

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	5
CATECHESIS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE: JOSEPH F. MCCANN CM	8
A SHARED CHRISTIAN PRAXIS APPROACH: THOMAS H. GROOME	10
CULTURAL AWARENESS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: HOSFFMAN OSPINO	14
Chapter 1 A Sacramental People: The Church, the Body of Christ	17
Introduction	17
Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	22
Worksheets	25
Review of Chapter 1	34
Chapter 2 The Seven Sacraments: Encounters with Christ	38
Introduction	38
Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	42
Worksheets	45
Review of Chapter 2	59
Chapter 3 Baptism (Part One): Gateway to New Life in Christ	63
Introduction	63
Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	67
Worksheets	70
Review of Chapter 3	79
Chapter 4 Baptism (Part Two): Living Our New Life in Christ	83
Introduction	83
Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	86
Worksheets	89
Review of Chapter 4	101
Chapter 5 Confirmation: Sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit	105
Introduction	105
Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	108
Worksheets	111
Review of Chapter 5	120
Chapter 6 Eucharist (Part One): The Sacrament of Sacraments	124
Introduction	124
Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	128
Worksheets	131
Review of Chapter 6	141

Chapter 7	Eucharist (Part Two): The Source and Summit of the Christian Life	145
	Introduction	145
	Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	149
	Worksheets	151
	Review of Chapter 7	161
Chapter 8	Penance and Reconciliation: Lord Jesus, Renew Your Love in Our Hearts ..	165
	Introduction	165
	Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	170
	Worksheets	173
	Review of Chapter 8	188
Chapter 9	Anointing of the Sick: Encountering Christ the Divine Physician	192
	Introduction	192
	Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	196
	Worksheets	200
	Review of Chapter 9	220
Chapter 10	Holy Orders: Sacrament of Service to the Body of Christ	224
	Introduction	224
	Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	228
	Worksheets	231
	Review of Chapter 10	253
Chapter 11	Marriage (Part One): Sacrament at the Service of the Family of God	257
	Introduction	257
	Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	262
	Worksheets	266
	Review of Chapter 11	282
Chapter 12	Marriage (Part Two): Living the Sacrament of Marriage	286
	Introduction	286
	Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities	291
	Worksheets	295
	Review of Chapter 12	315
	STUDENT ACTIVITY TOOL KIT	319
	ANSWER KEY TO CHAPTER REVIEWS	329
	ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	334

The Seven Sacraments

—Encounters with Christ

INTRODUCTION

He prays for us as our priest, prays in us as our Head, and is prayed to by us as our God. Therefore let us acknowledge our voice in him and his in us.

—*Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC), no. 2618

Jesus Christ is the Mediator of God's grace, or God's effective love in our lives. In this chapter we study in more detail the presence of Christ in the Sacraments and the prayer life of the Church. We explore the rituals of the Sacraments, the combination of words, objects and actions used in the celebration of the Sacraments, which serve both as 'mediators' of God's love and saving grace and as invitations to respond to those graces. Finally, we explore why communal prayer and personal prayer are vital for the life of the Church community and for the personal life of her members.

Chapter 2 is developed under five major headings:

- ⊙ **ATTEND AND REFLECT:** 'But who do you say that I am?'
- ⊙ **HEAR THE STORY:** Do you hear what I hear? Do you see what I see?
- ⊙ **EMBRACE THE VISION:** A people of prayer
- ⊙ **THINK IT THROUGH:** Prayer of the heart
- ⊙ **JUDGE AND ACT:** (*Activities and exercises that encourage the young people to integrate what they have learned in the chapter into their daily lives*)

Theological Background for the Teacher

SIGNS OF GOD'S SAVING AND HEALING PRESENCE

The human person is a unity of body and soul, body and spirit. We are sensory beings. Our five senses help us to begin to construct and discover the meaning of both the visible world around us and the invisible 'otherness' in our lives—the spiritual and the transcendent. St. Paul taught this truth when he wrote: 'Ever since the creation of the world his eternal

power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made' (Romans 1:20).

Jesus of Nazareth, the Word of God made flesh, was God's final and ultimate Revelation. He was God's love visibly at work in the world for all to see and hear and touch. When he healed or forgave, Jesus used the 'real stuff' of life to reveal the effective presence of God at work in our midst. For example, when he healed the deaf man with an impediment in his speech, Jesus 'put his fingers into [the man's] ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. . . . And immediately [the man's] ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly' (Mark 7:33–35). Similarly, Luke's account of the woman anointing Jesus' feet with ointment and her tears and drying them with her hair (see Luke 7:36–47) reveals how, through the stuff of our sensory world, we can give evidence of the grace of God at work in our life.

