love should not be just words and talk; it  
must be true love, which shows itself in action."** 1 Jn 3:11, 16, 18.

Jesus gave us a "New" Commandment: to love one another as He has  
loved us. It is new because no one has ever given his life for another  
person as he has done. Jesus has loved us first. He lives in us. That is why  
we can love others as he loves us. The mark of true disciples of Jesus is,  
that they love not just in words, but in action.

**Song:** *By this shall people know that you are my disciples if you have love  
one for another.*



## 81. WE LIVE THE NEW COMMANDMENT

*"Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. And God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we might have life through him. This is what love is: it is not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the means by which our sins are forgiven.*

*Dear friends, if this is how God loved us, then we should love one another. No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in union with us, and his love is made perfect in us."*

*"We love because God first loved us. If we say we love God, but hate others, we are liars. For we cannot love God, whom we have not seen, if we do not love others, whom we have seen. The command that Christ has given us is this: whoever loves God must love others also."*

1 Jn 4:7-12, 19-21.

# God is love.

### Poem:

'A bell is not a bell till  
you ring it.  
A song is not a song till  
you sing it.  
The love in your heart  
was not put there to  
stay.  
**Love is not love till you  
give it away.'**  
(Baroness de Hueck)

### Prayer of St Francis.

"Make me a channel of your peace:  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord.  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.  
Make me a channel of your peace:  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring  
hope.  
Where there is darkness, only light.  
And where there's sadness ever joy.  
O Master grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
To be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love with all my soul!  
Make me a channel of your peace:  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.  
In giving to all men that we receive,  
and in dying, that we are born to eternal life!

**Song:** Love is something that you give it away, and it comes right back to you.



## 82. CHRISTIAN VALUES

Christians are 'dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus' and so participate in the life of the Risen Lord. Following Christ and united with him, Christians can imitate God as beloved children, and walk in love by becoming like Jesus in their thoughts, words and actions.

*"Your hearts and minds must be made completely new, and you must put on the new nature which is created in God's likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy." Eph 4:23-24*

*"Since you have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, live in union with him. Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him, and become stronger in your faith, as you were taught. And be filled with thanksgiving." Col 2:6-7*

How can our hearts and minds become new?

- By living in union with Christ
- Keeping our roots deep in him
- Building our lives on him
- We will become stronger in our faith
- Being filled with thanksgiving

**If we live in union with Christ, keep our roots in him and build our lives on him, we will have the same values as Christ has.**

What were Christ's values?

- † Mt. 26:39 The Father's will
- † Lk 23:34 Forgiveness
- † Jn 18:37b Truth
- † Jn 10:10b Life
- † Mk 6:34 Compassion
- † Mk 9:35 Service
- † Jn 13:34 Love



What are my values?

Some of our values are very different from Christ's values. That is why Paul says, "Your hearts and minds must be made completely new."



## 83. FREEDOM AND CONSCIENCE

**"The Word of God is a light for my path." Ps 119:105**

*"Deep within his conscience man discovers a law which he has not laid upon himself but which he must obey. Its voice, ever calling him to love and to do what is good and to avoid evil, sound in his heart at the right moment." (Vat. 2: "Church in the World 16")*

Our conscience is always at work within us helping us to use our freedom wisely. As small children we did what we were told. We depended on others to tell us what to do. We imitated others too.

We slowly learned to know right from wrong. We were learning to make judgements and to act according to our values. Others have guided us how to judge.

Our parents, our teachers were helping us to form our conscience.

As we grow up we learn to think for ourselves and make choices.

Our conscience helps us to make these choices so that we do not just follow others.



**OUR CONSCIENCE GROWS AND DEVELOPS THROUGH THE  
CHRISTIAN VALUES WE ACCEPT.**

**Song:** *Be still and know that I am God.*

*I will listen to my conscience when I have to make choices*



## 84. WE TREAT OTHERS JUSTLY

*Do to others as you want them to do to you*

"Then a new king who knew nothing about Joseph, came to power in Egypt. So the Egyptians put slave drivers over the Israelites to crush their spirits with hard labour. The Israelites built the cities of Pithom and Rameses to serve as supply centres for the king. The Egyptians came to fear the Israelites and made their lives miserable by forcing them into cruel slavery. They made them work on their building projects and on their land, and they had no pity on them."

Ex 1:8, 11, 13-14

"Then the Lord said, 'I have seen how cruelly my people are being treated in Egypt; I have heard them cry out to be rescued from their slave drivers, I know all about their sufferings, and so I have come down to rescue them from the Egyptians and to bring them out of Egypt to a spacious land, one which is rich and fertile.'"

Ex 3:7-8

**God wants the rights of every person to be respected always.**

*Every person has the right to be treated justly.*

**Everyone has the duty to treat others justly.**

We must do what is possible to prevent or stop injustice from being done.



*I will not just stand and look when others are being treated unjustly.*



## 85. THE PROPHETS SPEAK AGAINST INJUSTICE

"For just a bribe you let guilty men go free and prevent the innocent from getting justice." Is 5:23

"Money lenders oppress my people, creditors cheat them." Is 3:12

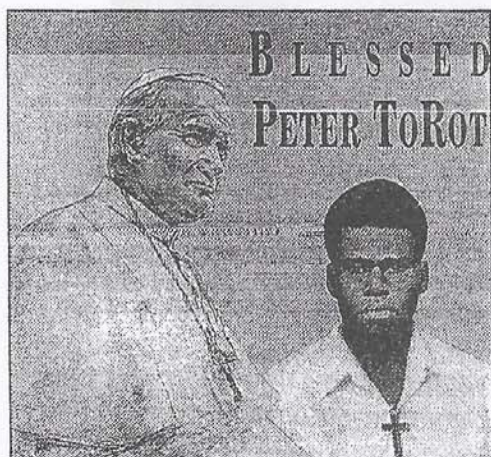
"Your leaders are misleading you so you do not know which way to turn." Is 3:13:

"They do not give orphans their rights or show justice to the oppressed." Jer 5:28b

"When they want fields they seize them. When they want houses they take them. No man's family or property is safe." Mic 2:2

"You hate anyone who challenges injustice and speaks the truth in court. You oppress the poor and rob them of their crops." Amos 5:10 -11a

"They use false measures, false scales and weights, exploit the poor and tell lies." Mic 6:10b-11



The prophets were the conscience of the people. They spoke out against what was wrong in the society (community). They criticized the injustices being done and stirred the people into action.

There are many things wrong in our society. Even important people do wrong. We must be strong not to follow their example. Sometimes we will have to speak and act against injustice.

***Live justly. Love tenderly. Walk humbly with your God.***

**Song:** *Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good..*

*Daily I will ask God to help me to do what is right and act justly.*



## **86. THE CHURCH SPEAKS AGAINST INJUSTICE**

### **The Church's teaching on Social Justice:**



**2. The common good is always geared towards the benefit of people. People must always be considered more important than things, and not the other way around. It is wrong for companies not to allow free days for workers because of their desire for profit.**



**4. Every practice that makes people a means of profit makes them slaves. E.g. Child labour, child abuse, children are kept from going to school to do family work.**



**6. A just wage is the right of the worker. To refuse to pay or to hold back wages is a serious injustice.**

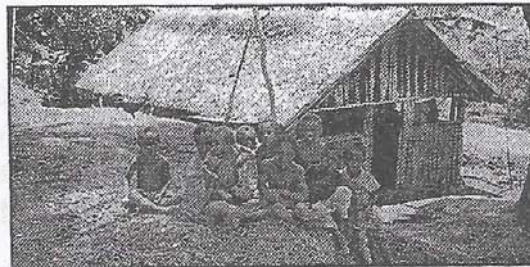
**1. People's use of creation is limited by the need of one's neighbour, including future generations.**

*E.g. A landowner cannot refuse to allow a road to be built that would benefit others, to pass through his land.*



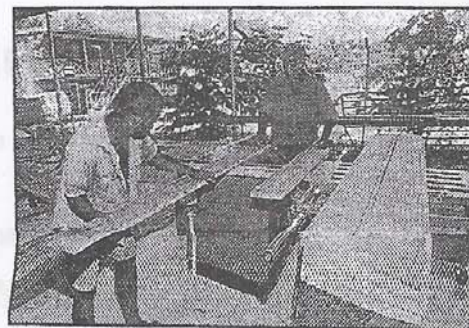
**3. The disordered desire for money only has bad effects. It is one of the causes of all the conflicts in the world.**

*E.g. Excessive compensation demands destroy the well-being of families and clans.*



