

Lesson Plan, Grade 7 - Chapter 16

Catechist Background

Doctrinal Content

- Every sacramental celebration is a meeting between God's children and their Father, a dialogue in the form of actions and words, a celebration woven from signs and symbols. (CCC, 1145, 1153)
- Jesus himself is a Sacrament because he makes God known to us; he is a visible sign of the mystery of the Holy Trinity (CCC, 1114-1115, 2812)
- The Holy Spirit works with the Church in making Jesus' saving work present in the Sacraments. (CCC, 1116-1118)
- The Catholic teaching that Jesus is really and truly with us in the Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—is called Real Presence. (CCC, 1380, 1381)

Catechist Background

... I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that he may grant you in accord with the riches of his glory to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner self, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, rooted and grounded in love ... may be filled with all the fullness of God. —Ephesians 3:14-17, 19

Reflect What are your favorite Church traditions? Why are they so meaningful for you?

The Seven Sacraments are gifts from a wise and loving God. They make visible the saving action of Christ. In the Sacraments some of the earthly elements of life—like water, bread, oil—are transformed through the Holy Spirit's action in the Church, into signs of God's intimate presence and life with, and within, us. The Sacraments are also reminders that God journeys with us through the great and small moments of our lives. He is present at times that have great, life-changing consequence, and he is equally present in our daily ups and downs. He is there in moments of great success and joy, and equally there in times of sorrow and fear. The Sacraments deepen our relationship with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and open us to live in deeper relationship with others.

More than anything else, the Sacraments give us a share in divine life and bring us into a deeper, more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. Jesus is the one from whom the Sacraments originally came, and it is he who gives them their fullness of meaning. Jesus, in a sense, is the original Sacrament, for he was the full and complete visible sign of God's presence. The Seven Sacraments continue Christ's saving action in the Church today. They are liturgical celebrations in which God is made known to us in ways that go beyond rational explanation, transforming us as his children and the Body of Christ.

Reflect Consider a particularly moving experience of the Sacraments in your life. What made that experience so memorable for you?

Catechist's Prayer

Lord Jesus, you make yourself known to us in your Sacraments. Help me to remain faithful to my sacramental heritage, and through the Sacraments may I grow in grace so as to serve my sisters and brothers. Amen.

Sharing the Message

How Seventh-Graders Understand Chapter Topics

Seventh-graders are more capable than they were before of abstract thought, including understanding the meaning behind signs and symbols. Until now, their understanding of the Sacraments might have been limited to the visible, concrete aspects of the celebration. Now they are ready to dive deeper, to learn more about the theological meaning and invisible realities behind the signs.

Teaching Tip

Emphasize that every sacramental celebration has visible signs and invisible realities. Be sure to talk about each of the Seven Sacraments in terms of these two aspects.

Sharing the Message with Seventh-Graders Adolescents are growing into a deeper awareness of how their past is connected to their present.

- Young people this age are very open to being taught about the power of rituals and traditions.
- Help seventh-graders find the balance between continuing to participate in comfortable family traditions and expressing themselves in new and independent ways.

Chapter Connections

Tasks of Catechesis

Helping children grow in a faith that is “known, celebrated, lived, and expressed in prayer” (NDC, 20). This chapter focuses on the following tasks of catechesis:

- Promoting Knowledge of the Faith
- Liturgical Education

NCEA IFG: ACRE Edition

Knowledge of the Faith

- Objective: To know and understand basic Catholic teaching about the Incarnate Word Jesus Christ as the way, truth, and life

Liturgical Life

- Objective: To know the Paschal Mystery of Jesus: in the Church's liturgical life—feasts, seasons, symbols, and practices—and in the Sacraments as signs and instruments of grace

Catholic Faith Literacy

anointing, Eucharist, Liturgy of the Word, Sacrament

Catholic Social Teaching

To integrate Catholic Social Teaching into your lesson, choose one of the following features: Life and Dignity of the Human Person, pages 334–335; or Solidarity of the Human Family, pages 344–345.

- Start the Live step of the process by talking about Saint Ludmilla on page 260. Then move directly to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Or, to expand the lesson, complete page 260, then move to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Return to Chapter 16 for the prayer on page 261.

