

2ND & 3RD GRADE ~ SCHOOL CATECHISM BEE QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1. Who is the Promised One?	Jesus
2. What do we call a follower of Jesus who dies for his or her faith?	Martyr
3. What do we call the stories that Jesus told to teach a special lesson or meaning?	Parables
4. What is faith	Faith is belief and trust in God
5. Who is called to follow Jesus?	All people
6. Who is the Holy Family?	Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
7. Whose image are Adam and Eve created in?	God's
8. Who baptized Jesus?	John the Baptist
9. Who were the first people God created?	Adam and Eve
10. How many days did Jesus stay with the disciples after he arose from the dead?	40
11. What town did Jesus grow up in?	Nazareth
12. What town was Jesus born in?	Bethlehem
13. Why was Jesus born in Bethlehem?	Because his parents were traveling for the census
14. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, He made them leave. What is the name of the place they left?	The Garden of Eden
15. The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus' followers on the day of Pentecost. The day is known as what in the Church?	The birthday of the Church
16. How many days after Jesus was crucified did He rise from the dead?	Three
17. Who baptized Jesus?	John the Baptist
18. When is Jesus' birthday?	Christmas/December 25th
19. What is Jesus' mother's name?	Mary
20. What is Jesus' foster father's name?	Joseph
21. Who is Jesus' grandmother?	Ann

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
22. Jesus came to _____ us OR What did Jesus come to do for us?	Save all people from their sins.
23. Who created Adam and Eve?	God, who created them in His own image.
24. Where was Jesus baptized?	In the Jordan River
25. When is the birthday of the Catholic Church?	Pentecost
26. What day did Jesus rise from the dead?	Easter Sunday
27. What does the name Jesus in Hebrew mean?	God saves
28. Why did Jesus die on the cross?	To make up for our sins.
29. On the day Jesus rose from the dead, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb with who?	The other Mary.
30. What happened at the Last Supper?	Jesus washed the feet of his apostles on the evening before his death; he instituted the Eucharist, and founded the priesthood of the New Covenant
31. What substance did God form man out of?	Man was formed out of clay according to Genesis 2, verse 7
32. According to Acts 12, what service do angels provide for Christians?	They protect them from danger. (Acts 12:11)
33. How did Noah demonstrate his love for God while building the ark	He did whatever God told him to do. (Genesis 6:22)
34. According to Philippians 4:6 what should Christians do instead of worrying?	They should pray, bringing their requests to God.
35. What was Paul’s main goal in life?	To magnify Jesus. (Philippians 1:19-21)
36. According to Psalm 37:4, in what should we delight?	We should delight in the Lord.
37. In Psalm 150, who or what is instructed to praise God?	Everyone who has breath.
38. According to Jesus in Matthew 24:35, what will never pass away?	God’s words will never pass away.
39. According to Proverbs 10:1, what makes a parent glad?	A wise child.
40. According to Ephesians 6:1-2, what is the responsibility of children?	To obey and honor their parents.

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
41. What does El Shaddai, one of many names, mean?	God Almighty according to Genesis 17:1
42. What does 3 John, verse 11 tell us we should not imitate?	Evil
43. According to Proverbs 12:18, in what two ways can our words affect others?	Words can hurt others or help others.
44. What truth can we learn from Noah's behavior before the worldwide flood?	We should be willing to speak for God, even when it is unpopular. (Genesis 6:5-22, 2 Peter 2:4-6)
45. What was the main reason God rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt?	To proclaim His glory to the whole earth (Exodus 9:16)
46. How did Mary (Lazarus' sister) show her deep love for Jesus?	She anointed His feet with very expensive oil. (John 12:1-8)
47. What portion of the Old Testament tells about Moses receiving the Ten Commandments from God on Mount Sinai?	Exodus 20

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
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SACRAMENTS

48. How many sacraments are there?	Seven
49. What is the first sacrament we receive?	Baptism
50. What two sacraments do we need to be healed? a. Eucharist and Baptism b. Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick c. Matrimony and Holy Orders	b. Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick
51. The Sacraments of mission are Holy Orders and Marriage. True or false?	True
52. There are two sacraments of initiation. True or false?	False, there are three
53. When you are baptized what does the priest say? a. Don't cry when I pour the Holy Water on your head b. Welcome to the church c. I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son and of the Holy Spirit	c. I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son and of the Holy Spirit
54. How many times can a person be baptized?	Once
55. Baptism takes away sin. True or false?	True
56. What does the bishop say when you are confirmed? a. You are not now of God's disciples b. Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit c. Go forth and do god's work	b. Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit
57. How long must we fast before we receive communion?	One hour
58. What are we really receiving when we receive Holy Communion?	The body, blood, soul and divinity of God

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
59. How do we answer when the priest or special minister of the Eucharist says either “the Body of Christ,” or “the blood of Christ?”	Amen
60. What does it mean when we say Amen?	I believe
61. What is the Sacrament of Reconciliation?	God’s loving forgiveness
62. How do we prepare for the sacrament of Reconciliation when we think about how we may have sinned with words or actions?	Examination of conscience
63. What is serious sin called?	Mortal
64. Can we receive the sacraments of Holy Communion with Mortal sin on our soul?	No

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
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HOLY SPIRIT

65. What do we call the twelve virtues that the Holy Spirit plants within the human heart to help people live as children of God?	Fruits of the Holy Spirit
66. What are the fruits of the Holy Spirit?	The fruits of the Holy Spirit are: Charity (Love) Chastity Faithfulness Generosity Gentleness Goodness Joy Kindness Modesty Patience Peace Self-control
67. Who is the Holy Spirit?	The Holy Spirit a Helper and guide who gives you gifts so that you can follow Jesus. The Holy Spirit is a Person in the Blessed Trinity
68. What is the Church?	The Church is the People of God. It is the community of believers created by the Holy Spirit
69. How many special signs of God’s life and love, called sacraments, do we have in our church?	Seven
70. Name one place we find the Holy Spirit.	Any of the following: Scriptures, teaching of the Church through the popes and bishops, the Mass, the priesthood, missionaries, and the saints.