**5. Those in business are responsible to the society for the effect they have on the economy and the environment.**

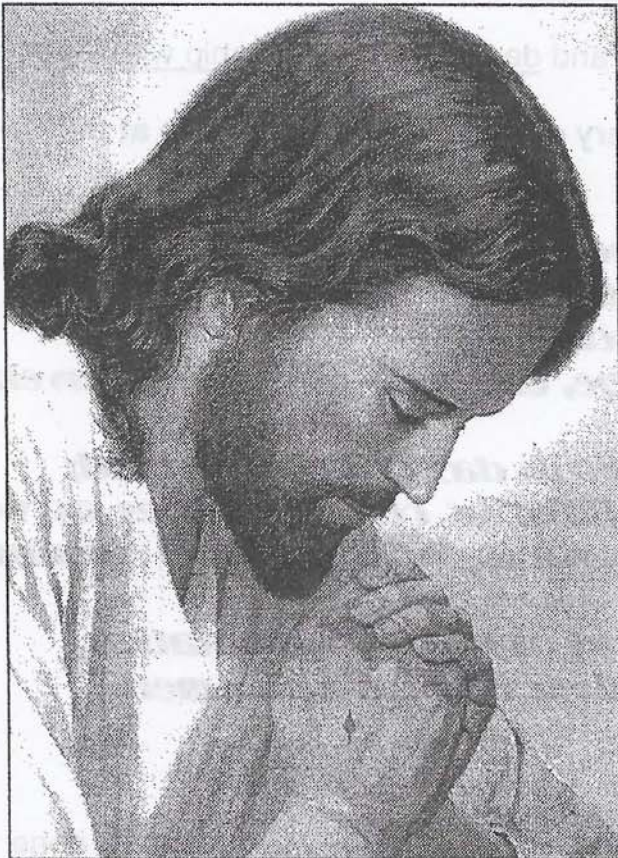
*E.g. Logging, mining and fishing companies.*





## 87. JESUS' PRAYER

*"After all the people had been baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my own dear son. I am pleased with you.'"* Lk 3:21-22



Then Jesus went to Nazareth, and on the Sabbath he went as usual to the synagogue. He stood up to read the Scriptures." Luke 4:16

*"Jesus went up a hill to pray and spent the whole night there praying to God."* Luke 6:12

"Very early the next morning, long before daylight, Jesus got up and left the house. He went out of the town to a lonely place, where he prayed." Mk 1:35

"Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up to heaven, thanked God for them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people." Luke 9:16

*"One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray.'"* Luke 11:1

"Jesus left the city and went, as he usually did, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples went with him.....Then he went away from them and knelt down and prayed. Luke 22:39, 41

*"Jesus said, 'Forgive them, Father! They don't know what they are doing.'"* Luke 23:34.

Prayer was important for Jesus. He wanted and needed to spend time with his Father.

*As followers of Jesus we need to pray every day.*



## **88. THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT**

Ways in which each day we express and deepen our relationship with others:

Thanks	Praise	Petition	Sorrow
Thanks for the book you gave me	You look very nice today	Please could you tell me the way to the store	I am sorry I spoilt your garden

Jesus taught us a way to express and deepen our relationship with God.

The Lord's prayer is the summary of the whole Gospel. It is at the centre of the Scriptures.

***Our Father who art in heaven,***

***† hallowed be your name,***

***† your kingdom come,***

***† your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.***

➤ ***Give us this day our daily bread;***

➤ ***and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;***

➤ ***and lead us not into temptation,***

➤ ***but deliver us from evil. Amen.***

In the first section we pray

- that God's name be praised, his Kingdom come, his will be done

This part is all about God. We do not mention ourselves.

In the second part of the OUR FATHER, we talk

- about ourselves and our daily needs: food, forgiveness and protection from evil.

***The Lord's Prayer shows us, that in prayer  
God and his concerns must come first.***



## 89. WE ARE CALLED TO HOLINESS

All Christians are called to holiness:

**"Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."**

"God's divine power has given us everything we need to live a truly religious life through our knowledge of the one who called us to share in his own glory and goodness. For this very reason do your best to add goodness to your faith; to your goodness add knowledge; to your knowledge add self-control; to your self-control add endurance; to your endurance add godliness; to your godliness add Christian affection; and to your Christian affection add love. These are the qualities you need, and if you have them in abundance, they will make you active and effective in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. - In this way you will be given the full right to enter the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 1:3, 5-8, 11

**On our way to heaven God gives us the helps we need.**

It is not enough for us just to be good people. God wants us to be holy. "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect."

God's divine power will help us to live a truly holy life.



Song: Deep in Christ I pray you know the power he can give. May your hidden self grow strong! And may you live strong in faith and built on love until you know: How high and long, how wide and deep the fullness of God.

*I will take up the challenge to be holy and  
add.....to my life.*



## **90. BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA**

### **Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, Saint of the Mohawks.**

When the great continent of the Americas was discovered by the European explorer Christopher Columbus it was the home of a great number of warring Indian tribes. One of the fiercest of these was the Mohawks. In 1656 the daughter of one of their fierce, pagan warriors was born. Many years later, in baptism she took the name of Kateri.

When Kateri was four years old, her mother died of the dreadful disease small pox. Kateri also got the disease and it badly disfigured her face. She was taken into the home of her two aunts and uncle. Because they knew it would be difficult for her to get married they were very unkind to her and treated her like a slave. Kateri did not seem to mind. She was always cheerful and did whatever she had to do because Kateri wanted something and she had to find a way to get it.

The Jesuit missionaries had come preaching about Jesus to the Indian Tribes. Although some were killed by the Indians others took their place. Kateri listened to them and wanted to know more about the man Jesus. As often as she could when her work was done, she went to listen and then to just sit quietly and think about and talk to this Man-God, Jesus.

Her aunts and uncle did not approve of these strange missionaries and made it difficult for Kateri to visit their area. But even with extra work, beatings and their constant complaints Kateri still managed to make time to go to early morning Mass and to hear more about Jesus and the woman Mary who was his mother and hers.

The missionaries noticed her and at first left her alone but later began to talk to her and so heard her story. When Kateri told how her family refused to let her be baptized the priest talked about taking this unmarried girl off their hands. The aunts and uncle finally agreed even though it meant they would lose a good worker. They realized that Kateri was not very strong and would not serve them much longer.

Kateri went to the new mission colony in Canada. When she was twenty she was baptized. Every morning, even in the very cold Canadian winter, she got up early and went to the Church for Mass. Often the door was not yet opened so she just stood and waited.

The people at the mission colony came to love this gentle, joyful Indian young woman. She was always willing to help and to care for the young children. They did not have her very long. In 1680, when she was twenty four years old, Kateri died. Her last words were "Jesus, Mary, I love you". Even though she was not treated very well by her own people and died away from them, she is now called Kateri of the Mohawks.

***Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, help me to love Jesus and Mary as you did.***



## ***91. SAINT PETER AND SAINT JOHN***

### **Narrator:**

Soon after Pentecost, Peter and John cured the paralyzed man by calling on the power of the name of Jesus. The people were very excited and thousands were becoming believers.

The Jewish Leaders were very cross and jealous and put Peter and John in jail for preaching about Jesus.

**Jewish Leader 1:** Go and bring those two Galileans here!

(Peter and John are brought in.)

**High Priest:** How did you cure this man? What power have you got or whose name did you use?

**Peter:** Leaders of the people and elders! You should know, and all the people of Israel should know, that this man stands here completely well through the power of the name of Jesus of Nazareth. You crucified him but God raised him from death. Salvation is to be found from him alone.

**Jewish Leader 2:** How can these people speak like this?

**Jewish Leader 1:** They are ordinary men with no education.

**High Priest:** Take them outside while we discuss the case.

**Jewish Leader 3:** What shall we do with these men?

**Jewish Leader 4:** Everyone in Jerusalem knows this miracle happened and we cannot deny it.

**High Priest:** To keep this matter from spreading any further we will warn these men **never again** to speak to anyone in the name of Jesus.

