

BOOK NINE

Books 1-8 have told the story of our journey toward Heaven. Before Jesus physically left this earth, He gave the Apostles all of the tools they would need to spread the Good News and help people gain Heaven. Those “tools” are the Sacraments.

Read first two pages in QFG.

Teacher’s Discussion

All people use tools to help them accomplish tasks.
Talk about various tools and the tasks that help accomplish.
The Sacraments are the tools that help us get to Heaven.

BAPTISM - read the two pertinent pages in QFG

John the Baptist reminded people to prepare for the Messiah, the Savior, Jesus. He reminded people of their Original Sin and the need to repent. He baptized people with water. John told the people that Jesus would baptize them with the Holy Spirit.

Present Image of God 2nd Grade Lesson #8

Present Faith & Life 1st Grade Lesson #24

Present Faith & Life 2nd Grade Lesson #6

Classroom Activity

Using a dry erase board, draw an abstract shape. (Since only God can see our soul, we do not know what shape it is) Fill in the shape with a colored marker (our soul with Original Sin, no room for God’s grace in us).

With a cloth, remove the color marker inside the shape (the soul filled with the purity of God’s grace after Baptism).

Children can begin a Sacraments booklet by bringing in pictures of their baptism.

Present Image of God Books A, B & K Lesson #8

CONFESSION, PENANCE, RECONCILIATION - read the two pertinent pages.

Teacher’s Discussion

Between Baptism and First Holy Communion, our souls fill up with sins. Jesus gave us “tools” to “clean up” our souls.

Present Faith & Life 2nd Grade Lessons#17, 18, 19, 20

Classroom Activity

To illustrate the soul and the capacity for grace and/or sin use a clear plastic glass

- Fill the glass with water. (The soul is filled with God’s Sanctifying Grace)
- Begin adding sand or dirt to the water. The sand/dirt represents sin.
- Continue adding sand/dirt until all of the water is pushed out of the glass.

The priest has the authority to “empty the sand/dirt” from the soul and allow God’s grace to fill the soul.

Teacher’s Discussion

How do we know when we need to go to Confession?

Classroom Activity

Provide each child with a medium size plastic glass. Distribute small bags of stones, marbles etc. to each child. Explain to the children that each time they disobey one of God's 10 Commandments, a stone, marble etc., is to be placed in the glass. This can be done at night when prayers are said. (This also introduces the concept of *examination of conscience*.) When the glass is full, it is time to go to Confession.

Pictures of a confessional and priest can be drawn for the Sacrament Booklet.

1st and 2nd Grade - bring a kneeler into class, and practice the form of making a good confession.

Present Image of God Books A, B & K Lesson #9
Present Image of God 2nd Grade Lessons #13, 14

COMMUNION, EUCHARIST -Read pertinent two pages in QFG.

Teacher's Discussion

Review Holy Thursday, the *Last Supper*, the first Mass. Jesus gave us His Body and Blood so He would always remain with us on earth. Communion adds grace, God's life, into souls.

Only a bishop or priest has the authority to *consecrate* the bread and wine into Jesus' Body and Blood.

Present Image of God 1st Grade Lesson #15

Present Faith & Family 1st Grade Lessons # 25, We Go To Mass
Present Faith & Family 2nd Grade Lessons #25, 26, 27, 28

Classroom Activity

Regular slices of bread can be rolled between waxed paper with a rolling pin. Any small jar, glass etc., can be used to punch out small rounds, wafers. Class can practice distributing and receiving Communion.

Necco wafers can also be used. Grape juice can be used in the representation of the Mass.

Siblings' pictures of First Holy Communion can be added to the Sacraments Booklet.

CONFIRMATION - Read pertinent two pages in QFG.

Teacher's Discussion

Using a large glass, fill it 1/2 full of water. Remind the class that the glass represents our souls filled with God's grace after Baptism and/or Confession and Communion.

Most people are baptized as babies. Their parents' make the choice of baptism and promise God that the child will grow up to know, love and serve Him.

At Confirmation, the child personally makes the promise to God to know, love and serve Him.

After the discussion, fill the glass to the top with water and explain that the Holy Spirit brings additional grace into the soul after Confirmation.

MARRIAGE - read the appropriate two pages in QFG.

Teacher's Discussion

God created man and woman to be together to form a family. As God as a witness, a man and a woman make a permanent *vow* to each other. They vow to start a family and to be together until they die. This sacrament is called *matrimony*.

Classroom Activity

Children may bring in pictures of their parents' wedding for the Sacrament booklet.

HOLY ORDERS - read the appropriate two pages in QFG

Teacher's Discussion

God plans for some men to serve Him as single men all their lives.
God plans for some men to serve Him as married men and raise families.
God plans for some men to serve Him as priests of His Church.
As Jesus chose only men to be priests, only men may be ordained.

Men that God chooses to be priests will go to a special college, a *seminary*. In the seminary, a man will learn the Truths of the Faith. When his studies are completed, he will be *ordained*, set aside spiritually with a special mark on his soul that identifies him as a priest forever. The ordination of the ne priest will be done by a Bishop, representing the Apostles and through them, Jesus.

The passing down of the priesthood through the authority of Jesus given to the Apostles then to present day Bishops is called *Apostolic Succession*.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK - read the appropriate two pages of QFG

Teacher's Discussion

Jesus healed many people while He was physically present on earth.

When He went to Heaven on Pentecost, He promised to send the Holy Spirit to be with the people on earth.

Part of the work of the Holy Spirit is to bring Jesus' healing grace.

If someone is very ill or in need of an operation, the Church offers a special blessing and an *anointing*, the tracing of a cross on the forehead with *holy oil*, a special oil blessed by a Bishop once a year.

According to God's will, this Sacrament will physically and/or spiritually heal.

Classroom Activity

Some children can pretend to have various disabilities and other children can pretend to be offering anointing.

Photos or drawings of the 7 Sacraments can be added to their "Sacraments" booklet.

Present Image of God 1st Grade Lesson #14

Present Image of God 2nd Grade Lesson #7

