



YEAR

2

UNIT 1

THE MASS

ABOUT THE UNIT

This unit is designed to develop children’s understanding of the structure of the Mass and what is taking place. The focus will be on seeing Christ present when we gather, in the Word and in the Eucharist.

WHERE THE UNIT FITS IN

This unit builds on previous learning about the Mass in the “Families and Celebrations2 unit in Year 1.

PRIOR LEARNING

It would be helpful if the children have:

- some knowledge of the simple responses of the Mass
- some knowledge of the actions of the Mass.

SKILLS

Group discussion, observation, sequencing, music, ability to listen, interpreting symbols, creating prayers, reflective writing.

VOCABULARY

Mass, gathering, listening, celebrating, entrance song, procession, lectionary, altar, lectern, Holy Holy, bidding prayers, Consecration, Eucharist.

ASSESSMENT

At the end of this unit:

Most children will have an understanding of the sequence of the Mass and of the meaning of some of the words and actions. Understand some reasons why the Mass is a celebration for the Church. Be able to join in important responses during the Mass.

More able children will

Less able children will be able to recall some of the words and actions of the Mass and explain their meaning. Be able to join in some of the important responses during the Mass.

More able children will have a greater understanding of the signs, actions and symbols of the Mass. Be able to explain in more depth the importance of this celebration in the lives of people today.

A.T.1 A.T.2

2a 2a
2b 2b
2c 2c
2d 2d

1a 1a
1b 1c
1d 1d

3a 3c
3b 3d
3c 3d

PROGRAMME OF STUDY

TEACHING STRATEGIES

C1 Hear the story of the Last Supper.

C2 Hear about and become familiar with the main aspects of the Eucharistic celebration and prayers used at the Eucharist.

C5 Become familiar with signs and symbols used by the Church.

C11 Explore the prayers of the Mass.

- Look at different photographs and pictures of people gathered together (e.g. family occasions). What is happening in the photographs, who is gathered together, for what reason?
- Look at pictures of people gathered together at Mass. Who is there? What do you think they are doing? Why is this a special gathering?
- Discuss the gathering for Mass in your local parish.
- Identify some of the people with special roles (e.g. priest, reader, musicians, altar servers, children's liturgy group, etc.)
- Children to recall different times when Jesus gathered together with his friends (e.g. Feeding of the Five Thousand, the Last Supper).
- Children to read the words of Jesus about gathering together. "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am with them." What do these words mean?
- What do you think is special about gathering together as God's family at Mass? What do you think those words of Jesus mean when people gather together for Mass?
- Children to sequence some of the first part of the Mass. Include Entrance Song and Procession, Sign of the Cross, The Lord be with You, Lord have Mercy, Glory to God and Opening Prayer.
- Children to learn by heart some of the greetings at the start of the Mass.
- What does Glory to God mean? What does Lord have Mercy mean?

- Discuss with the children the importance of listening.
- When people gather together for celebrations they tell stories.
- At Mass we listen to and tell God's story. Revise previous work on the Bible containing God's story.
- Introduce children to the lectionary and the lectern as the special book and place where God's Word is read during Mass.
- Children to research and retell a favourite Old Testament story. Explain why they like this story and why they think this is important.
- Revise previous work on Old Testament characters and how they listened to God. Make links with listening to God in the Scriptures.
- Read with children *Mark 4: 1-2, 9*. What does Jesus teach his disciples about listening and who to listen to?
- Explain to the children that the Gospel is the most important reading we listen to. How do we show that it is important to listen to the Gospel during Mass? What do we do? What does the priest or deacon do?

- Children to learn an "Alleluia" as a song to welcome the Gospel.
- Children to choose and read their favourite Gospel reading. What title would you give to it? Who are the characters in the reading? What happens at the beginning, middle and end? Why did you choose this reading?
- Children to present their work to the rest of the class.
- Introduce children to the term "Homily". Explain that this is one of the special jobs of the priest at Mass to help people understand the special message of the readings.

- At Mass we pray for all God's family in the bidding prayers.
- Create a range of bidding prayers for a celebration of Mass. Think about different things we pray for. Include God's Family, the world, our local community, ourselves, the sick, those who have died. Make a prayer wheel with these prayers.

- Talk to the children about the gifts they have received from God and from other people. Look at the difference between physical gifts which you can hold and give, and other gifts which are part of who you are.
- At Mass we present things that God has given to us and what we have been able to make. We offer them to share in the special meal of Jesus.
- Explore with the children some of the words and actions of the priest at the Altar.
- Learn the Preface dialogue.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

C1 That in the celebration of the Eucharist the Church is doing what Jesus did at the Last Supper.

G2 That in the Eucharist Jesus gives himself; that the Eucharist is communion with Jesus and the family of the Church.

C5 Of the significance and variety of signs and symbols in their own lives and in the life of the Church.

C11 Become more familiar with the acclamations of the Mass.

- Know at Mass God's Family gathers together, listens to God's Word, prays for the needs of others, praises and thanks God for his many gifts, and celebrates what Jesus said and did at the Last Supper.
- Join-in and recite some of the responses used at Mass. These will include the greetings, Lord have Mercy, the responses to the readings and Gospel, the prayer of the faithful response and at least one memorial acclamation.

- Know that at the celebration of Mass the priest takes the place of Christ and says the words of Jesus.
- Understand that through the words and actions of the priest, Christ becomes present in the Eucharist.
- Identify some of the things the priest does during Mass.
- Understand that Catholic Christians believe that the bread and wine used at Mass becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Use these elements of the gathering rite as part of a class liturgy.

Use the prayer wheel during class based collective worship.

Children to learn some of the names of the priest's vestments worn during the celebration of Mass. Include Chasuble, Alb, Stole and Cincture.

Learn some of the names of the vessels used during Mass (e.g. Chalice).

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PROGRAMME OF STUDY

TEACHING STRATEGIES

- Learn a simple version of the “Holy Holy”.
- Look at the words and actions of the priest with the bread and wine. Where have you heard these before? Which story of Jesus do they refer to?
- Create a storyboard of the priest spreading his hands over the gifts. Use captions to record some of the words he says over the bread and wine.
- At this point what has happened to the bread and wine?
- Children to think about the importance of food and drink. Why do we need to eat and drink? What happens to people when they don't do this?
- Explore with the children the idea of Jesus feeding his people by coming to them at Holy Communion in a special way. How might this help God's Family today?
- Children to imagine they are meeting somebody who has never heard about the Mass. What would they tell that person? How would they explain that it was an important and special occasion?
- Children to write their own reflections about what they like during the Mass.
- Children to create their own book about the celebration of the Mass.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

LEARNING OUTCOMES	FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

RELATED SCRIPTURE

Mt. 14 :13-21 – The Feeding of the Five Thousand

Lk. 22: 14-23 – The Last Supper

Mk. 4: 1-2,9 – The Importance of Listening

OTHER LINKS

School-Parish Link: Take part in a celebration of Mass in school and invite some parishioners to come. Alternatively, join them in church for Mass.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- Use different signs and gestures of the Mass during class based prayer time. Include the greetings, the signing of the cross at the reading of the Gospel and some of the prayers
- Learn some appropriate hymns and songs for the celebration of Mass.

EVALUATION

What went well?

Which areas of planning need to be developed/adapted next time?

What needs to be revisited/developed in a later unit?