**Narrator:** So they called them back in and told them strictly not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered:

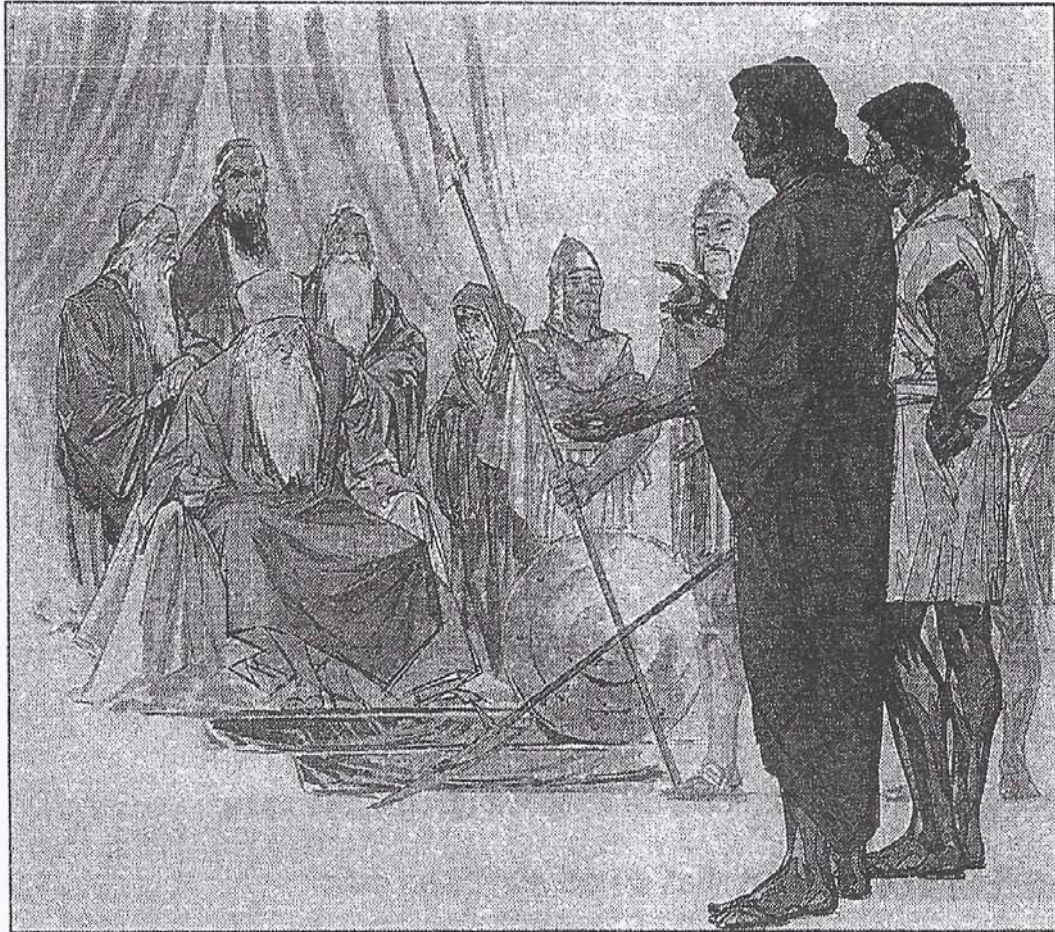
**Peter and John:** You yourselves judge which is right in God's sight – to obey you or to obey God. For we cannot stop speaking of what we ourselves have seen and heard.

**High Priest:** We are giving you a serious warning. If you don't obey us you will be in worse trouble.



**Narrator:**

As soon as Peter and John were set free they returned to their group and told them what the chief priests and elders had said.



Peter and John were filled with the Holy Spirit and love for Jesus. This gave them courage to speak up boldly and obey God rather than men.

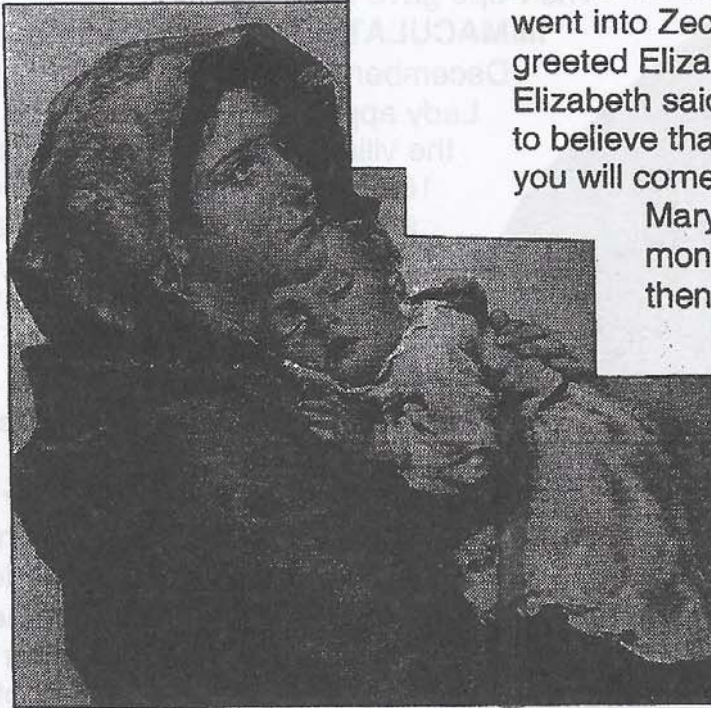
It is sometimes easier to do what people want than to do what God wants, especially if we are afraid of getting into trouble.

**The Holy Spirit and our love for Jesus strengthen us to be as courageous as Peter and John were, and to become saints.**

*When I have to choose between obeying God or people, I will...*



## 92. MARY – OUR MODEL



"I am the Lord's servant," said Mary;  
"may it happen to me as you have said."

Soon afterwards Mary hurried off to a town in the hill country of Judea. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth.

Elizabeth said, "How happy you are to believe that the Lord's message to you will come true."

Mary stayed about three months with Elizabeth and then went back home.

Mary remembered all these things and thought deeply about them." Lk 1:38-40, 45, 56. 2:19.

"There was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Jesus'

mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was finished, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have run out of wine." Jesus replied, "My time has not yet come." Jesus' mother then told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Jn 2:1-5

"When Jesus was hanging on the cross he saw his mother. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "He is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "She is your mother." Jn 19: 25a, 26-27a

**After Jesus, Mary is the best person that ever lived on earth. We look at Mary as being the model of what they should strive to become.**

**Song:** Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star so strong and bright.  
Gentle mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom, teach us love.

*I will try to be more like Mary in her.....*



### 93. MARY'S IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

*"The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by the grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved from all stain of original sin."*



The Pope gave Mary the title **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** on December 8th 1854. When our Lady appeared to Bernadette in the village of Lourdes in France 1858, Bernadette asked, Who are you? What is your name? Mary answered, **"I am the Immaculate Conception."**

**Mary was full of grace. She fully shared the life of God.**

This was the special way God prepared Mary for the important work she had to do. From the moment she was conceived within her mother, Mary was "Full of Grace."

We receive the life of God at Baptism.

Mary had the fullness of God's life from the moment she was conceived.

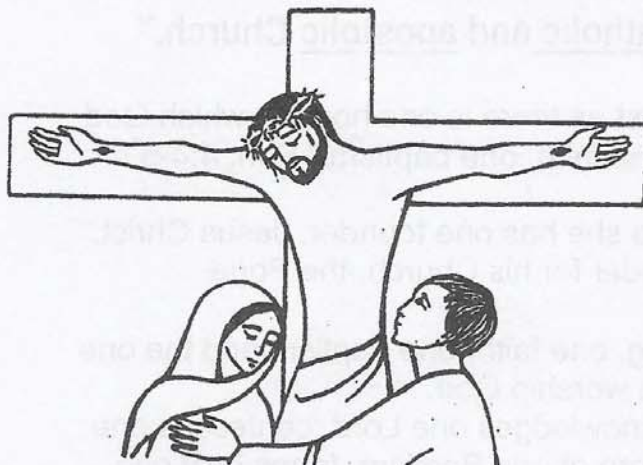
This is what we call her **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**.

**Sing:** Hail Mary Full of Grace the Lord is with you, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of death. Amen.

*Every night I will pray a Hail Mary and add:  
Mary Immaculate, pray for me.*



## 94. MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



"Standing close to Jesus' cross were his mother.....Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "He is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "She is your mother." From that time the disciple took her to live in his home."  
Jn. 19: 26-27

The apostles went back to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, which is about a kilometre away from the city. They entered the city and went up to the room where they were staying: Peter, John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Patriot, and Judas son of James. They gathered frequently to pray as a group, together with the women and with Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brothers. Acts 1:12-14



Mary knew Jesus so well. She was His mother. At his death Jesus made Mary mother of all those who followed him. She was to be the Mother of the Church. Peter was to be the lawmaker, leader, guide in the Church, but Mary was to be the Mother.

Mary is truly the Mother of God and of the Redeemer. She is the Mother of the members of Christ, the Church.

*Mary Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church, pray for me.*



## 95. THE CHURCH IS ONE AND HOLY

**"We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church."**

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism." Eph. 4:4-5

The Catholic Church is one, because she has one founder, Jesus Christ. Jesus appointed one visible leader for his Church, the Pope.

The Church has  
sacrifice of  
The Church  
faith, is  
Body,

one teaching, one faith, one baptism and the one  
Mass to worship God.

acknowledges one Lord, confesses one  
born of one Baptism, forms only one  
is given life by the one Spirit.

The  
in the  
Mother  
have followed her  
Sacraments.

Church is holy in her founder Jesus Christ,  
Holy Spirit who guides her, in Mary,  
of the Church and in the many saints who  
ways. The Church makes us holy through the



*I am proud to be a member of the Catholic Church.*



## 96. THE CHURCH IS CATHOLIC AND APOSTOLIC

"And so I tell you Peter: you are a rock, and on this rock foundation I will build my Church, and not even death will ever be able to overcome it. I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of heaven; what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven."  
Mt. 16:18-19.