JESUS THE MEDIATOR WORKS THROUGH THE SACRAMENT

Recall this definition of Sacraments that we explored in chapter 1:

The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. The visible rites by which the sacraments are celebrated signify and make present the graces proper to each sacrament. They bear fruit in those who receive them with the required dispositions.

—CCC, no. 1131

Signs: In Scripture we read how Jesus mediated God's healing power with the assistance of the 'ordinary and everyday' (mud, saliva, oil and so on). These sensory realities make our encounters with God more accessible. Such 'real stuff' are the signs and symbols that point to the presence and power of God in a way that speaks to who we are—a unity of body (the sensory) and soul (the spiritual).

Efficacious: The Sacraments are 'efficacious signs'. This means that God is always at work among us in

and through the Sacraments. He is always present and offering us his grace. It is Christ who is healing, forgiving and sanctifying our lives through the Sacraments. The Church teaches that these great acts of Salvation continue to take place through the Sacraments of the Church.

Instituted by Christ: Christ instituted the Sacraments as the unique way in which he is with his Church. The Sacraments are encounters with Christ. In the Sacraments Christ is still at work 'in a new way appropriate to this age' (CCC, no. 1076). The signs and symbolic actions within the liturgical celebrations of the Sacraments mediate the encounter between us and the risen Christ. As such, their effectiveness is guaranteed because it is Christ who is at work as Head of the Church.

Divine life is dispensed. The *Catechism* teaches that the Church, as the Body of Christ, is empowered by the Holy Spirit who 'ushers in a new era in the "dispensation of the mystery" . . . [and] makes present and communicates his work of salvation through the liturgy of his Church' (CCC, no. 1076). 'Salvation is the forgiveness of sins and restoration of friendship with God, which can be done by God alone' (CCC, Glossary). Salvation is God's work of making us sharers once again in divine life, which was lost by Original Sin.

St. Leo the Great taught: 'what was visible in our Savior has passed over into his mysteries' (quoted in CCC, no. 1115). Everything Jesus did during his whole life on earth is the foundation of the redemptive actions that continue in the Church, most especially in the Sacraments.

PRAYER

Luke tells us that, after Pentecost, the first Christians 'devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers' (Acts of the Apostles 2:42). St. Augustine taught: 'prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for him' (CCC, no. 2560). Martin Luther King Jr. had this to say about prayer: 'To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.'

Prayer is at the heart of our relationship with God. It is the primary means of our communication with him. As we reach toward God in prayer, God reaches back to us. Among its many descriptions of prayer, the *Catechism* teaches:

Christian prayer is a covenant relationship between God and man in Christ. It is the action of God and of man, springing forth from both the

Holy Spirit and ourselves, wholly directed to the Father, in union with the human will of the Son of God made man.

—CCC, no. 2564

Scripture and Tradition identify five basic forms and three fundamental expressions of prayer. The forms of prayer are: Blessing and Adoration, Petition, Intercession, Thanksgiving, and Praise. The three major expressions of prayer, or ways in which we pray, are: vocal prayer, meditation and contemplation. St. Paul taught that, whether we pray in silence, in word or in gesture, it is the Holy Spirit who invites us to pray and teaches us how to pray. St. Paul taught:

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

—Romans 8:26–27

We truly pray when we pray from the depth of our heart. The heart is the center of our being, our truest self, where we make our decisions.

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND READING

Catechism of the Catholic Church,* nos. 1091–1109, 1113–1130, 1145–1162, 1210, 2558–2565, 2623–2649, 2700–2724; *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, chapter 14, 'The Celebration of the Paschal Mystery of Christ', and chapter 35, 'God Calls us to Pray'; *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 222–232, 236–240, 534, 548–557; *Pope Benedict XVI, 'Prayer Opens the Way to the Mystery of God's Plan'*, General Audience Address, June 20, 2012;* Edward Schillebeeckx, OP, *Christ the Sacrament of the Encounter with God*, December 31, 1962, New York: Sheed & Ward.*

* Full text available online.

CHAPTER OUTCOMES

See general note on page 19 of this resource.