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
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**THE CHURCH
COMMUNION OF SAINTS**

71. Who takes St. Peter’s place as the leader of our Catholic Church on earth?	The Pope
72. Who takes the places of the Apostles as leaders of God’s people in our church	The Bishops
73. What do we call the prayer prayed by a priest in the sacrament of Reconciliation that is a sign of God’s forgiveness?	Absolution
74. What do we call the days before Christmas when Christians wait and prepare for the coming of Jesus?	Advent
75. What is the Church feast that celebrates Jesus returning to his Father in heaven forty days after his resurrection?	The Ascension
76. What is the Church feast that celebrates Mary being taken to heaven, body and soul, when the course of her earthly life was finished	The Assumption
77. Who takes St. Peter’s place as the leader of our Catholic Church on earth?	The Pope
78. What do we call a community of Catholics who worship and serve together under the leadership of a pastor?	A parish
79. What is the special title given to a leader of Catholics in a group of parishes called a diocese?	Bishop
80. What is the special title given to certain bishops by the pope to honor them and to make them part of his closest advisers?	Cardinals
81. What do we call a portion of the universal Church made up of a number of parishes in a certain area, led by a bishop?	Diocese
82. Who are the four Gospel writers?	Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
83. What do we call the season during which we prepare for Easter?	Lent
84. What are the three sacraments of initiation by which people are welcomed into the Church?	Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist
85. What is the role of the Church leaders?	To teach, unite, and serve the people of God
86. What are the sacraments?	Signs and celebrations of God’s love
87. What is the Church a sign of?	God’s life and love in the world today
88. What are three practices that Christians are encouraged to do as penance during the season of Lent?	Prayer, sacrifice, almsgiving
89. Who are the saints?	Saints are people who have spent their lives loving God, following Jesus, and helping others.
90. What is the most important way to keep Sunday holy?	Celebrate the Mass
91. What is the Church’s mission?	Share the Good News of God’s love with all people
92. The table in the church where ordinary bread and wine becomes the body and blood of Christ is called: a. Altar b. Pulpit c. Credence table	a. Altar
93. Another name for the Paschal candle is the Easter Candle. True or false?	True
94. What does it mean to fast?	To go without food
95. What is the first part of the Mass called?	The Liturgy of the Word
96. What do we do in front of the Tabernacle?	Genuflect
97. The room that stores the sacred vessels we use for mass, including the vestments worn by the priest, the challis, and sacred books is called: a. Reconciliation room b. Sanctuary c. Sacristy	c. Sacristy

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
98. Where in the church is the Paschal Candle commonly found?	Near the Baptismal Font
99. The place where Baptism takes place is called? a. Holy Water pool b. Baptismal Sacred Water c. Baptismal Font	c. Baptismal Font
100. What is found inside the Tabernacle? a. Bible b. Chalice c. Crucifix	b. Chalice
101. The special place where the ministers read, speak, and sometimes sing during the Liturgy of the Word is called: a. Tabernacle b. Altar c. Lectern	c. Lectern
102. What is another name for lectern?	Ambo
103. What day marks the start of Lent?	Ash Wednesday
104. When did Jesus die on the cross?	Good Friday
105. What part of the Mass includes Scripture readings, the homily, and the prayers of petition?	Liturgy of the Word
106. What part of the Mass includes the Eucharistic Prayer and Communion?	Liturgy of the Eucharist
107. What are the four marks of the Catholic Church?	The church is One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
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THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

108. What does “Thou shall not have other gods besides Me?”	That we believe in one true God, and that we trust him alone to give us what we need.
109. What does it mean in the second commandment, “Thou shall not use God’s name in vain?”	That God’s name is only used in prayer, or talking about him with respect.
110. What is something you can do to keep God’s day holy?	Go to Mass
111. By not stealing you are obeying what commandment?	The seventh
112. Give an example of honoring your father and mother.	By obeying them, by treating them with respect in the way we talk to them, etc.
113. Being happy with you own family is a way to keep the 10 th commandment of not coveting your neighbor’s goods. True or False?	True
114. The first commandment is: You shall not have other gods before Him. What does this mean?	Example: Not to look up to movie or sports stars more than Jesus. To trust God alone to give you what you need.
115. The fourth commandment is: Honor your father and mother. Give an example of this commandment.	Example: Obey your parents by doing your chores cheerfully.
116. The fifth commandment is: You shall not kill. What does this mean?	It means not only not killing someone, but also, not hurting someone when you are angry. For example not hitting your brother when you are made.
117. The sixth commandment is: You shall not commit adultery. Give an example of practicing this commandment.	Example: You should treat your body with modesty and respect.
118. The seventh commandment is: You shall not steal. Give an example of practicing this commandment	Example: You ask your dad for the quarter on his dresser before you take it.
119. The eighth commandment is: You shall not lie. Give an example of practicing this commandment.	Example: You tell your teacher the real reason you are late or the real reason your homework has not been turned in. You avoid untrue talk about others.
120. The ninth commandment is: You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife. How can you show God that you are doing as he commands?	It means not wanting or being jealous of what other people have. You can thank God for the good things He gives you.

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
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THE BEATITUDES

121. Where do the Beatitudes come from?	The Bible
122. What is God giving in each of the Beatitudes?	A promise
123. Complete the following sentence: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of _____?	heaven.
124. Complete the following sentence: Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be _____?	comforted.
125. Complete the following sentence: Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit _____?	the earth.
126. Complete the following sentence: Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be _____?	satisfied.
127. Complete the following sentence: Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown _____?	mercy.
128. Complete the following sentence: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see _____.	God.
129. Complete the following sentence: Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the sons of _____.	God.
130. Complete the following sentence: Blessed are those who are persecuted, for they will be called_____.	Children of God.

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
PRAYER	
131. How does Jesus want you to pray?	Often and with our hearts
132. Who in the Bible taught us to pray?	Jesus
133. There are five forms of prayer. Name one.	Blessing and adoration, petition, Intercession, thanksgiving, and praise. (this may be asked to more than one student)
134. Give an example of a prayer of blessing and adoration.	We call God Blessed, because of His love and goodness, we give Him heartfelt love and worship because He is our Creator.
135. What is the prayer of Petition?	When we ask God for what we need.
136. The prayer of Petition is a good time to ask for forgiveness.	True.
137. When is the prayer of Intercession used?	When we pray to help others
138. Give an example of a prayer of Intercession.	Asking God to help others, even our enemies.
139. Give an example of a prayer of Thanksgiving.	Thanking God for all His gifts, such as meals, forgiving our sins, our family, and for every breath we take.
140. Do we pray for our enemies?	Yes
141. We give glory to God because He is God, not for what He does, but for Who He is, is a form of what type of prayer?	Praise
142. What sign do we make before we pray?	The sign of the cross
143. Besides people on earth who prays for us?	The angels and saints
144. The prayer of Petition is a good time to ask for forgiveness. True or false?	False
145. At mealtime, what do we thank God for?	Our food
146. What is prayer?	Prayer is raising our mind and heart to God.
147. Complete the following sentence: At Mass, we stand and sing God's _____	praise.