"The eleven disciples went to the hill in Galilee where Jesus had told them to go.....Jesus drew near and said to them, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age."  
Mt 28:16, 18-20.

"The city's wall was built on twelve foundation stones, on which were written the names of the twelve apostles of the lamb." Rev. 21:14

**"We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church."**

All that the Church teaches comes from the teaching of the Apostles. What they saw and heard from Jesus comes to us through the Bible and the Tradition of the Church.  
The apostles did the work that Jesus gave them to do. The Catholic Church has carried on this work and will continue until the end of time.

The Catholic Church brings all the teachings of Jesus to all peoples in all parts of the world and offers them all the means of salvation. That is why we call her Catholic, which means UNIVERSAL.

*I will be prepared to answer questions about the Catholic Church.*



## 97. JESUS WILL COME IN GLORY



*"There will be strange things happening to the sun, the moon, and the stars. On earth whole countries will be in despair, afraid of the roar of the sea and the raging tides. People will faint from fear as they wait for what is coming over the whole earth, for the powers in space will be driven from their courses. Then the Son of Man will appear, coming in a cloud with great power and glory. When these things begin to happen, stand up and raise your heads, because your salvation is near." Lk 21:25-28*

At the end of time, the Kingdom of God will come in its fullness. After the universal judgement, the good people will reign forever with Christ, glorified in body and soul. The universe itself will be renewed.

### The happenings that give hope:

- The Son of Man will come in glory
- people will stand up and raise their heads

People will stand and raise their heads because **Salvation is near.**

### **We call this event the Second Coming of Jesus.**

We are looking forward to the Second Coming of Jesus because at this event we will receive all that God has promised. We will receive the happiness we are hoping for. God's Kingdom will come in its fullness and all those who have lived as followers of Jesus will be with him forever in God's Kingdom.

**We believe in one, holy Catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.**



## **98. WE BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.**



*"And he has given the Son the right to judge, because he is the Son of Man. Do not be surprised at this; the time is coming when all the dead will hear his voice and come out of their graves: those who have done good will rise and live, and those who have done evil will rise and be condemned."*

*Jn 5:27-29*

After death, the separation of the soul from the body, the human body decays and the soul goes to meet God, while awaiting its reunion with its glorified body.

All of us will be raised with our own bodies. When we are raised, our bodies will be like Jesus' body after his resurrection. We will live with him forever.

*Song: O when the saints go marching in (2x), I want to be in their number,  
o when the saints go marching in.*

**Prayer:** Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us that we may come to the place God has prepared for us.

*I will show respect for my body because I believe in the resurrection of the dead and life everlasting.*



## 99. WE BELIEVE IN LIFE EVERLASTING

*"When the Son of Man comes as King and all the angels with him, he will sit on his royal throne, and the people of all the nations will be gathered before him. Then he will divide them into two groups, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the righteous people on his right and the others on his left. Then the King will say to the people on his right, 'Come you that are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world.'... Then he will say to those on his left, 'Away from me, you that are under God's curse! Away to the eternal fire which has been prepared for the Devil and his angels! .... These then will be sent off to eternal punishment, but the righteous will go to eternal life.'" Mt 25: 31-34, 41, 46*

When Jesus comes, he will:

- gather all the people
- divide them into two groups

**God has prepared a place for everyone in the Kingdom of heaven.** We are not made for hell. The devil and his angels chose to separate themselves from God. Only those people who themselves choose to go against God will be separated from him forever. This is the punishment of hell. They will never have life and happiness with God.

This is how St. Paul talks about heaven: "No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him." 1Cor 2:9

All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are saved; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification.

To die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God's merciful love means remaining separated from God for ever by our own free choice. This reality is called hell.

When Our Lady appeared to the children at Fatima in 1917, she taught them this prayer:

**O Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fire of hell, bring all souls to heaven, especially those who most need your mercy.**

We say this prayer after each decade of the Rosary.

*I will choose God, His way and my place in His Kingdom*



## 100. WE PREPARE FOR THE LORD'S COMING Advent (1)

Advent is a special time of preparation for the coming of Jesus. We prepare for the celebration of his first coming, when he was born in Bethlehem. But we also remember that we are preparing every day for his second coming in glory.



*"A voice cries out, 'Prepare in the wilderness a road for the Lord! Clear the way in the desert for our God! Fill every valley; level every mountain. The hills will become a plain, and the rough country will be made flat.'" Is 40:3-4*

**The prophet Isaiah says,**

- prepare a way in the wilderness
- clear the way in the desert
- fill every valley
- level every mountain

*"So John appeared in the desert, baptizing and preaching. 'Turn away from your sins and be baptized,' he told the people, 'and God will forgive your sins.' He announced to the people, 'The man who will come after me is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to bend down and untie his sandals.'" Mk 1:4, 7*

John says we have to

- turn away from our sins
- be baptized

**Song:** *Ev'ry valley shall be exalted and ev'ry hill made low. And all God's people shall see together the glory of the Lord. A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway, a highway for our God."*



*In Advent I will make an effort to change what needs to be changed in me to be ready for Jesus' coming.*



## **101. HOW DO WE PREPARE OURSELVES FOR THE LORD'S COMING? (Advent 2)**

"The people asked John,  
'What are we to do then?'  
He answered,  
'Whoever has two shirts must give  
one to the man who has none, and  
whoever has food must share it.'

*Some tax collectors came to be  
baptized, and they asked him,  
'Teacher, what are we to do?'  
'Don't collect more than is legal,'  
he told them.*

Some soldiers also asked him,  
'What about us? What are we to  
do?'  
He said to them,  
'Don't take money from anyone by  
force or accuse anyone falsely. Be  
content with your pay.'  
Lk 3:10-14, 18.



If we would ask John, "What are we to do?"

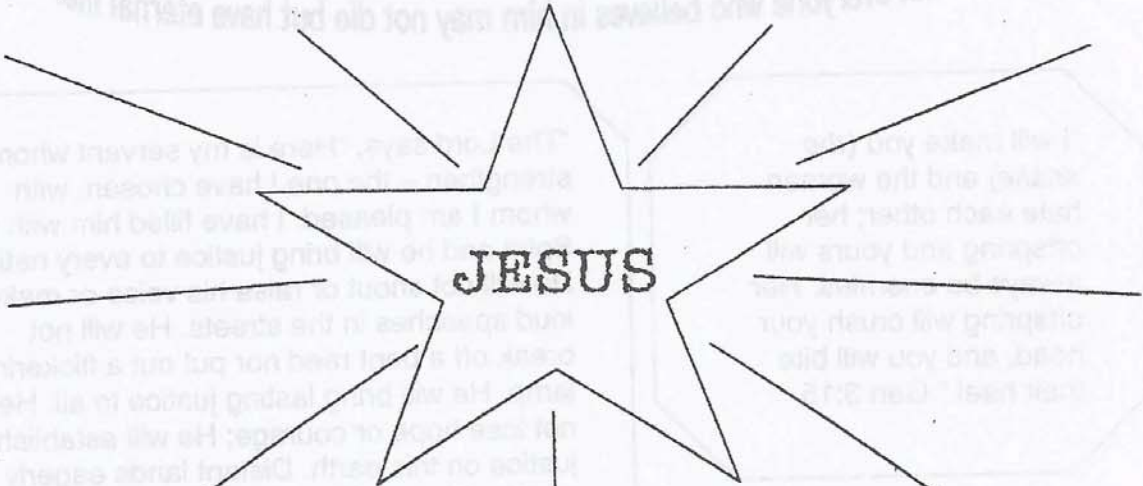
**What would John ask me to do this Advent?**



**We should prepare ourselves  
to meet the Lord and to  
become "a people well  
disposed." The preparation  
of our hearts is the joint  
work of the Holy Spirit and  
ours. The grace of the Holy  
Spirit strengthens our faith,  
helps us to repent and to do  
the Father's will.**



## **102. JESUS COMES AS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD (Advent 3)**



**JESUS**

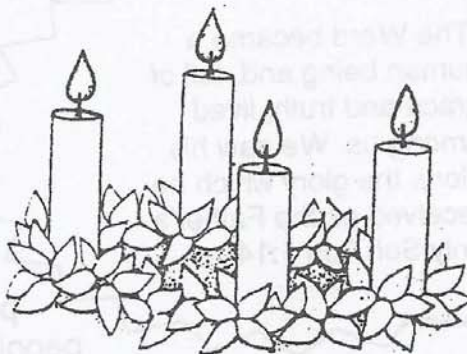
**"The Word was the source of life, and this life brought light to people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out. God sent his messenger, a man named John, who came to tell people about the light, so that all should hear the message and believe. He himself was not the light, he came to tell about the light that comes into the world and shines on all people."**

**John 1:4-9**

**The world was in the darkness of sin. Jesus came as the light of the world. He is stronger than the darkness of sin.**

**If we follow Jesus, we too become light and can overcome sin.**

*To remind us that Jesus is the light, the Church uses candles or other lights when celebrating Advent and Christmas. Sometimes an Advent wreath with four candles is used. One candle is lit on the first Sunday, two on the second,.....*



**The better we prepare ourselves, the more we become light for the Community.**

**Songs:** *This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine. (3x) Let it shine(3x).*



## 103. CHRISTMAS (1)

**"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life."**

"I will make you (*the snake*) and the woman hate each other; her offspring and yours will always be enemies. Her offspring will crush your head, and you will bite their heel." Gen 3:15

"The Lord says, "Here is my servant whom I strengthen – the one I have chosen, with whom I am pleased. I have filled him with my Spirit and he will bring justice to every nation. He will not shout or raise his voice or make loud speeches in the streets. He will not break off a bent reed nor put out a flickering lamp. He will bring lasting justice to all. He will not lose hope or courage; He will establish justice on this earth. Distant lands eagerly wait for his teaching." Is 42:1-4.