Music Option

- Use the following song to enhance catechetical learning or for prayer.
 - "Let It Be Done," Live, Page 261

Catechist Instruction, Grade 7 – Chapter 16

Invite Page 251

Objective

- Reflect on God's personal invitation through Scripture

♥ Let Us Pray

Invite the youth to gather in the prayer space and make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse. Prompt the response from the group. Have the young people move out of the prayer space and back to their seats. Explain that Jesus is always with us, loving us. His greatest desire is to bring us to his Father. *Say:* God's greatest gift to us is his Son, Jesus Christ. Let's listen to God's Word and remember that we are rooted and grounded in the love of Christ.

† Scripture

Guide the youth through the process of Scripture reflection.

Invite the young people to be still, close their eyes, and focus on their breathing.

Encourage them to open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them.

- Proclaim the Scripture and have the youth sit in silence.
- *Ask:* What did you hear God say to you today?
- Allow volunteers to share.

► You may play instrumental music to begin the reflection.

Remember, this is a spiritual discipline that takes practice. The young people will grow in their capacity to sit in silence. Throughout the year, build to four minutes.

Have you ever thought...

Say: The Sacraments are Jesus' gift to us as a way for us to always experience his welcoming, forgiving, healing, and nourishing power in our lives.

- Invite the young people to respond to the questions.

Discover (1) Pages 254-255

Objectives

- Discover that the Sacraments begin with God's invitation given in signs and symbols and require our faith-filled response
- Explain why we call Jesus the first Sacrament
- Explore how the Holy Spirit works with the Church to make Jesus' saving work present in the Sacraments

Teaching Activity: Signs and Symbols

Youth will participate in a scavenger hunt to find and identify signs and symbols of the Seven Sacraments.

Before the Lesson

Materials Needed

✦ Go to aliveinchrist.osv.com and download the Image of Jesus, Signs of the Sacraments Scavenger Hunt, Catholic Faith Word page
a piece of bread, a water bottle, two pairs of gloves, a bottle of olive oil, scented oil, a bottle of oil, adhesive bandage, cotton balls, image of a bride and groom, labels, tape

Preparation

- Stuff the two pairs of gloves with cotton balls. Place labels on each pair of gloves. Label one pair with the word “Absolve” and the other pair with the word “Service.”
- Place the adhesive bandage on the bottle of oil. • Place a few drops of the scented oil into the bottle of olive oil.
- Do an Internet search for an image of Saint Peter’s Basilica and an image of a bride and groom. Print both images and label the image of a bride and groom with the words “I do.”
- Cut out the words from the Signs of the Sacraments Scavenger Hunt pages.
- Hide the words and the signs of the Seven Sacraments around the room.

Activity Directions

Say: Now that you are older and can understand things in deeper ways, we are going to talk about signs today. Signs are things that we can experience with our five senses—something visible that helps us to express something invisible. For instance—think about the feeling of patriotism. When people are feeling patriotic what sign might they use to express that? ***a flag, an image of a national monument***

Say: How about loyalty to a sports team? ***clothing that has the team logo on it, in team colors, or an image of the team mascot***

Say: Because Jesus wanted us to be able to experience him, to experience grace—his free, loving gift of his own life and help, he gave us the Seven Sacraments—visible signs of his presence and effective signs of his grace.

Point to the Catholic Faith Word definition for *Seven Sacraments* and ask a volunteer to read it aloud to the group.

Say: We begin with Jesus, himself. For, Jesus is *the* Sacrament of God.

Post the image of Jesus on the board.

Say: When the Son of God took on human flesh, he became the visible sign of the invisible God. He perfectly reveals God the Father. Jesus himself is a Sacrament because he is a visible sign of the Holy Trinity. Jesus is the perfect Mediator between God and humanity, because he is fully God and fully man.

Say: Through Christ, and his Church, we experience grace, which is God's free, loving gift of his own life and help.

Post the image of Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome on the board directly underneath the image of Jesus. Draw an arrow between the image of Jesus and the Church.

Say: Our Catholic Church is the visible sign of the invisible presence of Jesus. The Holy Spirit helps us to remember all that Jesus did and said. The Holy Spirit through the signs of the Seven Sacraments makes Jesus' saving work present. The Church is like a Sacrament because she is a sign of God's love and action in the world. She is a means of salvation and a visible community in the world. God invites us in the Seven Sacraments to receive the fullness of life he offers us.

Instruct the youth to search the room for the seven hidden signs that we use in the Sacraments as well as seven words that describe Jesus' saving work in those Sacraments.

Say: Work together to find those words and symbols and return to your seats when you have found them.

