

Part 2: Liturgy of the Word

The Readings: We Share our Story (Child)

When we visit with our friends, we like to share stories from the past! Remember that time we visited Disney World? How about when your brother got baptized? When we go to Church, we share the story of our faith. What story would you like to share with your friends and family about your faith?

Draw a picture of your story!

The Readings: We Share our Story (Parent)

Tell the children that:

When we visit with our friends, we like to share stories from the past! Remember that time we visited Disney World? How about when your brother got baptized? When we go to Church, we share the story of our faith.

Tell them to write down their own story about faith and family, take a look at their stories, and invite a few to share.

Then review with the class the readings we will use for their First Eucharist, the first reading from Acts, and the second reading from First Corinthians. Review our responses to the reading!

During your First Holy Communion, the Church will tell us about the Eucharist!

Acts 2: 42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People reply: Thanks be to God

1 COR 10:16-17

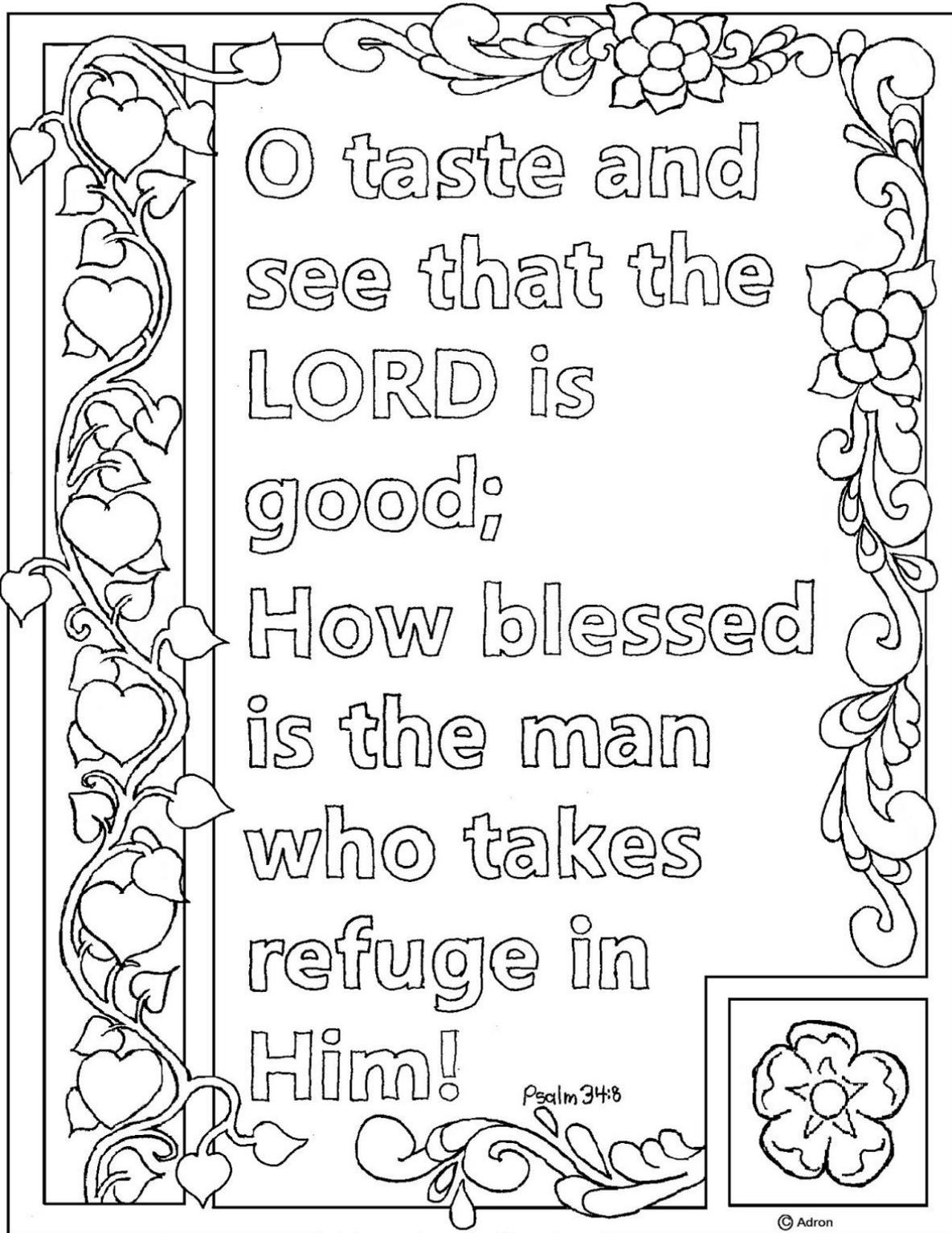
A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People reply: Thanks be to God



The Psalms (Parent)

Have the children color their Psalm 34.8 coloring page. Tell them that we will sing a Psalm during their First Eucharist.