"The Lord himself will give you a sign: A young woman who is pregnant will have a son and will name him Immanuel." Is 7:14.

"The Lord says, "Bethlehem, Ephrathah, you are one of the smallest towns in Judah, but out of you I will bring a ruler for Israel, whose family line goes back to ancient times." Mic 5:2.

"The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only Son." Jn 1:14.

**Most of these texts were written long before Jesus was born.**

God himself made them known to the prophets so that they could prepare the people for the coming of the Messiah.

At Christmas we celebrate the coming of Jesus. In his life, all these Bible texts came true.

***"The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only Son."*** Jn 1:14



## 104. CHRISTMAS (2)

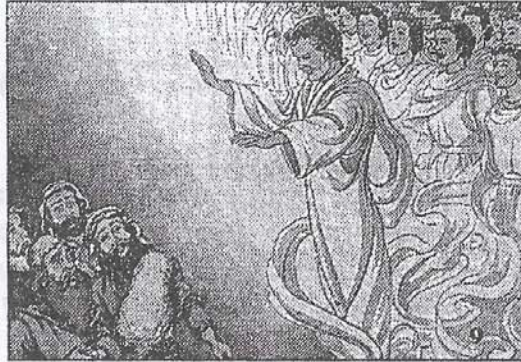


Joseph Lk 2:4 - 5a. Joseph went from the town of Nazareth to the town of Bethlehem, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David. He went to register with Mary, who was promised in marriage to him.

Mary Lk 2:5b - 7. She was pregnant, and while they were in Bethlehem, she gave birth to her first son, wrapped

him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger - there was no room for them to stay in the inn.

Shepherds Lk 2: 8 - 18, 20. There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night out in the open, taking care of their flocks. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. They were terribly afraid, but the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid! I am



here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David's town your Saviour was born - Christ the Lord! And this is what will

prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great army of heaven's angels appeared with the first angel, singing praises to God: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels went away from them back into heaven, the



shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger. When the shepherds saw him, they told them what the angel had said about the child. All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said.

Mary Lk 2:19. Mary remembered all these things and thought deeply about them.

Shepherds Lk 2:20. The shepherds went back, singing praises to God for all they had heard and seen; it had been just as the angel had told them.



## **105. LITURGY ASH-WEDNESDAY**

Enter church or classroom singing *Yes, I shall arise and return to my Father..*  
(Gather around fire)

**First reading:** Esther. 4:1-3

*"When Mordecai learnt of all that had been done, he tore his clothes in anguish. Then he dressed in sackcloth, covered his head with ashes, and walked through the city, wailing loudly and bitterly, until he came to the entrance of the palace. He did not go in because no one wearing sackcloth was allowed inside. Throughout all the provinces, wherever the king's proclamation was made known, there was loud mourning among the Jews. They fasted, wept, wailed, and most of them put on sackcloth and lay in ashes."*

**Jesus, Lord, I ask for mercy.**

**Second reading:** Neh. 9:1-2

*"On the twenty-fourth day of the same month the people of Israel gathered to fast in order to show sorrow for their sins. They had already separated themselves from all foreigners. They wore sackcloth and put dust on their heads as signs of grief. Then they stood and began to confess the sins that they and their ancestors had committed."*

**Jesus, Lord, I ask for mercy.**

**Third reading:** Jn 3:4-6

*"How can a grown man be born again?" Nicodemus asked. "He certainly cannot enter his mother's womb and be born a second time?"*

*"I am telling you the truth," replied Jesus. "No one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. A person is born physically of human parents, but is born spiritually of the Spirit."*

**Jesus, Lord, I ask for mercy.**

**REFLECTION:** Ashes have always been an important symbol of sadness and sorrow for all people.

First child holds flashcard - **Sadness.**

Second child - **Sorrow for sin.**

Third child - **Repentance, change.**

Ashes are used for sadness, sorrow for sin and as a sign of readiness to change. These are the things we are called to do for Lent so we begin this season with Ash Wednesday - a day when we put ashes on our foreheads to admit our sinfulness and our willingness to change. For the next forty



days we put away our symbols of rejoicing - Alleluia and continue to ask for forgiveness. To help us be faithful in Lent we pray.

Response: ***Lord help us to remember.***

**Leader:**

Lent is a time for remembering God's love for us (Res).  
Lent is a time for looking at what Jesus has done for us (Res).  
Lent is a time for turning back to God. (Res).  
Lent is a time of prayer and penance. (Res).  
Lent is a time when we walk with Jesus in the desert. (Res).  
Lent is a time of new life and renewed giving. (Res).

**Distribution of Ashes.**

**Song:** *Lenten song sung in the parish*

**Prayer:** God our Father you gave us Jesus your son to be our way to you. In these forty days of Lent, help us to walk with Him and to show our love for you by the way we live. May our prayers, works and actions help us become more like Jesus who lives with you and the Holy Spirit forever. Amen.

**Conclusion:** Carry fire container to classroom as hymn is sung.

## **106. LENT - LITURGY**

(Half way through Lent).

**ENTRANCE:**

**Song:** *Yes, I shall arise and return to my Father.*

**TEACHER:**

On Ash Wednesday we began the 40 days of Lent. Today we have completed half of them. It is time to look at what we have done and what we are going to do during the second half of Lent.

**READING:** Luke 9:43b-45

*"The people were still marveling at everything Jesus was doing when he said to his disciples, 'Don't forget what I am about to tell you! The Son of Man is going to be handed over to the power of human beings.'" But the*



*disciples did not know what this meant. It had been hidden from them so that they could not understand it, and they were afraid to ask him about the matter."*

**INTERCESSIONS:**

Let us pray that we and all Christians may have the Faith, courage and strength to work with and for Jesus in the last half of Lent.

**Leader:**

Lord Jesus we believe that you have invited us to go with you to Jerusalem where you will enter into death and glory. So that we may always be ready to walk with you, we pray.

**Response:** Let us go to Jerusalem to suffer and rise with Him.

**Leader:**

- 1) Lord Jesus, you went up to Jerusalem to do all your Father asked of you. May we always be ready to put God first in our lives. **(Res)**
- 2) Lord Jesus, you went up to Jerusalem so that all people would come to know the Father's love. May we always show that love to others. **(Res)**
- 3) Lord Jesus, you went up to Jerusalem so that when lifted up you would draw all people to yourself. May all we do bring us closer to you. **(Res)**
- 4) Lord Jesus, you went up to Jerusalem so that from your heart would flow living water. Fill us with your spirit so that we might bring your life to others. **(Res)**
- 5) Lord Jesus, you went up to Jerusalem to suffer, die and rise again. Help us to share your suffering so that we may share your joy and glory. **(Res)**

**LEADER:**

Let us pray to the Father who brought Jesus through death to life:  
Our Father (said or sung)

**Sing:** Final hymn while children place number strip (21-40) in classroom.

***Keep in mind***

*Keep in mind that Jesus Christ has died for us; and is risen from the dead.  
He is our saving Lord; He is joy for all ages.*

- 1 *If we die with the Lord, We shall live with the Lord.*
- 2 *If we endure with the Lord, We shall reign with the Lord.*
- 3 *In Him, all our sorrow; In Him, all our joy.*
4. *In Him, hope of glory, In Him, all our love.*
5. *In Him, our redemption, In Him, all our grace.*
6. *In Him, our salvation, In Him, all our peace.*