When the participants return, review each of the symbols of the Seven Sacraments. Hold them up one at a time and allow the youth to guess which Sacrament each object represents. When they have guessed correctly, have them choose the word that best describes what that Sacrament does for us.

- Bottle of Water **Baptism, Restores**
- Piece of Bread **Eucharist, Communion**
- Gloves Labeled "Absolve" **Penance and Reconciliation, Forgives**
- Bottle of Scented Oil **Confirmation, Strengthens**
- Bottle of Oil with a Bandage **Anointing of the Sick, Heals**
- Image of a Bride and Groom **Matrimony, Unites**
- Gloves Labeled "Service" **Holy Orders, Ordains**

Extend the Lesson

Use **Activity Master 16: Masterworks of God** to extend the lesson; it is not included in the timed estimate for this section of the Lesson Plan.

Discover (2) Pages 256-257

Objectives

- Recognize that all of the Sacraments draw us into the Paschal Mystery
- Explain how the Edict of Milan changed the lives of Christians

Ask the opening question and list responses on the board or on chart paper. Come back to the question after the group has completed pages 256 and 257 to see if they can add more to the list.

The Foundation of the Seven Sacraments

Summarize the first three paragraphs, stressing the following:

- All of the Sacraments are rooted in the life of Jesus.
- Jesus did not dictate the words, gestures, and symbols to be used in each Sacrament.

However, we find the source of each Sacrament in the attitudes and actions of Jesus that we read about in Scripture.

Review the three categories of Sacraments with the group.

Following Jesus' Command

Have the youth silently read this section that begins on page 256.

- Discuss any questions that they may have on how Christianity became a separate religion.

Work with Words

Point out the Catholic Faith Words box on this page.

- Have three volunteers each read aloud one of the definitions.
- Be sure to point out the importance of the Edict of Milan.

Activity

Explain the instructions to the youth.

- Have them work with a partner to read the Scripture passages and complete the chart.
- After the group has had time to complete the assignment, review the chart to ensure that everyone has the correct answers. **Baptism, Matthew 28:15–20; Confirmation, Acts 2:1–4; Holy Eucharist, Luke 22:4–20; Reconciliation, Matthew 16:19; Anointing of the Sick, Matthew 8:1–4; Matrimony, John 2:1–11; Holy Orders, John 21:15–17**

Quick Review

Jesus instituted the Sacraments to help us stay connected to him and to draw us into the Paschal Mystery. The Edict of Milan changed the lives of Christians because it allowed them to practice their religion without persecution.

Discover (3) Pages 258-259

Objectives

- Explore how the physical elements used in the Seven Sacraments help us experience God's presence
- Identify what Real Presence means in Catholic teaching

Christ Acts in the Church

Read aloud the three paragraphs.

- As you read, have the young people highlight the most important sentence in each paragraph.
- Review as a group to see what the youth chose to highlight.
- Emphasize that Christ is present in the Sacraments.

Christ's Presence in the Liturgy

Tell the young people to silently read this section.

- Invite volunteers to explain why they think the words *assembly*, *priest*, and *Word* are bold-faced. Point out the Catholic Faith Words box at the bottom of this page.
- Go over the definition and answer any questions that the youth may have.
- Point out that Real Presence is a very important teaching in the Catholic faith.

Looking Back

Direct the young people to silently read this section. Tell them to make sure that they pay close attention to this reading.

- Ask the youth if they know what is happening in the photo on page 259. Invite a volunteer to explain.
- Write two column headings on the board: "Jewish Tradition" and "Christian Tradition."
- Invite volunteers to come to the board and list points in each column from what they have just read.

Activity

Read the activity instructions to the group and encourage them to work on being a Eucharistic person over the next few weeks.

In Summary

Have four volunteers read the summary statement and the three bullet points.

- Ask the young people to reflect on their most memorable experience during one of the Sacraments that they have celebrated.
- Invite them to share.

Live Pages 260-261

Objectives

- Review different types of grace and how they touch our lives
- Explore the faith life of Saint Ludmilla
- Offer the Prayer to Saint Joseph

Our Catholic Life

Ask the youth to silently read over the information.

- Have three volunteers summarize the meanings of the bold-faced words for the group.
- Invite the young people to discuss the questions with a partner.

People of Faith

Read aloud the People of Faith paragraph on Saint Ludmilla.

- Share the content of the People of Faith Background box.
- Invite the youth to share what they know about other important people who helped spread Christianity.