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QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
148. Complete the following sentence: We pray for ourselves and _____.	others.
149. Complete the following sentence: Prayer can be silent or _____.	said out loud.
150. Complete the following sentence: We can pray alone or in a _____.	group.
151. Complete the following sentence: To the Tabernacle we come and _____.	kneel.
152. Complete the following sentence: We believe that God’s presence is real in the _____.	Tabernacle.
153. Name three prayers that we memorize.	Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.
154. Do angels and saints pray for us?	Yes
155. Who is our Heavenly Mother?	Mary
156. What is the special prayer the Church gives us?	Hail Mary
157. What was the name of the angel who came to Mary and told her she was going to be the Mother of God?	Gabriel
158. What did Mary say to the Angel Gabriel when she was told she was going to become the Mother of God?	Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.
159. Where does the first part of the Hail Mary come from?	The Bible
160. What is the first prayer of the Holy Rosary?	The Apostles Creed
161. The rosary is divided into parts called: a. Stories b. Parables c. Mysteries	c. Mysteries

"I Believe in God the Father . . ."

NAME _____

Write the names of some things God has created.

_____ 1

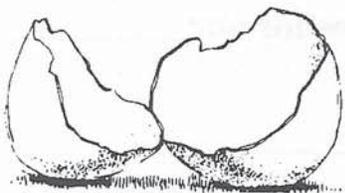
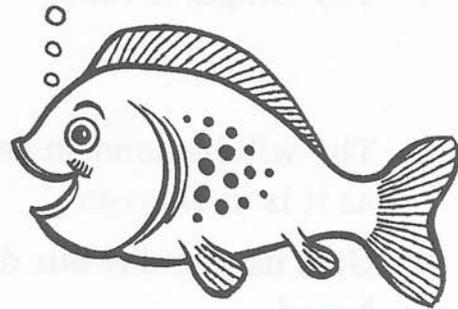


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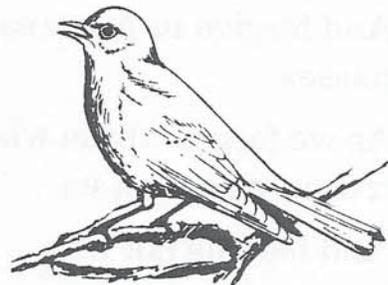
_____ 3 _____

_____ 4



_____ 5 _____

_____ 6 _____



Use the letters from the numbered boxes above to finish this sentence.

God is our .

1 2 3 4 5 6

Our Father

NAME _____

When the Apostles asked Jesus how to pray, the answer He gave them was the prayer we call the "Our Father". By looking at this prayer, we can learn more about the character of the First Person of the Holy Trinity, God the Father. Fill in each blank with the best word from the list below.

God's children Heaven needs hears merciful good grace strength greater holy

By praying this . . .

1. Our Father
2. Who art in Heaven
3. Hallowed be Thy Name
4. Thy Kingdom come
5. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven
6. Give us this day our daily bread
7. And forgive us our trespasses
8. As we forgive those who trespass against us
9. And lead us not into temptation
10. But deliver us from evil

We can know this . . .

1. We are _____ of God.
2. To be with God means to be in _____.
3. God is _____.
4. We want _____ Kingdom of goodness, peace, and joy to spread to all people.
5. God wills only what is _____.
6. God provides for our _____.
7. God is _____.
8. With God's _____, we can and must show love and mercy to others.
9. God gives us free will, but He _____ us when we ask for help to avoid sin, and He gives us _____.
10. God is _____ than the devil.

“I Believe in Jesus Christ”

NAME _____

Use the words on the right to complete the sentences.

Jesus is the _____ of God.

He came down from _____.

_____ is Jesus’ birthday.

Jesus has a human Mother.

Her name is _____.

God gave Jesus a _____ father.

His name is Joseph.

Jesus came to _____ all people
from their sins.

Jesus came to bring God’s _____.

Christmas

foster

love

Heaven

save

Mary

Son

Jesus, Our Savior

NAME _____

God sent His Son, Jesus, to us on earth so that we could someday come to be with God in Heaven, where we will be happy forever.

The sentences below outline the story of our salvation. Number them in correct **time** order.

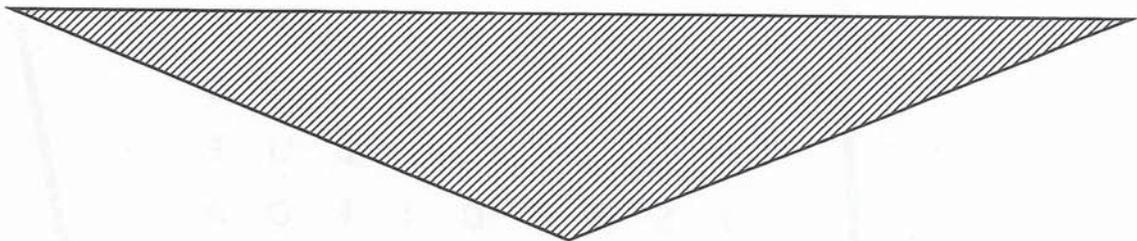
- Jesus stayed with His disciples for 40 days, then ascended to His Father in Heaven.
- God created Adam and Eve in His own image.
- Jesus grew up in the town of Nazareth, where He studied, worked, and played; He was loved and cared for by Mary and Joseph, His Mother and foster-father, and He obeyed them.
- Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River by His cousin, John the Baptist; for the next three years He healed people, forgave their sins, and taught them about the love of His Father.
- Adam and Eve disobeyed God and had to leave the Garden of Eden.
- Mary said “Yes”, she would become the Mother of Jesus.
- God sent many prophets and leaders to prepare the world for His Son.
- The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus’ followers on the day of Pentecost, which is known as the birthday of the Church.
- Jesus was crucified, died, and was buried; on the third day He rose from the dead.

The Name of Jesus

NAME _____

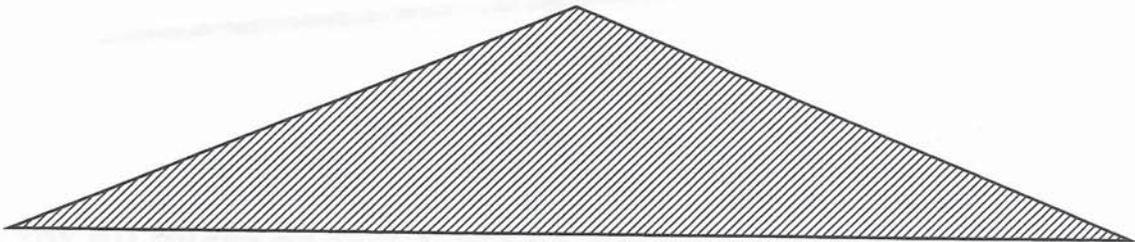
Use the following number code to complete the sentence beneath it.

