



Family Formation Sacramental Preparation

The Eucharist

First Communion: Lesson 2

MEMORY VERSE:

Be sure to practice the memory verse assigned.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Bible, pen or pencil

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

1. Parents: read through this lesson.
2. Light a candle to remind you that Jesus is there with you.
3. Pray, asking the Lord to bless your lesson time.

MIRACLES OF JESUS

Jesus heals a boy (John 4:46-54)

Then he returned to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. Now there was a royal official whose son was ill in Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, who was near death. Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe." The royal official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus said to him, "You may go; your son will live." The man believed what Jesus said to him and left. While he was on his way back, his slaves met him and told him that his boy would live. He asked them when he began to recover. They told him, "The fever left him yesterday, about one in the afternoon." The father realized that just at that time Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live," and he and his whole household came to believe. [Now] this was the second sign Jesus did when he came to Galilee from Judea.

LESSON 2

The Eucharist

Each year we celebrate the events of the life of Jesus. We prepare for His birth each year at Advent and celebrate it at Christmas. We hear Sunday readings about what he did during His life on earth, and we learn about the gift of salvation during the seasons of Lent and Easter. The feast of the Ascension reminds us that Jesus went back up to heaven to prepare a place for us there and Pentecost reminds us that He sent the Holy Spirit to help us to get there. The entire Church year reminds us of the mysteries of the life of Jesus and all He did for us!



Not long after Jesus performed the miracle of multiplying the loaves and fishes, He called His apostles together for the feast of the Passover. The Passover meal was celebrated each year by the Jewish people. It was done to remember the time when God freed them from the Egyptians, during the time of Moses. As part of the celebration, they sacrificed a lamb. This lamb reminded them of the lamb that each Jewish family sacrificed during the first Passover. Jesus knew He would be the “Lamb” sacrificed for the forgiveness of everyone’s sins. It was at a Passover meal that Jesus and His apostles celebrated **The Last Supper**.

Jesus *“took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me.’ And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you.’”* Luke 22:19-20

By doing this, Jesus gave the apostles, and all of us, a precious gift that we still receive to this day at every Mass - the gift of Himself joining us to his perfect sacrifice. Through the Eucharist, we are filled with hope that we will someday rise to life with Jesus!

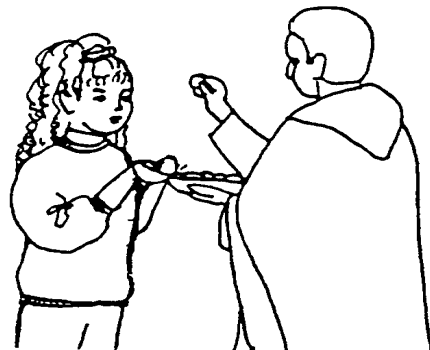
The gift of Jesus in the **Holy Eucharist** is Jesus' Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

"Since Christ was about to take his departure from his own in his visible form, he wanted to give us his sacramental presence; since he was about to offer himself on the cross to save us, he wanted us to have the memorial of the love with which he loved us 'to the end.'"

CCC 1380

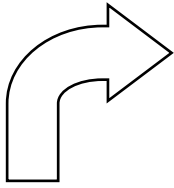
At Mass, when the priest, in the role of Christ, repeats the words Jesus said at the Last Supper, *the bread and the wine become Jesus' real Body and Blood*. This is called the **consecration**.

Jesus wants us all to believe in Him and receive the gift of Himself in the Eucharist. You will receive the Eucharist for the first time at your First Holy Communion. Receiving Jesus in the Eucharist is a union with Christ. So great is this unity that, after receiving Holy Communion, we can say along with Saint Paul, *"yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me."* Galatians 2:20 As Catholics, we believe the Eucharist is the heart of the Church. Even though we might not fully understand the mystery of Jesus' Presence in the Eucharist, we know that He is truly there.

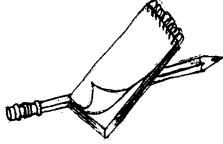


Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-29.
See what the first disciples believed about
the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Just as Jesus performed a miracle to feed His followers, He performs a miracle at each Mass. Jesus will feed you with the Eucharist.

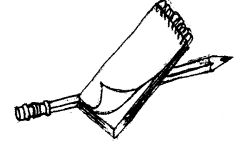


Parents: Find the envelope and invitation provided in the Activity Pieces pocket at the back of this workbook. Print your child's name on the front of the envelope, and seal it. Present the invitation to your child, inviting him/her to receive Jesus in the Eucharist.



Review

Lessons 1 and 2



Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

1. Jesus multiplied _____ by the Sea of Galilee.
a. milk and eggs b. bread and fish c. meat and cheese
2. Jesus said He was the living _____ come down from heaven.
a. spirit b. light c. bread
3. This meal is celebrated by the Jewish people each year. Jesus was celebrating
a _____ meal at the Last Supper.
a. Passover b. Hanukkah c. holiday
4. Receiving Jesus in the Eucharist is a _____ with Christ.
a. union b. match c. vacation
5. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave His apostles the bread and said, "*This is my _____, which will be given for you.*"
a. dinner b. body c. wish
6. The time in the Mass when the bread and wine become Jesus is called the _____.
a. communion b. offertory c. consecration
7. We call the gift of Jesus' Body and Blood, His Soul, and Divinity, the Holy _____.
a. Eucharist b. covenant c. commandment

Please refer to Page 57 for correct answers.