Read the Coloring sheet to the children. Say “Repeat after me” “O taste and see that the Lord is good”

Let them know that during Mass, this is sung, and they will repeat after the Cantor, and that a Cantor is someone who leads the Church in song!

A Psalm is a poem or song of prayer from a long time ago. When Jesus would travel with his family or students to Jerusalem, they would sing these same prayers. They had no radios or I-Phones to listen to music while they travelled and since they walked everywhere that spent a lot of time praying and singing these prayers. They probably knew these prayers better than we know the ABCs.

When we pray this on Sunday, we are joined with Catholics around the World, and pray the same words that people did long ago in the Temple.

****As a parent do you have a favorite Psalm? Share the refrain with the children as they color.*** Get them used to repeating the line you share with them.

The Gospel: We Learn About Jesus (Child)

The Priest or deacon:

The Lord be with you

The People reply:

And with your spirit

The Priest or deacon:

A Reading from the Gospel According to John:

The people reply:

Glory to you O Lord

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

The Priest or deacon:

The Gospel of the Lord

The people reply:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Gospel Responses

The priest or deacon:

The Lord be with you

The people reply:

And with your Spirit

The priest or deacon:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

The people reply:

Glory to you O Lord

(When saying 'Glory to you O Lord', with your thumb make a little sign of the cross, first on your forehead; then on your lips; then on your heart)

At the end, the priest or deacon says:

The Gospel of the Lord

The people reply:

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The Gospel Acclamation-Proclamation (Parent)

Have a student holding the Bible Process around the room with three students holding a poster with the word Alleluia on it. Have all of the children sing, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Have the child with the book stop at the front of the classroom with the Bible.

Teach the children the parts we say at the proclamation of the Gospel.

Priest or deacon:

The Lord be with you

People respond:

And with your spirit

Priest or deacon:

A Reading from the Gospel According to John:

People respond:

Glory to you O Lord

Jesus said to the Jewish crowds:

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,

"How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day.

For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."

The priest or deacon:

The Gospel of the Lord

People Respond:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Homily (Parent)

Briefly explain to the children that the Homily is a time where the priest or deacon teaches us about the readings from the Mass. They may also talk about something important that is happening in the Church. When the children receive their First Eucharist, the Homily will talk about what the Eucharist means to us, and our families!

*You can ask the children what they would like to hear about in a Homily, or if they ever remember hearing one! ***Tell them, if they listen carefully to the readings, they can tell their parents what they mean when they head home from Mass!***

I BELIEVE...

Profession of Faith: The Creeds (Parent)

Tell the children that when we say a creed, it means what we believe. I believe in Jesus, I believe in treating people nicely, I believe in heaven. At Mass there are two creeds that we can pray, the Apostles Creed is the Shorter one.

Pray the Apostles Creed with them:

They will have a sheet in their folder with the Apostles Creed on the front, and the Nicene Creed on the back.

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day, He rose again.
He ascended to Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen

Now have the children draw or write what they believe on the sheet that says 'I Believe'. If time allows and there are any appropriate ones, let them share.

The Profession of Faith (Child)

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day, He rose again.
He ascended to Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen

At Mass we usually pray the Nicene Creed. Pray this with your family at home, so you can remember when you go to Mass on Sunday!

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come

Amen

Universal Prayer: Petitions (Parent)

When we spend time with family and friends, we might ask them to pray for the things we need. For instance, my grandpa is sick, please pray that he gets better, or my daddy would like a new job pray he finds one.

When we come together as a Church community, we pray for each other's needs! We pray for the Pope and our Bishop, our President and leaders, for the priests, for the sick, and for those who have already gone to heaven. Sometimes we even pray for good weather!

What do these prayers look like?

The reader will say:

For Pope Francis and our Bishop David, that they lead the Church in a good way, and stay healthy!

We Pray to the Lord

We Respond:

We pray to the Lord

The reader will say:

For the sick of our parish, and our families who cannot be with us today, that they will feel better.

We pray to the Lord

We Respond:

We pray to the Lord

After saying a few petitions, and having the children repeat the structure with you, allow them to try making their own, having the rest of the class respond **"We**

pray to the Lord". It's okay if they get silly and pray for their favorite television character or their pet.

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We may use these readings:

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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Reader: The Word of the Lord

The people reply: Thanks be to God

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

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Reader:

The Word of the Lord

The people reply:

Thanks be to Go

The Gospel

The Priest or deacon:

The Lord be with you

People respond:

And with your spirit

The Priest or deacon:

A Reading from the Gospel According to John:

The people respond:

Glory to you O Lord

After this, Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee. A large crowd followed him, because they saw the signs he was performing on the sick. Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. The Jewish feast of Passover was near. When Jesus raised his eyes and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, he said to Philip, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?"

He said this to test him, because he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred days' wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people recline."

Now there was a great deal of grass in that place. So the men reclined, about five thousand in number. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted. When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted." So they collected them, and filled twelve wicker baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves that had been more than they could eat. When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This is truly the Prophet,* the one who

is to come into the world.”

The priest or deacon:

The Gospel of the Lord

People Respond:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