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>M</u>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<u>N</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>Q</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>Z</u>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26



The name "Jesus" in Hebrew means

" 7 15 4 19 1 22 5 19 "



“He Suffered . . . Died, and Was Buried”

NAME _____

Circle these hidden words in the box below.

cross

died

Mary

Jesus

tomb

Good Friday

Pilate

soldiers

buried

F	B	X	M	G	L	D	I	S
G	J	C	R	O	S	S	M	L
C	E	M	T	O	M	B	U	F
J	S	A	L	D	I	E	D	A
E	U	R	A	F	R	B	Y	P
S	S	Y	M	R	M	U	L	D
S	O	L	D	I	E	R	S	N
R	T	O	S	D	I	I	D	L
Q	P	I	L	A	T	E	B	U
L	G	Y	S	Y	F	D	X	H

PRAY

Jesus, thank You for dying on the Cross to make up for my sins.

Amen.

“On the Third Day He Rose Again”

NAME _____

Listen to your teacher read about Jesus' Resurrection from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 28, verses 1 to 10. Then write the correct word to complete the sentences.

Mary Magdalene and _____ came to the
(Peter / the other Mary)

tomb. The _____ said Jesus had been raised!
(guards / angel)

The women were very _____. When they left to tell
(happy / sad)

the disciples, they met _____. They
(the angel / Jesus)

_____ His feet.
(embraced / washed)

The angel and Jesus said the same words to the women. Write the missing letters in the message.

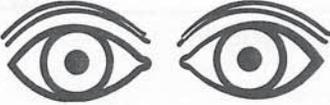
“D_ n_t be _fr_id.”

“I Believe in the Holy Spirit”

NAME _____

Read the story. Color the pictures.

When we pray, we make the Sign of the . We say, “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” Who is the

Holy Spirit? We cannot  Him. When Jesus was

baptized, the Holy Spirit came down like a . After Jesus rose

from the dead, the Holy Spirit came to Mary and the Apostles as

. The Holy Spirit is with us today in the . We believe in the

Holy Spirit.

.....
Color in the letters.

HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Materials: drawing paper, drawing materials.

Directions

Say: Have you ever read a mystery book or seen a detective movie? In such a story a crime occurs, and it is up to police detectives or other investigators to figure out what happened and who was responsible. They didn't witness the event, but through the use of evidence—physical objects, statements from people, etc.—they solve the mystery.

Our Faith teaches us that God is a mystery—the most wonderful mystery we can imagine! We cannot fully understand God. We cannot see Him, but like a detective we believe in God because of the “evidence” He leaves. God the Father is evident in the world, in everything He created. God the Son became evident in the person of Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

What about the Third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit? What “clues” does He leave?

Write the following on the board and discuss one at a time.

We find the Holy Spirit in:

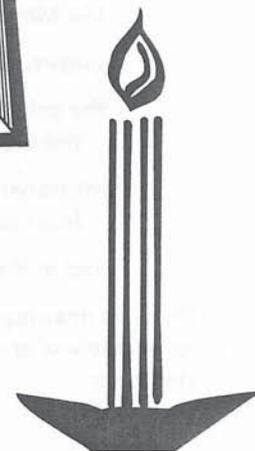
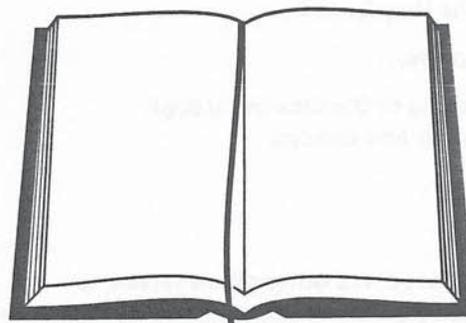
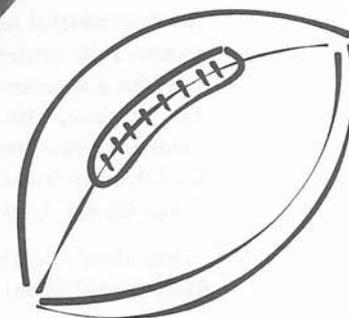
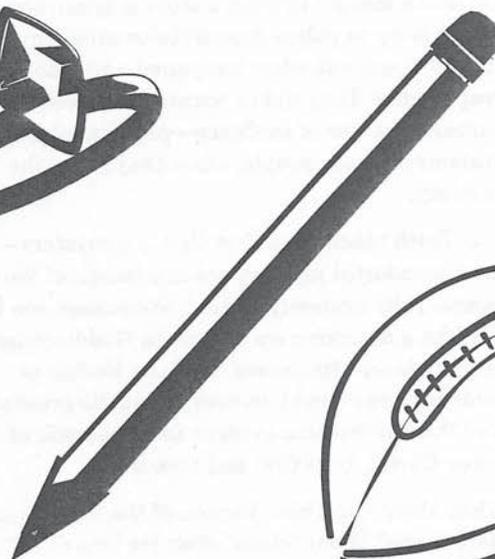
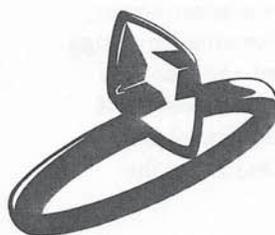
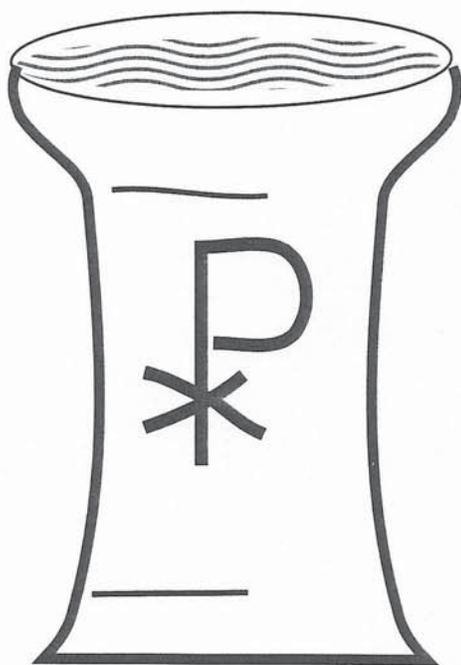
- the Scriptures,
- the teaching of the Church through the popes and bishops,
- the Mass,
- prayer,
- the priesthood and other gifted service to the Church,
- missionaries who bring the good news of Jesus to all the world,
- and in the saints.