Here are some additional details about Saint Ludmilla to assist you in presenting this section:

- Explain to the young people that Saint Ludmilla helped to bring Christianity to Bohemia, which was part of the Holy Roman Empire.
- Although Christianity first appeared in Bohemia in the early 9th century, it didn't become dominant until the 10th or 11th century. It is still a major religion in Bohemia today.
- Ludmilla's grandson, Wenceslaus, later became a Saint himself and is celebrated in the Christmas song "Good King Wenceslaus."

Activity

Have the young people read the instructions and complete the activity independently.

- If time is an issue, you may wish to work through a hypothetical issue as a group.

Prayer to Saint Joseph

♥ Recruit a volunteer as prayer leader and four others to be readers.

- Invite several other youth to collaborate in preparing the prayer space. Suggest that they include a lit candle, an image of Saint Joseph, and an open Bible.
- Follow the order of prayer on the prayer page.

► Conclude by playing the song "Let It Be Done," downloaded from **aliveinchrist.osv.com**.

Chapter Review

If you are using eAssessments, remind the young people that they will need to be completed by the due date. Feedback is important at this age. For the tool to be used effectively provide feedback to the young people about their work.

Chapter 16 Lesson Plan

Objectives	Process	Materials
Invite, 15 minutes		
God's Masterworks Page 251	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psalm 30:12–13 Pray the opening prayer. Ephesians 3:14–21 Guide the youth through the process of Scripture reflection. • Discuss Have You Ever Thought questions. 	
Discover, 45 minutes		
It All Starts with Jesus pp. 254–255 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discover that the Sacraments begin with God's invitation given in signs and symbols and require our faith-filled response • Explain why we call Jesus the first Sacrament • Explore how the Holy Spirit works with the Church to make Jesus' saving work present in the Sacraments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching Activity Youth will participate in a scavenger hunt to find and identify signs and symbols of the Seven Sacraments. 	Image of Jesus, Signs of the Sacraments Scavenger Hunt, Catholic Faith Words <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> labels, tape <input type="checkbox"/> Sacraments scavenger hunt items
The Foundation of the Seven Sacraments pp. 256–257 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize that all of the Sacraments draw us into the Paschal Mystery • Explain how the Edict of Milan changed the lives of Christians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss how the Sacraments draw us into the Paschal Mystery. • Activity Connect Jesus' action or attitude from Scripture to specify Sacraments. • Activity Master Masterworks of God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens <input type="checkbox"/> board or chart paper <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Activity Master 16
Christ Acts in the Church pp. 258–259 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore how the physical elements used in the Seven Sacraments help us experience God's presence • Identify what Real Presence means in Catholic teaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect on the influence that Jewish traditions had on Christian traditions. • Activity Discuss and carry out ways to be a Eucharistic person. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens <input type="checkbox"/> board or chart paper <input type="checkbox"/> highlighters
Live, 15 minutes		
Our Catholic Life Page 260	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the Our Catholic Life questions. • People of Faith Learn about Saint Ludmilla. • Activity Write ways to be mindful of God's presence in daily life. 	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens
Prayer to Saint Joseph Page 261	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit a leader and four readers. • Follow the order of prayer. 	"Let It Be Done"

CATHOLIC FAITH WORDS

Seven Sacraments, Sacraments of Initiation, Sacraments of Healing, Sacraments at the Service of Communion, Real Presence