Learning Outcomes

As a result of studying this chapter and exploring the issues raised, the young people should be able to:

- ⊙ explore the identity of Jesus whom we encounter in the Sacraments;
- ⊙ discuss the significance of sign and symbol, particularly in the Liturgy of the Church;
- ⊙ name key sacramental signs and symbols in the Liturgy;
- ⊙ understand the term 'mediator' in relation to Jesus and the Sacraments;
- ⊙ examine Jesus' use of sign and symbol in his earthly ministry;
- ⊙ understand prayer to be the living relationship between God and humankind;
- ⊙ identify the different forms of prayer;
- ⊙ name the events in the Church's liturgical year;
- ⊙ distinguish between the three expressions of prayer: vocal prayer, meditation and contemplation;
- ⊙ discuss the significance of prayer to the Christian faith tradition;
- ⊙ understand the term 'cloud of witnesses' in the context of the Church.

Faith-formation Outcomes

As a result of studying this chapter and exploring the issues raised, the young people should also:

- ⊙ explore their experience of signs and symbols in their lives;
- ⊙ recognize that the great redemptive acts of Jesus are 'made present' in the Sacraments;
- ⊙ deepen their relationship with God through prayer;
- ⊙ practice the three expressions of prayer;
- ⊙ be inspired in their own faith journey by St. John of the Cross.

Theological Background for the Teacher

SIGNS OF GOD'S SAYING AND HEALING PRESENCE

The human person has a body and soul, and body and spirit. We are sensory beings. Our bodies are able to receive information and respond to the world around us. Our souls are able to receive information and respond to the world around us. Our spirits are able to receive information and respond to the world around us. St. Paul taught that when we receive the sacraments, we are receiving the presence of Christ in our lives.

Teacher Reflection

As you prepare to engage your group in a study of Jesus as the Mediator of God's saving love, as well as the significance of sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy, take some time to reflect on these words of St. John of the Cross (1542–91):

'Unless they go and search for God, they will not find him, no matter how much they cry for him.'

'It has not entered the heart of man what God is like.'

'The wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. . . . The soul has to proceed rather by unknowing rather than knowing.'

REFLECT

How attentive are you to God's presence in your life?

Family Formation Outcome

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

2. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

3. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

4. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

5. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

6. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

7. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

8. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

9. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

10. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

11. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

12. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

13. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

14. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

15. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

16. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

17. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

18. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

19. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

20. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

21. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

22. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

23. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

24. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

25. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

26. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

27. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

28. identify the meaning of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

29. explain the significance of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

30. describe the role of the sacramental signs and symbols in the Sacred Liturgy.

Notes and Guidelines for Student Activities

ATTEND AND REFLECT

'But who do you say that I am?'

Learning Outcomes

That the young people would:

- ⊗ explore the identity of Jesus whom we encounter in the Sacraments;
- ⊗ discuss the significance of sign and symbol, particularly in the Liturgy of the Church;
- ⊗ name key sacramental signs and symbols in the Liturgy.

Faith-formation Outcome

That the young people would also:

- ⊗ explore their experience of signs and symbols in their lives.

Overview

Section one, 'Attend and Reflect', opens with an exploration of the identity of Jesus, whom we encounter in the Sacraments. We move from this to examine how the signs and symbols of the Church's Liturgy are mediators of our encounters with Jesus. We encourage the young people to reflect on how their understanding of the power of 'sign and symbol' helps them to participate more fully in the Sacraments.

Supplementary Activities for 'Attend and Reflect'

Worksheet 1: 'Sign and Symbol' (page 45 of this resource) invites the young people to explore how sign and symbol can convey deeper meaning, in Sacred Liturgy and in other life experiences.

Worksheet 2: 'Make a Sacramental Collage or Display' (page 46 of this resource) invites the young people to identify key sacramental signs and symbols from Sacred Liturgy and to gather either the actual items or pictorial representations to create a sacramental collage or display. This could be a focus for a sacred space in which they can reflect on their study of sacramentality.

HEAR THE STORY

Do you hear what I hear? Do you see what I see?

Learning Outcomes

That the young people would:

- ⊗ understand the term 'mediator' in relation to Jesus and the Sacraments;
- ⊗ examine Jesus' use of sign and symbol in his earthly ministry.

Faith-formation Outcome

That the young people would also:

- ⊗ recognize that the great redemptive acts of Jesus are 'made present' in the Sacraments.