Pass out drawing materials, and ask students to draw an example of one of these. Post the drawings in the classroom.

Your Baptism

NAME _____

When you were baptized, you received God's life of grace. You joined the family of God. Circle the things that were part of your Baptism celebration. Color the pictures.



The Sacrament of Baptism

NAME _____

Circle the correct answer.



Baptism takes away sin.

Yes

No

A person can be baptized only once.

Yes

No

Only babies are baptized.

Yes

No

Baptism gives us the Holy Spirit.

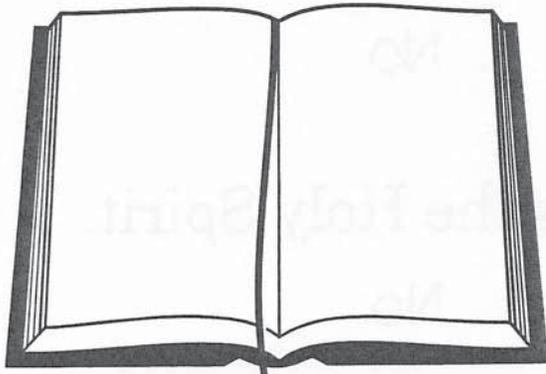
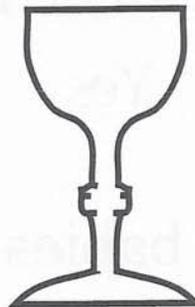
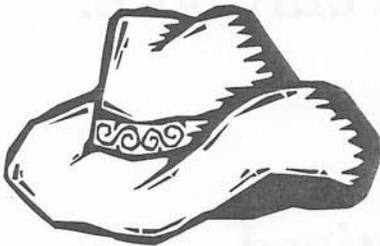
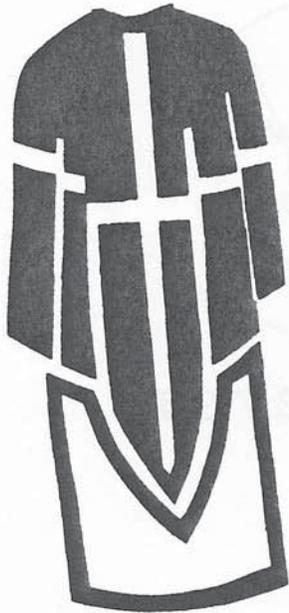
Yes

No

The Mass

NAME _____

Help Father get ready for Mass. Circle the things he will need.
Cross out the things he will not need.



Things We See at Mass

NAME _____

Match the words with the pictures of things we see at Mass.

Notice them the next time you go to Mass.

ALTAR

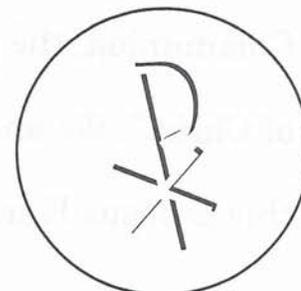
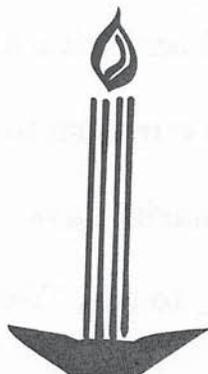
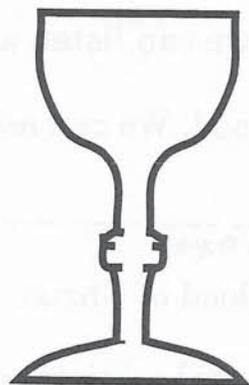
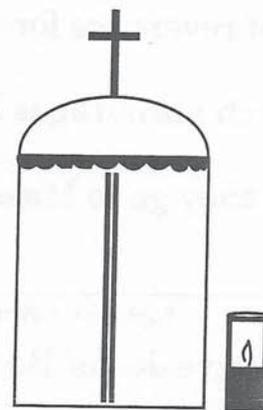
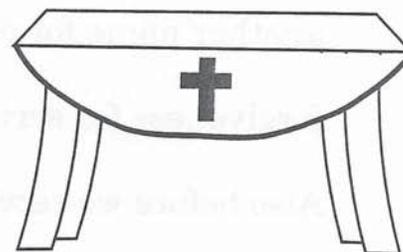
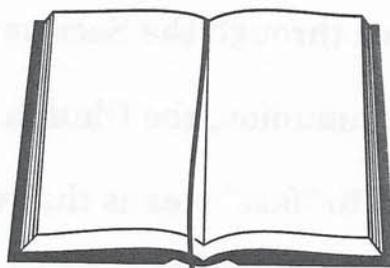
TABERNACLE

CANDLE

CHALICE

HOST

LECTIONARY



Preparing to Receive Holy Communion

NAME _____

Choose the correct word or words to complete the sentences.

Before we receive Holy Communion, we must be free from all serious sins; another name for a serious sin is _____ sin. We can receive God's forgiveness for serious sins through the Sacrament of _____.
mortal / venial Confirmation / Reconciliation

Also before we receive Communion, the Church asks that we fast for at least _____. To "fast" means that we go without _____.
one hour / one night sweets / food

out of reverence for the Body of our Lord, which we are about to receive. The Church encourages her people to receive _____ each time they go to Mass. During the first part of the Mass, called the Liturgy of the _____, we can listen and pray, so that we will be ready to receive Jesus' Body and Blood. We can ask for faith to believe that during the _____ the bread and wine are really changed into the Body and Blood of Christ. When it is our turn to receive Communion, the priest or special minister of the Eucharist says, "The Body of Christ". We answer, _____ to say, "Yes, I believe this is Jesus Himself."
Communion / Reconciliation Eucharist / Word Lord's Prayer / Eucharistic Prayer "Amen" / "Alleluia"

Receiving Holy Communion: A Practice Session

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Materials: unconsecrated communion hosts (one per student), paten or small bowl.

Purpose: to prepare to receive First Holy Communion.

Note: Make prior arrangements to use the church or a chapel for this practice. If possible, meet first in your regular classroom, then proceed as a class to the church. Adjust these directions to local practice, location of tabernacle, and so forth.