ASSESSMENT

Chapter Review, Page 262

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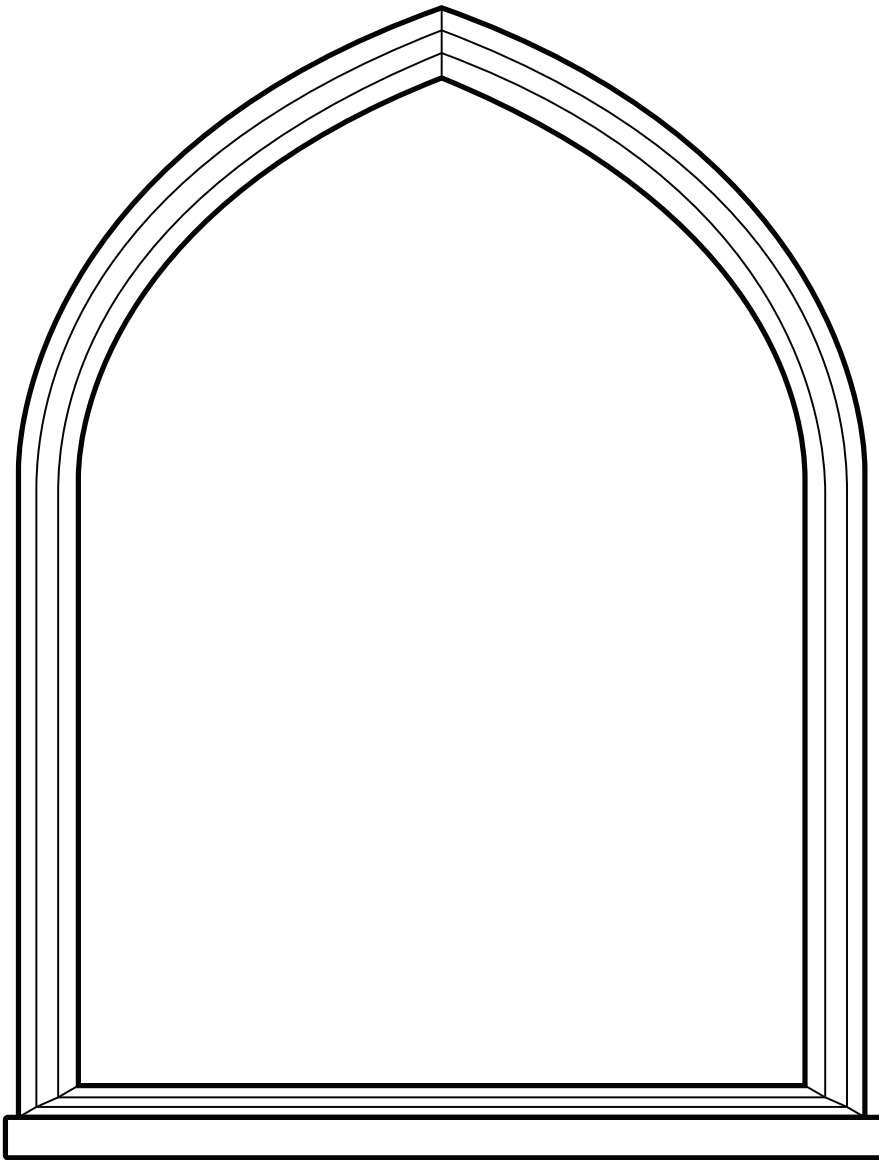
Name _____

Date _____

Masterworks of God

In Europe during the Middle Ages, many people could not read. Those who built churches designed artwork to teach about Christ and the Church. Pretend you are a designer; your assignment is to create a window in a new church to teach about one of the Seven Sacraments. The plan is to have seven stained-glass windows—one for each of the Seven Sacraments, so you will need to work in a group with six others. Discuss with your group who will work on each Sacrament. Sketch in your designs.

SACRAMENT OF _____



Name _____

Date _____

Circle the letter of the choice that best completes each sentence.

1. The ____ are effective signs of God's grace instituted by Christ and given to his Church.
 - a. Saints
 - b. Seven Sacraments
 - c. Precepts
 - d. Real Presence
2. Jesus is the perfect ____ between God the Father and humanity because he is fully God and fully man.
 - a. Mediator
 - b. Sacrament
 - c. image
 - d. Messiah
3. The Sacraments of Healing bring God's ____ to those who are physically and spiritually sick.
 - a. justice and healing
 - b. forgiveness and sacrifice
 - c. forgiveness and healing
 - d. sacrifice and healing
4. Jesus followed the ____ customs of prayer and worship.
 - a. Jewish
 - b. Christian
 - c. Roman
 - d. European

Indicate whether the following statements are true or false. Then rewrite false statements to make them true.

5. God gives us grace when we do something to earn it. **True/False**

6. The three Sacraments of Initiation celebrate membership into the Church. **True/False**

7. Jesus Christ is called the first Sacrament. **True/False**

8. Pentecost describes that Jesus is really and truly with us in the Eucharist. **True/False**

Write a response on the lines below.

9. What are the two Sacraments at the Service of Communion and what do they celebrate?

10. Where is Jesus when we celebrate the Sacraments?



Restores
Forgives
Communion
Strengthens

Heals
Unites
Ordains

Catholic Faith Words

Seven Sacraments effective signs of God's grace instituted by Christ and given to his Church. In the celebration of each Sacrament, there are visible signs and Divine actions that give grace and allow us to share in God's work.