Overview

In section two, 'Hear the Story', we focus on Jesus as Mediator of God's saving love. Jesus is the one true High Priest and Mediator because in him divinity and humanity were perfectly united in one Person. We explore how Jesus, in his earthly ministry, used the 'concrete', the 'real stuff' of life, to mediate to people the 'real and wondrous' healing and sanctifying power of God's love at work in their lives. From this we examine how the great redemptive acts of Jesus are 'made present' in the Sacraments.

Supplementary Activities for 'Hear the Story'

Worksheet 3: 'Communicating Without Words' (page 48 of this resource) invites the young people to imagine themselves in a range of scenarios where they must use non-verbal means to communicate. Through this activity we hope to lead the young people to appreciate the power and effectiveness of non-verbal communication.

Worksheet 4: 'Jesus Made Present' (page 50 of this resource) is a Scripture-based activity that will enable the young people to link the words and actions of Jesus to the Sacraments of the Church.

EMBRACE THE VISION

A people of prayer

Learning Outcomes

That the young people would:

- ⊙ understand prayer to be the living relationship between God and humankind;
- ⊙ identify the different forms of prayer;
- ⊙ name the events in the Church's liturgical year.

Faith-formation Outcome

That the young people would also:

- ⊙ deepen their relationship with God through prayer.

Overview

In section three, 'Embrace the Vision', we discuss how the Sacraments are the high points in the human-divine relationship. All of the Sacraments work together to deepen our encounter with God. This relationship is sustained, nourished and deepened through prayer. The Liturgy is the official prayer of the Church and the celebration of the Sacraments is the focal point of the Liturgy. In this section we examine the five forms of prayer and the liturgical year of the Church.

Supplementary Activities for 'Embrace the Vision'

Worksheet 5: 'Forms of Prayer' (page 51 of this resource) offers the young people the opportunity to learn more about the five forms of prayer through studying selected passages from Scripture.

Worksheet 6: 'The Liturgical Year' (page 53 of this resource) lists the solemnities of Our Lord and the feast days of Mary and encourages the young people to locate them in the liturgical year. We provide some discussion questions to enable the young people to examine the significance of these celebrations for Church life.

THINK IT THROUGH

Prayer of the heart

Learning Outcomes

That the young people would:

- ⊙ distinguish between the three expressions of prayer: vocal prayer, meditation and contemplation;

- ⊙ discuss the significance of prayer to the Christian faith tradition.

Faith-formation Outcome

That the young people would also:

- ⊙ practice the three expressions of prayer.

Overview

Section four, 'Think It Through', focuses on prayer. We look at the three expressions of prayer—vocal prayer, prayer of meditation and prayer of contemplation—and examine the centrality of prayer in the Christian tradition. Our aim here is to guide the young people toward a deeper awareness of how they pray and the value of their prayer.

Supplementary Activities for 'Think It Through'

Worksheet 7: 'Expressions of Prayer' (page 54 of this resource) provides additional opportunities to explore the three expressions of prayer, from the context of both Sacred Scripture and the living Tradition of the Church.

Worksheet 8: 'Prayer Traditions' (page 55 of this resource) offers the young people a research activity through which they will learn about the prayer traditions of the Benedictine, Carmelite, Dominican, Franciscan and Ignatian religious orders. Following the activity, we encourage the young people to think about how they might incorporate aspects of the various prayer traditions into their own lives.

JUDGE AND ACT

Learning Outcome

That the young people would:

- ⊙ understand the term 'cloud of witnesses' in the context of the Church.

Faith-formation Outcome

That the young people would also:

- ⊙ be inspired in their own faith journey by St. John of the Cross.

Overview

In the final section of the chapter, 'Judge and Act', we present the life story and Christian witness of St. John of the Cross, the Carmelite friar for whom life was 'a prayer' and who accepted suffering because of his love of Christ, the Suffering Servant.

Supplementary Activities for 'Judge and Act'

Worksheet 9: 'Prayer of Meditation' (page 57 of this resource) offers the young people a guided meditation in which they imagine themselves in conversation with Jesus.

Worksheet 10: 'Key Faith terms from Chapters 1 and 2' (page 58 of this resource) provides the young people with an opportunity to review their understanding of some of the key faith terms from the first two chapters.

Additional Prayer Suggestion

Scripture Reflection

(See instructions for the use of doodling in prayer in the 'Student Activity Tool Kit', page 322 of this resource.)

Use the following Scripture verse to engage the young people in prayer:

Be still, and know that I am God!