Directions

In the classroom, explain to the students that you will be taking them to the church (or chapel) to “rehearse” their First Communion.

Ask: What does it mean to “rehearse” something?
[Practice.]

Is a rehearsal the same as the event itself? Is a dance practice the same as the performance?
[No.]

Say: That’s right. When a man and woman plan to marry, they hold a rehearsal so they can remember what to do and say at their wedding. They aren’t married until the actual wedding, when they say their promises, or vows, to each other.

We’re going to do something similar today. It’s very easy to receive Communion, but sometimes people get a little nervous or distracted by all the excitement of their First Communion. This practice will help you to remember what to do and say. Even with all the attention and special clothes and flowers and pictures, the only really important thing about your First Communion is Jesus and you—Jesus loving you, and you receiving Him.

Since a practice is not the actual sacrament, we will not be giving you the Body of Christ today. I will pretend to be the priest or special minister of the Eucharist, and what I will give you is an unconsecrated host. Has anyone heard the term “unconsecrated host”? [It is a host that has not been changed into the Body of Jesus by the priest at Mass.]

Yes, it means the little wafer of bread that looks like bread, smells like bread, tastes like bread, and really is bread, only bread. When you receive Jesus in the Eucharist, the Host looks like bread, smells like bread, and tastes like bread, but isn’t bread at all any more—the wafer has been changed into the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord! Our minds cannot understand it, but our minds believe it.

So, I will say the words, “The Body of Christ” (even though we know this time it isn’t), and you will answer, “Amen”. You will hold your hands out like a beggar, your right hand cupping your left. I will place the unconsecrated host in your left hand. While facing the altar, you will pick it up with your right hand, put it in your mouth, and eat it. [*Demonstrate this as you speak.*] You will then fold your hands and walk slowly to your pew (or seat), kneel, and say a silent prayer.

Note: If local practice calls for receiving Communion on the tongue, instruct students accordingly.

Say: The time of prayer after Communion is a very special time. You and Jesus are as close as you can be! You can talk to Him about anything. You can listen to Him speak to you in your thoughts. You can praise Him for His goodness and love. You can thank Him for being your Friend and your Savior. You can ask Him to help or heal family and friends. You can seek His help in being a better follower of His. I will lead you in a sample prayer today when all of you have come back to your seats.

Remember, when we enter the church today, that, even though Jesus is not the host I’ll be giving you, He is present as consecrated Hosts in the tabernacle. So we honor Him by genuflecting toward the tabernacle before we sit down or kneel. How do we genuflect? Can someone demonstrate? [Call on one child.]

That’s right, we touch the right knee to the floor. So, go right up to the first pews (rows), genuflect, move all the way down, and be seated silently. Any questions before we go? Let’s line up!

Continued

Receiving Holy Communion: A Practice Session

In the church, you might conduct a brief review of the parts of the Mass. Then, proceed through the practice as you explained to the students. After all have received the practice host, have them repeat after you the lines of this prayer:

Thank You, Jesus,
for preparing me to receive You for the first time.
Thank You for my parents,
my teachers, and the priest(s) of our church.
I am so happy that I will soon be so close to You.
You are great and holy.
I love You.
Help me as I grow up so I can be more like You.
Amen.

Proceed back to classroom, all genuflecting as they leave and blessing themselves with holy water as a reminder of Baptism.

Optional Activity

Distribute copies of page 30 (from Activity 22), “My Prayer”. Ask the students to compose their own prayer to say after receiving Jesus for the first time. They may write it in class or take it home for homework.

The Ten Commandments

NAME _____

Learn this song with your teacher to help you remember the Ten Commandments that God gave us.

Use the tune of "Farmer in the Dell".

Have no gods but Me. (2x)
This is the First Commandment:
Have no gods but Me.

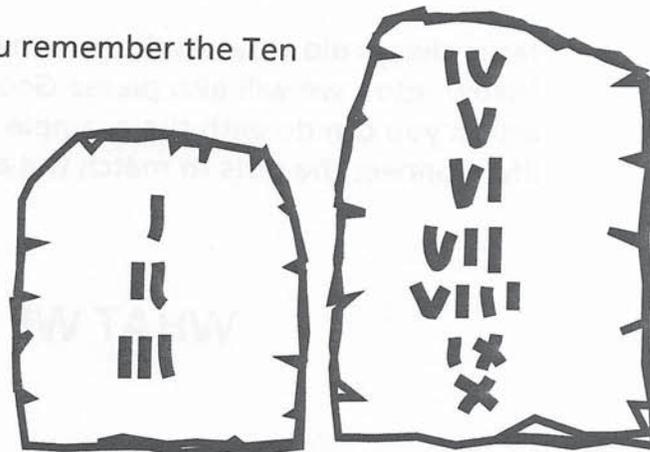
Don't use God's name in vain. (2x)
This is the Second Commandment:
Don't use God's name in vain.

Keep holy the Sabbath day. (2x)
This is the Third Commandment:
Keep holy the Sabbath day.

Honor your mom and dad. (2x)
This is the Fourth Commandment:
Honor your mom and dad.

You shall not kill. (2x)
This is the Fifth Commandment:
You shall not kill.

Do not commit adultery. (2x)
This is the Sixth Commandment:
Do not commit adultery.



You shall not steal. (2x)
This is the Seventh Commandment:
You shall not steal.

You shall not lie. (2x)
This is the Eighth Commandment:
You shall not lie.

Don't covet your neighbor's wife. (2x)
This is the Ninth Commandment:
Don't covet your neighbor's wife.

Don't covet your neighbor's goods. (2x)
This is the Tenth Commandment:
Don't covet your neighbor's goods.

God gave us laws of love. (2x)
They are the Ten Commandments.
God gave us laws of love.

We Follow Jesus

NAME _____

Jesus always did what God the Father wanted Him to do. If we follow Jesus, we will also please God and be happy. Match an action you can do with the example Jesus set for us in His earthly life. Connect the dots to match the actions.

WHAT WE CAN DO

- Put away my toys. ●
- Visit a relative in the hospital. ●
- Play with a younger brother or sister. ●
- Talk to God during the day. ●
- Put some money in the collection for the poor. ●
- Invite a friend to Mass. ●
- Play with someone who seems lonely. ●

WHAT JESUS DID

- *Loved children.*
- *Prayed.*
- *Obeded His mother and foster father.*
- *Gave people food.*
- *Told people about God's love.*
- *Helped the sick.*
- *Loved people whom others did not like.*

We Love God

NAME _____

God gave us the Ten Commandments as His laws of love. The first three tell us how to love God. Write the number of the Commandment next to the sentences that tell ways you can follow that Commandment.