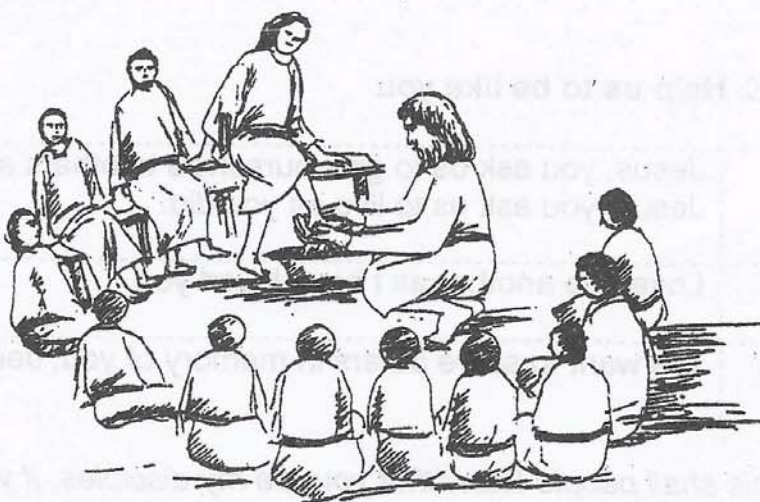


## 107. HOLY THURSDAY

**Scripture:** Jn 13:1,3-10,12-15

*"It was now the day before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. He had always loved those in the world who were his own, and he loved them to the very end. — Jesus knew that the Father had given him complete power; he knew that he had come from God and was going to God. So he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel around his waist. Then he poured some water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Are you going to wash my feet, Lord?' Jesus answered him, 'You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later.' Peter declared, 'Never at any time will you wash my feet.' 'If I do not wash your feet,' Jesus answered, 'you will no longer be my disciple.' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, do not wash only my feet, then. Wash my hands and head too.' Jesus said, 'Those who have had a bath are completely clean and do not have to wash themselves except their feet. All of you are clean — except one.' After Jesus had washed their feet, he put his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table. 'Do you understand what I have just done to you?' he asked. 'You call me Teacher and Lord, and it is right that you do so, because that is what I am. I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. I have set an example for you so that you will do just what I have done for you.'"*

**On Holy Thursday Jesus set an example for us.**



**We have to show our love for others by serving them.**



## 108. HOLY THURSDAY LITURGY

### OPENING:

**Song:** *This is my body* (lesson 41)

### READING:

*"For I received from the Lord the teaching that I passed on to you: that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and said, 'This is my body, which is for you. Do this in memory of me.' In the same way, after the supper he took the cup and said, 'This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood. Whenever you drink it, do so in memory of me.'"* 1 Cor. 11:23-25

**RESPONSE:** **Thank you Jesus.**

One student of the group reads the lines

**Jesus:**

Lord Jesus, you gave yourself for us.  
Jesus, you took our human nature to be like us.  
Jesus, you took our sins to make us children of the Father.

**Broke:**

Jesus, you broke the power of evil in our lives.  
Jesus, you were broken so that we could be healed.

**For you:**

Jesus, everything you did was for us.  
Jesus, you gave yourself at the supper and on the cross for us.

**RESPONSE: Help us to be like you**

**You:**

Jesus, you ask us to give ourselves to others as you did.  
Jesus, you ask us to live as you did.

**Do this:**

Love one another as I have loved you.

**In memory:**

We want to serve others in memory of you, Jesus.

**Song:** *By this shall people know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another.....*



## 109.-110. GOOD FRIDAY



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

**Sing:** *God of Mercy and compassion (Ch).*

*Jesus Lord, I ask for mercy let me not implore in vain.*

*All the things I now detest them never will I sin again.*

### PRAYER:

Lord as we walk this way with you help us to remember the people who today continue to carry your cross in their lives. Help us to be always ready to do what we can to share their burden.

### STATION 1: Jesus is condemned to death. (Put up picture.)

At each station:

**Leader:** We adore you, Christ, and we bless you,

**All:** because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

**Leader:** Pilate washed his hands to show he did not want to be part of Jesus' death, but he did not raise his hands to protect Him. Today when I refuse to speak the truth or speak out to help others, I am like Pilate washing my hands, but closing my heart.

At each station:

**Response:** Jesus help me to open my hands to you and others.

### STATION 2: Jesus takes His Cross. (Put up picture)

The soldiers passed the cross to Jesus. He took it and put it on His shoulder. So often my cross comes to me from the hands of others. But I don't always put my hands out to take it as Jesus did.



**STATION 3: Jesus falls the first time.**

Jesus fell and rough hands pulled and pushed Him until He was up and on His way again. I often see people fall. So often my hands are the rough hands of the soldiers, not the gentle hands of Jesus who reached out to touch others in friendship and healing.

**STATION 4: Jesus meets His mother.**

Mary's hands went out to help but other hands kept her away. Because of fear and shame I let others turn me from helping those who need help. At times I have stopped others from being helping hands.

**STATION 5: Simon helps Jesus to carry the cross.**

More helping hands as Simon lifts the load off Jesus' shoulders. Everyday there is the chance for me to be Simon to my parents, teachers, friends. To be like Simon means to be unselfish and generous.

**STATION 6: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.**

Strong hands, gentle hands. Brave hands to wipe Jesus' face. My hands can help to wipe the sorrow and shame from others when I have the courage to act for them.

**STATION 7: Jesus falls a second time.**

Even Simon's hands were not enough. Again Jesus fell. There are never enough hands to help. Everyone needs help at some time. When my hands reach out to others, someone is able to rise and go on.

**STATION 8: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.**

The women's tears didn't really help. It was Jesus who reached his hands out to them. His words gave them courage. It doesn't matter how small my help is. The important thing is that I am ready to help others.

**STATION 9: Jesus falls the third time.**

Almost at the end and He falls again. No hands to help. Where are my hands when people really need me? At the end of a day there is always someone who needs hands to help finish off.

**STATION 10: Jesus stripped of His clothes.**

Many strong, willing hands to pull and tear. When I talk about others I do the same. When I steal I do the same. My hands are not always gentle, loving hands.



**STATION 11: Jesus nailed to the Cross.**

Strong, cruel hands that hold a hammer and hit in nails. My hands hold those nails when my words are hard, my words untrue. I too nail others to the cross and cause them pain by so much that I say to and about them.

**STATION 12: Jesus Dies on the Cross. (*Pause for a while*)**

Hands stretched out and open to give all He has for us. My hands are closed and folded when I refuse to give. Jesus asks me to open my hands to all who ask for my help and my love.

**STATION 13: Jesus taken down from the Cross.**

So many gentle, loving hands to take out the nails, wash and hold Jesus. Today Jesus needs all those hands again to show love and kindness to those who suffer.

**STATION 14: Jesus laid in the Tomb.**

The hands of friends carry Him to the grave, wrap Him in a cloth and lay Him to rest. Love and understanding make our hands gentle and kind. We can reach out to others who need help. We can touch them with our love.

**CONCLUSION:** Jesus used His hands to heal and save us. Let us pray as He taught us that we might give to Him as the Father gives to us. Our Father.

**CLOSING SONG: Were you there**

1. *Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*  
*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!*  
*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

2. *Were you there when they nailed Him to a tree?*
3. *Were you there when they pierced Him on the side?*
4. *Were you there when the sun refused to shine?*
5. *Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?*
6. *Were you there when He rose from out the tomb?*





## 111.-112. THE RESURRECTION - EASTER

Christ has died,  
Christ has risen,  
Christ will come again.

Joyfully we sing **ALLELUIA**.



"I passed on to you what I received, which is of the greatest importance: that Christ died for our sins, as written in the Scriptures; that he was buried and that he was raised to life three days later, as written in the Scriptures."

1 Cor 15:3-4

John 20: 19-20

*The disciples were gathered together behind locked doors, because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities. Then Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. After saying this he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy at seeing the Lord.*

These and other Bible stories tell us that Jesus is alive. The people who saw the risen Christ were so happy and excited that they shared this experience with the ones they met.

**JESUS IS ALIVE NOW. IT IS UP TO US  
CHRISTIANS TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS WITH  
OTHERS.**



### 113. FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY

We have celebrated big feasts since the beginning of the Church year: Christmas, Easter, Pentecost.

Now we celebrate the feast of the **Holy Trinity**, and thank and praise the Father, Son and Holy Spirit for creating us, redeeming us and making us holy.

*"Then God said, 'And now we will make human beings; they will be like us and resemble us.'"*  
Gen 1:26a

Father – Creator : The Father gives us life.

Son – Redeemer : The Son redeems us.

Spirit – Sanctifier : The Holy Spirit makes us holy

*"He has been raised to the right-hand side of God, his Father, and has received from him the Holy Spirit, as he had promised. What you now see and hear is his gift that he has poured out on us." Acts. 2:33.*

**THE TRINITY IS THE MOST IMPORTANT MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH. WE BELIEVE IN THE ONE GOD, FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT . THIS IS HOW GOD HAS SHOWN HIMSELF TO US.**

**This is what we celebrate on Trinity Sunday.**

*"You were chosen according to the purpose of God the Father and were made a holy people by his Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be purified by his blood." 1Pt 1:2*

*Each time I make the sign of the Cross, I will remember the Trinity in my life.*



## 114. INDEPENDENCE

### Prayer Service

#### PREPARE:

One small flag each. (Students can draw their own)  
Prayer corner decorated with flag, flowers, etc....  
Students may wear small cultural decorations.  
Prayers on strips of paper.