PSALM 46:10

NAME: _____

Sign and Symbol

Language alone is not always enough to get our thoughts and experiences across to others, especially when we are talking about God and our personal encounters with him. It is beyond our human capacity to express fully our experience and understanding of God. We need commonly understood and concrete symbols to help us convey our faith beliefs because, as humans, we rely on our senses to understand the world around us. This worksheet will help you to gain greater insight into how 'sign and symbol' convey deeper meaning, in Sacred Liturgy and in other life experiences.

SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

Signs are a one-dimensional means of conveying information and they generally point to something tangible or visible. Their meaning is always obvious.

Symbols, on the other hand, seek to communicate a meaning or experience that cannot be easily described or defined. Think of a wedding ring. This symbol gives us information, such as marital status. But for the person wearing that ring, its symbolism goes far deeper—affecting emotions, decisions and aspirations. It is a constant reminder of the relationship it represents and of all that the relationship encompasses, from the past, in the present and into the future.

LET'S EXPLORE SIGNS

- ⊗ Pair up with a partner and brainstorm examples of people communicating using sign and gesture.
- ⊗ Share ideas on how signs, gestures and images can help (or hinder!) communication.
- ⊗ Identify some of the following from the Church's Liturgy:
 - objects that hold special significance;
 - words that you hear often, especially during the celebration of Sacraments;
 - sounds, such as bell-ringing;
 - gestures that represent something 'bigger'.
- ⊗ Now brainstorm ways in which you think Jesus went beyond the use of words to convey God's message to us—'to love one another as I have loved you'.

NOW EXPLORE SYMBOLS

- ⊗ Pair up with a partner once again and brainstorm examples of symbols—in secular life and in the life of the Church.
- ⊗ Share your thoughts on what each of these symbols mean.

JOURNAL EXERCISE

Write an explanation in your own words for 'sign' and 'symbol'.

NAME: _____

Make a Sacramental Collage or Display

This worksheet invites you first to identify key sacramental signs and symbols from Sacred Liturgy and then to gather either the actual items or pictorial representations of them to create a sacramental collage or display. This could be used for a sacred space in which to reflect on your study of sacramentality.

SACRAMENTAL SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

On the chart, identify objects, actions and words associated with the Sacraments of the Church.

Sacrament	Objects	Actions	Words
Baptism			
Eucharist			
Penance and Reconciliation			

Confirmation			
Holy Orders			
Anointing of the Sick			
Marriage / Matrimony			

MAKE A COLLAGE OR DISPLAY

Create a sacramental collage using the items you have listed or visual representations of them, as well as printouts of the words. Display this in a prominent place and use it as a sacred space for reflecting on sacramentality.

NAME: _____

Communicating Without Words

This worksheet invites you to imagine yourself in a range of scenarios where you must use non-verbal means to communicate. This activity will help you to appreciate the power and effectiveness of non-verbal communication.

REFLECT AND RESPOND

Describe how you might communicate each of the following without using words.

I am angry with you.

I want you to leave.

I am hungry.

I am excited.

Penance and
Re I am anxious.

Now, think of a time when somebody used more than words to communicate a message to you. Describe what they did and how effective it was.

Which communication strategy was used in the passage?	Which communication strategy was used in the passage?
1. The author uses a simile to describe the author's feelings.	1. The author uses a simile to describe the author's feelings.
2. The author uses a metaphor to describe the author's feelings.	2. The author uses a metaphor to describe the author's feelings.
3. The author uses a personification to describe the author's feelings.	3. The author uses a personification to describe the author's feelings.
4. The author uses a hyperbole to describe the author's feelings.	4. The author uses a hyperbole to describe the author's feelings.
5. The author uses a simile to describe the author's feelings.	5. The author uses a simile to describe the author's feelings.
6. The author uses a metaphor to describe the author's feelings.	6. The author uses a metaphor to describe the author's feelings.
7. The author uses a personification to describe the author's feelings.	7. The author uses a personification to describe the author's feelings.
8. The author uses a hyperbole to describe the author's feelings.	8. The author uses a hyperbole to describe the author's feelings.
9. The author uses a simile to describe the author's feelings.	9. The author uses a simile to describe the author's feelings.
10. The author uses a metaphor to describe the author's feelings.	10. The author uses a metaphor to describe the author's feelings.
11. The author uses a personification to describe the author's feelings.	11. The author uses a personification to describe the author's feelings.
12. The author uses a hyperbole to describe the author's feelings.	12. The author uses a hyperbole to describe the author's feelings.