- 1. You shall not have other gods besides Me.**
- 2. You shall not use God's name in vain.**
- 3. Remember to keep God's day holy.**

- ___ 1. You go to Mass each Sunday and holy day.
- ___ 2. You look up to Jesus more than to sports or movie stars.
- ___ 3. You use God's name when you pray to Him.
- ___ 4. You talk about God, your Heavenly Father, with respect.
- ___ 5. You trust God alone to give you what you need.
- ___ 6. You spend some time on Sundays looking at the Bible or other religious books.

PRAY

God, my Father, Your Commandments will help me to be happy with You now and in Heaven. Thank You for Your laws of love.

We Love Our Neighbor

NAME _____

The last seven Commandments tell us how to love our neighbor. Write the number of the Commandment next to the sentence that tells one way to follow it.

4. Honor your father and your mother.

5. You shall not kill.

6. You shall not commit adultery.

7. You shall not steal.

8. You shall not lie.

9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.

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

- ___ 1. You tell your teacher the real reason for being late.
- ___ 2. When you are mad at your brother, you “cool off” instead of hitting him.
- ___ 3. You thank God for the good things He gives you.
- ___ 4. You obey your parents.
- ___ 5. You ask your dad for the quarter on his dresser before you take it.
- ___ 6. You treat your body with modesty and respect.
- ___ 7. You are happy with your own family.
- ___ 8. You do your chores cheerfully.
- ___ 9. You avoid untrue talk about others.

The Beatitudes

NAME _____

Along with your teacher, read the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 5, verses 1 to 12, from the Bible. Then match each action or attitude in the Beatitudes with God's promise for each one.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. ____ the poor in spirit . . . | a. shall obtain mercy. |
| 2. ____ those who mourn . . . | b. shall be comforted. |
| 3. ____ the meek . . . | c. theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. |
| 4. ____ those who hunger and thirst for righteousness . . . | d. shall inherit the earth. |
| 5. ____ the merciful . . . | e. shall be satisfied. |
| 6. ____ the pure in heart . . . | f. shall see God. |
| 7. ____ the peacemakers . . . | g. shall be called sons of God. |
| 8. ____ those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake . . . | h. theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. |

The Way to Pray

NAME _____

Fill in the last word in each pair of lines to write a rhyme about prayer.

Jesus taught us how to _____.

He wants to talk with us each _____.

At meals we thank God for our _____.

He gives us always what is _____.

At Mass we stand and sing His _____.

For He is God, great in all _____.

We pray for ourselves and the needs of _____.

We pray for parents, sisters, _____.

Prayer can be silent or said out _____.

We can pray alone or in a _____.

To the tabernacle we come and _____.

We believe that Jesus' presence is _____.

The "Our Father", "Hail Mary", and "Glory _____"

Are prayers to be memorized by _____.

The angels and saints are praying, _____.

Praying is good for me and _____!

My Prayer

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Note: This activity may accompany “Receiving Holy Communion: A Practice Session” (Activity 15) or be used as a separate activity.

Directions

Say: Saint John Damascene teaches us that “prayer is the raising of one’s mind and heart to God.” There are five basic forms of prayer.

Write the name of each form of prayer on the board as you say:

1. *Blessing and adoration:* We “bless” God or call Him “blessed” because of His love and goodness; we adore Him, that is, we give Him heartfelt love and worship because He is our Creator.

2. *Petition:* We ask God for what we need, especially for forgiveness.

3. *Intercession:* We ask God to help others, even our enemies.

4. *Thanksgiving:* We thank God for all His gifts. Even in difficulty, we ask Him for the good He will bring out of it.

5. *Praise:* We give glory to God just because He is God, not for what He does, but for Who He is.

Now let’s see if as a class we can write a prayer using each of these forms.

Go down the list and call on students to give examples of each prayer form. Write them on the board. Then erase the prayers.

Pass out copies of page 30 and say:

It’s your turn to write a prayer of your own, using the forms of prayer you have learned. Simply finish the sentences with your own words.

MY PRAYER

Jesus, I love You because _____

Please forgive all of my sins and help me _____

Also, Jesus, please _____

I pray for _____, who needs

I thank You, Jesus, for _____

I praise You for _____

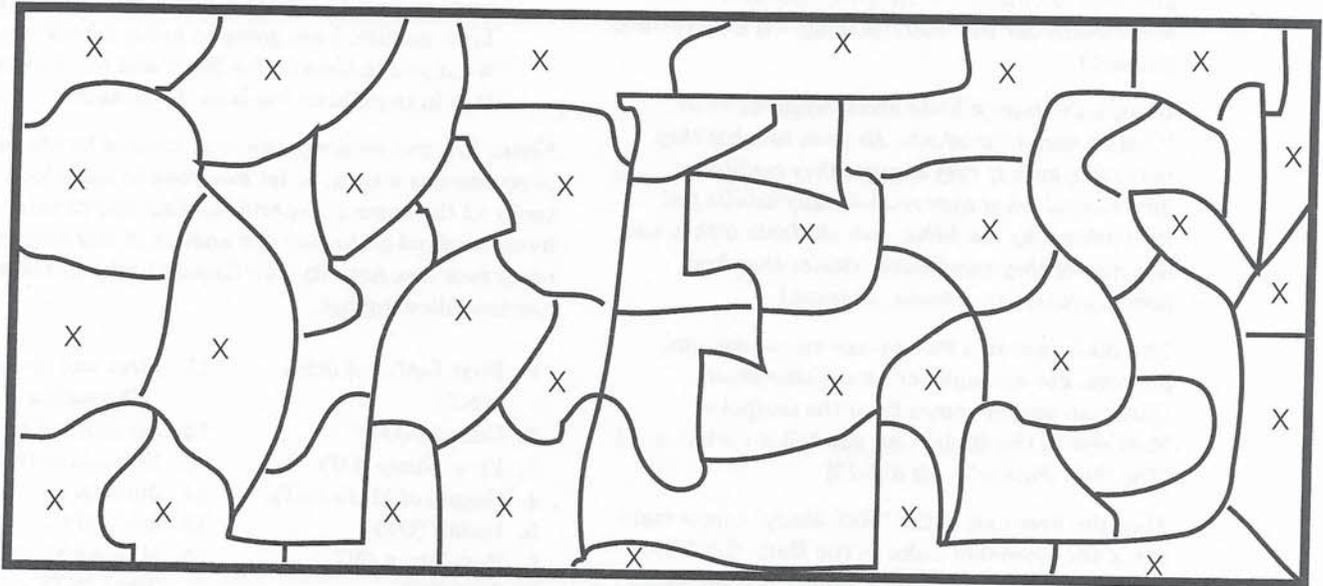
Mary, Mother of Christ

NAME _____

Our Church has given us a beautiful prayer to Jesus' Mother and our Heavenly Mother. It is the "Hail Mary". Pray it as a class.