#### CELEBRATION:

*March or process to the prayer corner.*

**Sing:** *This is our flag....*

*Students sit quietly.*

**Teacher :** Short introduction about Independence.



#### Reading: 1 Peter 2:13-17

"For the sake of the Lord submit yourselves to every human authority: to the Emperor, who is the supreme authority, and to the governors, who have been appointed by him to punish the evil-doers and to praise those who do good. For God wants you to silence the ignorant talk of foolish people by the good things you do. Live as free people; do not, however, use your freedom to cover up any evil, but live as God's slaves. Respect everyone, love other believers, honour God, and respect the Emperor."

*10 students hold a strip of paper each with the prayer on each.*

*The first five stand in front.*

*All respond: **We praise and thank you, God.***

1. God, we thank you for giving us our beautiful country. **Response.**
2. God, we thank you for our Prime Minister, Members of Parliament and other Leaders. **R.**
3. God, we thank you for our Church, Bishops, Priests and Church workers. **R.**
4. God, we thank you for our families and communities. **R.**
5. God, we thank you for our teachers, doctors, nurses, police, defense force and all who help and protect us. **R.**

*The next five students stand up in front.*

*All respond: **Lord, hear our prayer.***

6. God, we ask you to help us to use our freedom properly. **Response:**
7. God, guide our leaders and help them to do what is right. **R.**
8. Help us respect and support the work of good leaders. **R.**
9. Strengthen the Christian life in our communities. **R.**
10. Help us to be good citizens, living and working together in peace and love. **R.**

**Give a sign of peace** – as done in your Church in your area.

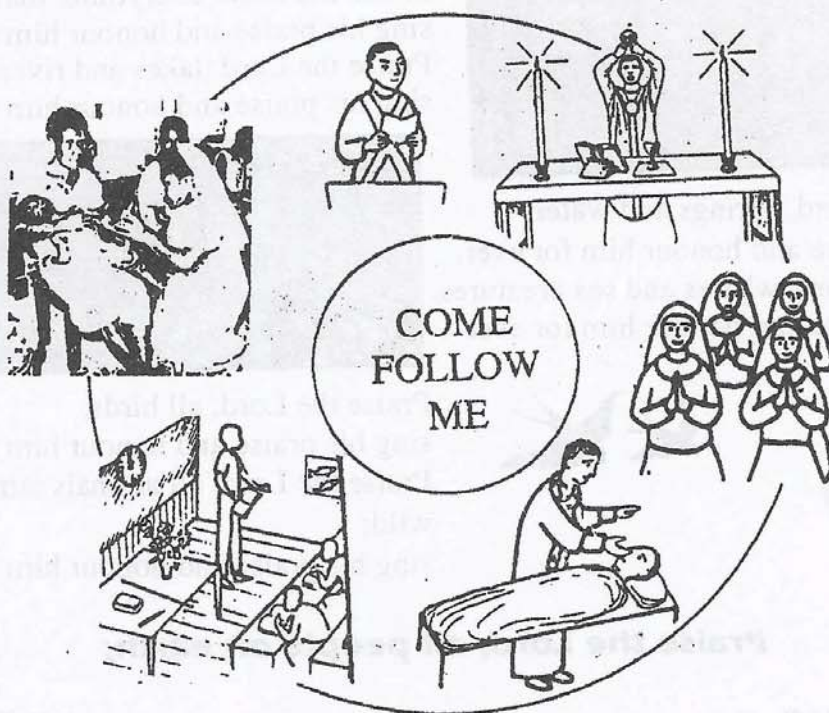
Stand, hold up flag and sing the **National Anthem.**



## 115. VOCATION SUNDAY

As Jesus was starting on his way again, a man ran up, knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to receive eternal life?" Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked him. "No one is good except God alone. You know the Commandments: 'do not commit murder; do not commit adultery; do not steal; do not accuse anyone falsely; do not cheat; respect your father and your mother.'" "Teacher," the man said, "ever since I was young, I have obeyed all these commandments." Jesus looked straight at him with love and said, "You need only one thing. Go and sell all you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have riches in heaven; then come and follow me." When the man heard this, gloom spread over his face, and he went away sad, because he was very rich. Mk 10:17-22

Today Jesus still calls men and women to follow him more closely in a special commitment as priests or in Religious Life.



### VOCATION IS A CALL FROM GOD

If Jesus calls me, I will follow.....

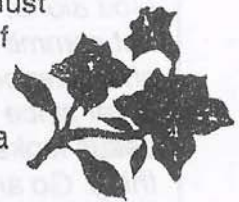


## 116. WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord

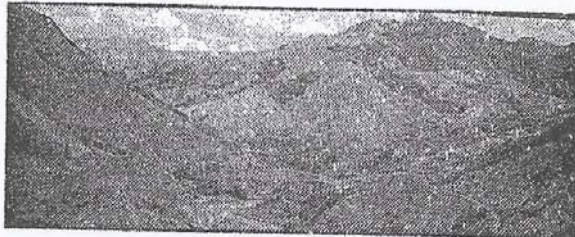


Use of the mineral, vegetable and animal resources must be guided by respect and consideration for the good of all. Man's dominion over non-living and living beings granted by the Creator is limited by concern for his neighbour, including generations to come. It requires a religious respect for creation.



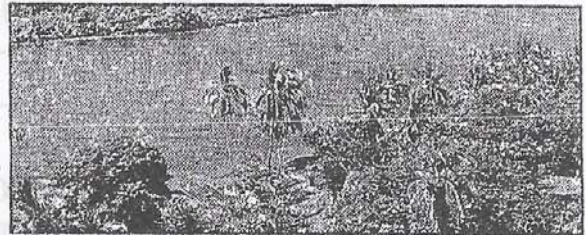
Daniel 3:52-60

Let the earth praise the Lord;  
sing his praise and honour him for ever.  
Praise the Lord, mountains and hills;  
sing his praise and honour him for ever.



Praise the Lord, everything that grows;  
sing his praise and honour him for ever.  
Praise the Lord, lakes and rivers;  
sing his praise and honour him for ever.

Praise the Lord, springs and water;  
sing his praise and honour him for ever.  
Praise the Lord, whales and sea creatures,  
sing his praise and honour him for ever.



Praise the Lord, all birds,  
sing his praise and honour him for ever.  
Praise the Lord, all animals tame and  
wild;  
sing his praise and honour him for ever.

**Praise the Lord, all people on earth;**

# SING HIS PRAISE AND HONOUR HIM FOREVER.

Song: *Glory to God, glory, o praise him alleluia.*  
*Glory to God, glory, o praise the name of the Lord...*



## **117. CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN –**

### **CLASS- LITURGY**

**Opening hymn:** *Children helping children*

**Leader:**

We all know how strong the “wantok” system is.

What does being a “wantok” mean?

What do you expect a “wantok” to do for you?

Jesus wanted all people to be “wantoks”. He told us, God is our Father and He prayed that all may be one.

Let us think of all the people Jesus gives us as “wantoks” in God’s family.

Children arrange different faces around the center piece (Cross, candle etc.) as all sing:  
*Make me your brother...*

*Several children say something about the face they have displayed.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Child:** I am an Arab. I live in a tent in the desert and move from place to place. I pray to Allah.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Child:** I am a Jew, one of Yahweh’s chosen people. I pray to the God of my fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Child:** I am from India. I honour God in all forms of life. I believe in a God who has many forms.

**4<sup>th</sup> Child:** I come from Italy. I honour God as my Father and follow His Son Jesus who came to save all people.

**5<sup>th</sup> Child:** I am an Indian from America and follow the Great Spirit who loves and cares for all of his creation.

**6<sup>th</sup> Child:** I am from Papua New Guinea. I am a Christian. I believe in God my Father, his Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

**Sing:** *Make me your brother, make me your friend. Make me a part of your life till its end. Accept me in full, whatever I be, whatever my race, whatever my creed.*

**Jn 4:5-10:**

*Jesus, tired out by the journey, sat down by the well...A Samaritan woman came to draw some water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink of water.”....*



*The woman answered, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan – so how can you ask me for a drink?" (Jews will not use the same cups and bowls that Samaritans use.).*

**Leader:**

Jesus was a Jew. The woman who came to get water was a Samaritan. As soon as Jesus asked her for a drink she reminded him of this. His people and her people did not even talk to each other. But Jesus told her he was ready to help anyone who asked him. He saw every person as part of God the Father's Family. Jesus told all of us to call God our Father. If God is our Father then, like Jesus, we have to be ready to be CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN all around the world. Let us show we are all one people and ready to reach out and help each other by giving our offering. (*Collect money for CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN*)

**Sing or pray:** *Our Father,..*

**Leader:**

Now let us pray that all people will come to know God as Father and that we will work together with all people as children of God and brothers and sisters of Jesus.