NAME: _____

Jesus Made Present

The great redemptive acts of Jesus are 'made present' in the Sacraments of the Church.

This worksheet will help to enhance your awareness and appreciation of the links between the things Jesus said and did during his earthly ministry and the Sacraments of the Church.

READ, REFLECT AND RESPOND

Look up and read the Gospel passages listed in the left column of the chart. Reflect on each passage carefully and then respond to the question in the right column.

Gospel passage	Which Sacrament(s) do you link with the actions and words of Jesus described in this passage?
Luke 9:10–17	
Mark 14:22–25	
Luke 6:12–16	
John 14:15–17	
Luke 15:1–7	
John 15:26–27	
Luke 4:38–39	
Mark 6:7–12	
John 2:1–11	
Luke 7:11–15	
Mark 8:1–8	
Luke 15:11–32	

NAME: _____

Forms of Prayer

There are five foundational forms of prayer that have been passed on to us by Sacred Scripture and the living Tradition of the Church; these are (1) Prayers of Blessing and Adoration, (2) Prayers of Petition, (3) Prayers of Intercession, (4) Prayers of Thanksgiving, and (5) Prayers of Praise. This worksheet gives you the opportunity to learn more about these forms of prayer through studying selected passages from Scripture.

GROUP WORK

- ⊗ Work in five groups, with each group choosing one of the five forms of prayer listed on the work cards provided below.
- ⊗ Locate and read the selected Scripture passages.
- ⊗ Share your responses to the questions.

Blessing and Adoration

- ⊗ Read these New Testament passages:
 - Ephesians 1:3–14
 - 2 Corinthians 1:3–7
 - 1 Peter 1:3–9
- ⊗ What do these passages say to you?
- ⊗ Share how you feel blessed in your life.
- ⊗ Why should you bless God in return?

Petition

- ⊗ Read these Gospel passages:
 - Luke 11:9–13
 - John 14:13
- ⊗ What do these passages say to you?
- ⊗ What do you find yourself asking God for most often?

Intercession

- ⊗ Read John 17:1–24.
- ⊗ What does this text tell you about Jesus?
- ⊗ Share your understanding of Jesus' prayer in this passage.
- ⊗ What are your hopes when you pray for others?
- ⊗ What actions can you take to help your prayer come to effect?

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Thanksgiving

⊙ Read these Scripture passages:

- Luke 17:11-19
- Psalm 30:4
- Psalm 100:1-2
- Psalm 103:1-2
- Psalm 107:1

⊙ What does each passage say to you?

⊙ What are you thankful for in your life?

⊙ Take some time to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God.

Praise

⊙ Read Ephesians 5:19-20.

⊙ What is your reaction to this passage?

⊙ How can you incorporate such praise of God into your life?

JOURNAL EXERCISE

Compose your own prayer according to your deepest need right now.

Scripture passage	What does this passage say to you?
Luke 9:7-9	
Mark 16:7-8	
Luke 17:11-19	
John 12:1-8	
Luke 10:1-11	
Luke 10:12-13	
Mark 16:7-8	
Luke 17:11-19	

NAME: _____

The Liturgical Year

The Liturgy celebrates the whole mystery of Christ. During each liturgical cycle we also give thanks to God for Mary. This worksheet offers you the opportunity to learn more about the feasts of the Church.

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

- ⊙ Work in small groups, each group taking one of these lists:

Solemnities of Our Lord

Annunciation
 Ascension
 Baptism of the Lord
 Corpus Christi
 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
 Epiphany
 Exaltation of the Holy Cross
 Holy Family
 King of the Universe
 Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
 Most Holy Name
 Nativity
 Resurrection
 Sacred Heart
 Transfiguration

Feast Days of Mary

Assumption
 Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary
 Major
 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed
 Virgin Mary
 Immaculate Heart of Mary
 Most Holy Name of Mary
 Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Our Lady of Fatima
 Our Lady of Guadalupe
 Our Lady of Lourdes
 Our Lady of Mount Carmel
 Our Lady of Sorrows
 Our Lady of the Rosary
 Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 Visitation

⊙ Find out:

- The date of each feast.
- The particular event or aspect of our faith that the Church celebrates on this feast.
- The color of the vestments worn by the celebrant on each feast.
- Any other information you find significant.

CLASS DISCUSSION

- ⊙ What is the significance of feast days for the life of the Church community, and for the personal life of a Christian?