The first part of the prayer comes from the Bible. Listen to your teacher read the story in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 1, verses 26 to 45. Raise your hand when you hear the words you recognize from the "Hail Mary".

When God asked Mary to be the Mother of Jesus, she agreed. If you want to be like Mary, color in the X shapes in the picture below to reveal the word you should say when God asks something of you.



Introduction to the Bible

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Materials: Bibles, one per student and teacher.

Purpose: to begin to familiarize students with the Bible, its basic divisions, and the name of the books that comprise it.

Directions

Distribute the Bibles.

Say: Our Catholic Faith comes to us from two sources, the teaching we receive from our bishops and pope now and back through the ages to the original Apostles—what we call the apostolic Tradition—and Sacred Scripture, the Bible. Does anyone know what the word “Bible” means? [*“Book”—from the Greek language*]

Let’s spend a few minutes with the Bible, getting to know it a little bit. Just open it up, anywhere, and read silently for a bit. [*Give students about five minutes for this exercise, longer if they remain focused.*]

Okay, let’s share a little about what we read. [*Call on several students. Be open to what they may offer, even if they suggest they couldn’t understand what they read—many adults feel intimidated by the Bible. Ask students if they saw any names they recognized, stories they had heard, prayers they know. Discuss.*]

The Bible contains stories, poems, songs, and prayers. For example, our most important Christian prayer comes from the Gospel of Matthew in the Bible. Can you tell me what it is? [*The “Our Father”—Mt 6:9–13*]

Also, the first half of the “Hail Mary” comes right out of the Gospel of Luke in the Bible (Lk 1:28, 42). When we go to Mass, we don’t usually bring our Bibles with us. Is the Bible part of our Mass? [*Yes, the Liturgy of the Word—the first part of the Mass—includes readings from the Bible. We can follow along in the missalettes, which have the readings printed for each week.*]

Have your Bible marked at the beginning of the New Testament and at the table of contents noting the books in both the Old and New Testaments. Open up your

Bible to where the New Testament begins, to demonstrate the two sections.

Say: The Bible is divided into two main sections. Do you know what they are called? [*The Old Testament and the New Testament*] The first section is the Old Testament, and it contains the story of creation, the history of the Israelites, the Psalms of David, and the prophets—the people God called to prepare the world for the coming of Jesus. Look at the first few pages of your Bibles and see if you can tell me how many books there are in the Old Testament. [46]

Now, let’s race to find the beginning of the New Testament. When you find the listing of books in the New Testament, tell me how many there are. [27] The New Testament contains what? [*The Gospels, the letters of Saint Paul, Saint Peter, Saint John, and others.*] It tells the story of Jesus and the first Christians. Okay, close your Bibles for a minute. I am going to name a book, and I want you to turn to the Bible and tell us whether it is in the Old or the New Testament.

Note: You can go down the row, student by student, so everyone has a turn, or let everyone in class look up the books at the same time, and the first one to raise his hand is called on to give the answer. A third option is a relay race (see Activity 25). Choose books at random, or use the following list:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. First Letter of John (NT) | 11. First and Second Chronicles (OT) |
| 2. Genesis (OT) | 12. Jeremiah (OT) |
| 3. First Kings (OT) | 13. Colossians (NT) |
| 4. Gospel of Mark (NT) | 14. Jude (NT) |
| 5. Isaiah (OT) | 15. Job (OT) |
| 6. Revelation (NT) | 16. Habakkuk (OT) |
| 7. Joel (OT) | 17. Titus (NT) |
| 8. Second Corinthians (NT) | 18. Song of Solomon (OT) |
| 9. Acts of the Apostles (NT) | 19. Galatians (NT) |
| 10. Ruth (OT) | 20. Numbers (OT) |

Answer Keys

PRIMARY ACTIVITIES

Activity 1, page 7

- leaf
- cat
- stars
- fish
- egg
- bird

Activity 2, page 8

- children
- Heaven
- holy
- God's
- good
- needs
- merciful
- grace
- hears, strength
- greater

Activity 3, page 9

Jesus is the **Son** of God.
 He came down from **Heaven**.
 Christmas is Jesus' birthday.
 Her name is **Mary**.
 God gave Jesus a **foster** father.
 Jesus came to **save** all people from their sins.
 Jesus came to bring God's **love**.

Activity 4, page 10

Order of numbers: 8, 1, 5, 6, 2, 4, 3, 9, 7

Activity 5, page 11

"Jesus" means "God saves".

Activity 6, page 12

F	B	X	M	G	L	D	I	S
G	J	C	R	O	S	S	M	L
C	E	M	T	O	M	B	U	F
J	S	A	L	D	I	E	D	A
E	U	R	A	F	R	B	Y	P
S	S	Y	M	R	M	U	L	D
S	O	L	D	I	E	R	S	N
R	T	O	S	D	I	I	D	L
Q	P	I	L	A	T	E	B	U
L	G	Y	S	Y	F	D	X	H

Activity 7, page 13

the other Mary, angel, happy, Jesus, embraced
 "Do not be afraid."

Activity 10, page 16

water, prayer book, candle

Activity 11, page 17

Yes, Yes, No, Yes

Activity 12, page 18

altar, vestments, Mass book, host, candles

Activity 14, page 20

mortal, Reconciliation, one hour, food, Communion,
 Word, Eucharistic Prayer, "Amen"

Activity 17, page 24

- Obeded His parents.
- Helped the sick.
- Loved children.
- Prayed.
- Gave people food.
- Told people about God's love.
- Loved people whom others did not like.

Activity 18, page 25

- 3
- 1
- 2
- 2
- 1
- 3

Activity 19, page 26

- 8
- 5
- 10
- 4
- 7
- 6
- 9
- 4
- 8

Activity 20, page 27

- c
- b
- d
- e
- a
- f
- g
- h

Activity 21, page 28

pray, day
 food, good
 praise, ways
 others, brothers
 loud, crowd
 kneel, real
 Be, me
 too, you

Activity 23, page 31

Yes