**Response:** Let the peoples praise you o God.

--That all people who do not know God our Father will receive the gift of Faith.

**Res.**

--That people of all nations share their resources with others. **Res.**

--That the rich nations of the world will be generous in helping their brothers and sisters in the poorer countries. **Res.**

--That all people who are unjustly treated be given respect and justice as children of God. **Res.**

--That we accept, welcome and help all people who are different from us and respect them. **Res.**

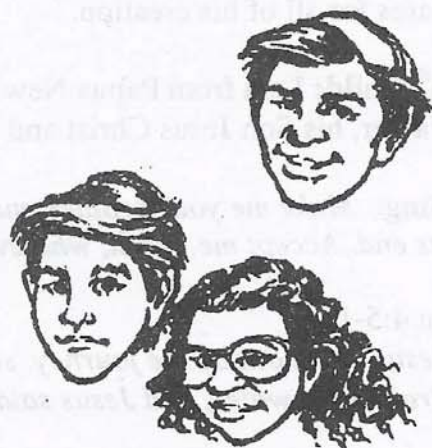
--That we all become one family as Jesus prayed, and live in love and peace. **Res.**

--That all churches work together to bring the light of God's word into the darkness of our world. **Res.**

**Leader:** Let us respond by singing:

**Sing:** *Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.*

**Closing song:** *All the earth proclaim the Lord.  
Sing your praise to God.*





## 118. UNITY WEEK

Christ always gives his Church the gift of unity, but the Church must pray and work to maintain this unity. This is why Jesus himself prayed for the unity of his disciples: "That they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be one in us." The desire for unity of all Christians is a gift of Christ and a call of the Holy Spirit.

### STRENGTH IN TOGETHERNESS:

An aged dying father called his seven sons around him. He gave each one a stick and said, "Break it." Each son easily broke his separate stick. The old father then bound seven sticks into a bundle, gave it to his eldest son and said, "Break it." He could not. Nor could any of the rest. "So," said the father, "it should be with you. Alone you are weak, together you are strong."



*"I pray that they may all be one. Father! May they be in us, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they be one, so that the world will believe that you sent me. I gave them the same glory you gave me, so that they may be one, just as you and I are one. I in them and you in me, so that they may be completely one, in order that the world may know that you sent me and that you love them as you love me." Jn 17:21-23*

Jesus prayed that his apostles would be ONE just as He and the Father were one. -- Jesus wants us, as members of Christian Churches, to share and be one. That means we are prepared to listen to each other. We must be prepared to speak kindly about each other, to share and not to argue and fight. Jesus wants us to be ONE--One flock with ONE Shepherd. Let us pray that we may become one as He wants us to be.

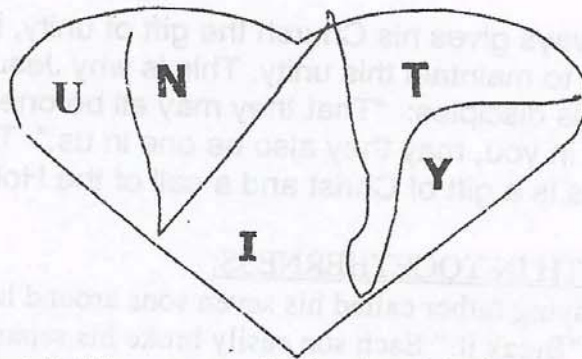
Complete this sentence:

.....grows when people say .....to the .....to come..... and work .....for the .....of others.

(UNSELFISHLY, UNITY, TOGETHER, NEEDS, YES, INVITATION)



## 119. UNITY WEEK - ECUMENISM. Para-Liturgy



**HYMN:**        *We are one in Spirit. We are one in the Lord. (2x)*  
                  *And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.*  
                  *And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.*  
                  *Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!*

### **OPENING PRAYER:**

Lord we ask you to send us your Spirit that we may have the courage to say "YES" to the invitation you give to US to come together as followers of your Son and work unselfishly for you and the needs of your Church. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **READING:**

**1 Cor 1:10:**

*"By the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ I appeal to all of you, my friends, to agree in what you say, so that there will be no divisions among you. Be completely united, with only one thought and one purpose."*

After first reading children form a circle with the leaves and the children with the 5 letter cards form the word UNITY as a heart.

While doing this sing again: *We are one in the Spirit...*

### **GOSPEL: Jn 17:11b, 21, 23**

*"Holy Father! Keep them safe by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one just as you and I are one."*

*"I pray that they may all be one, Father! May they be in us, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they be one, so that the world will believe that you sent me."*

*"I in them and you in me, so that they may be completely one, in order that the world may know that you sent me and that you love them as you love me."*



**LEADER:**

Jesus prayed that his apostles would be ONE as he and the Father are one. He also prayed for us who believe in him.

Jesus wants us as members of Christian Churches, to be one with him and each other.

**Give a sign of peace to show unity and sing:**

**Sing:** - *Peace to you. Peace to me. Peace to each of us.*

*From me to you and you to me. We bring the gift of peace.*

**INTERCESSIONS: Response: Lord may we be one in you.**

- ✧ We pray for Pope John Paul and the leaders of all Churches that they may work for unity and peace as they lead people to Jesus. **Res.**
- ✧ We pray for all Christians that they may be united in their belief and love of Jesus. **Res.**
- ✧ We pray for all non-Christians that they may come to know Jesus and the Father who sent Him. **Res.**
- ✧ We pray for each other that as children of the Father and followers of Jesus we may live in peace and friendship. **Res.**

**LEADER:**

Let us say (sing) the prayer that shows that we are all children of the Father," Our Father."

**CLOSING HYMN:** *We are one in Spirit.*

*We are one in Spirit. We are one in the Lord.(2x)*

*And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.*

*And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.*

*Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!*





# **PRAYERS**

## **THE SIGN OF THE CROSS**

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.. Amen.

## **THE HAIL MARY**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried, he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **GLORY BE...**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **I CONFESS**

I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do; and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angels and saints, and you my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.



### **ACT OF SORROW**

O my God, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, because you are so good, and with your help I will try not to sin again. Amen.

### **FAITH, HOPE, LOVE**

- \* O my God, I believe in you, increase my faith.
- \* O my God, I hope in you, strengthen my hope.
- \* O my God, I love you above all things. Teach me to love you more and more. Amen.

### **BEFORE EATING**

Bless us, O Lord, and these gifts which in your goodness we are about to receive, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **AFTER EATING**

Thank you, God, for the food you have given us and for all the gifts we receive through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **MORNING PRAYER**

O God my Father, I thank you for looking after me during the night and for giving me another day. - I give you myself and all I do. Mary, my mother, help me to love God today. Amen.

### **NIGHT PRAYER**

O God my Father, before I go to sleep tonight, I thank you for all the things you have given me today.  
I am sorry for not having done what you wanted me to do. May your angels watch over me and Mary, my mother, be near me. Amen.

### **GUARDIAN ANGEL**

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love entrusts me here. Ever this day, be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

### **FATIMA PRAYER**

O Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fire of hell, bring all souls to heaven, especially those who most need your mercy.



### **HAIL HOLY QUEEN**

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy; our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

### **ROSARY**

#### **The Joyful Mysteries:**

1. The Annunciation.
2. The Visitation
3. The Birth of Jesus
4. The Presentation
5. The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

#### **The Sorrowful Mysteries:**

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion

#### **The Glorious Mysteries**

1. The Resurrection
2. The Ascension
3. The Coming of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven
5. The Crowning of Mary

### **THE ANGELUS**

**L.** The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

**All:** And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.  
Hail Mary.....

**L.** Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

**All:** Be it done unto me according to your word.  
Hail Mary.....

**L.** The Word was made flesh

**All:** And dwelt among us.  
Hail Mary.....

**L.** Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

**All:** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.



**L.** Let us pray:

**All:** Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we to whom the incarnation of Christ Your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may, by His passion and cross, be brought to the glory of His resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **MASS PRAYERS**

### **Offertory:**

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good, and the good of all the church.

### **Holy:**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

### **Lamb of God:**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. (2x)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

### **Lord, I am not worthy:**

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

## **PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray:

O God, You have taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant us by the same Spirit to be truly wise and ever to rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



### **THE TEN COMMANDMENTS:**

1. I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day.
4. Honour your father and mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
9. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbour's goods.

### **THE MAIN LAWS OF THE CHURCH**

1. To attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation.
2. To observe the laws of fasting.
3. To confess our sins at least once a year.
4. To receive Holy Communion at Easter time.
5. To support the Church
6. To observe the marriage laws of the Church.

### **The Nicene Creed:**

We believe in one god, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father.

God from God, Light from Light, True God from true God,  
Begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven:

By the power of the Holy Spirit, he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died, and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures;

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his Kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

And the life of the world to come. Amen.