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CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE
THE HOLY MASS

Catechism of the Catholic Church References

| Eucharist as Sacrifice: 1356–58, 1414 | An Action of Ministerial Priesthood: 1552 |
| Eucharist: Thanksgiving/Praise to the Father: 1359–61 | Corresponds to Paschal Meal and Risen Lord: 1347 |
| Eucharist as Sacrificial Memorial of Christ and of His Body, the Church: 1341–44, 1362–72, 1414 | Two Parts: 1346, 1408 |
| Obligation to Participate in the Mass: 1389, 2180 | Sunday—Fulfillment of the Sabbath: 2175–76, 2190 |
| Significance of Sunday Celebration: 2177–79 | Sunday Obligation: 2180–83, 2192 |
| Structure of Movement of the Mass: | Day of Grace and Rest from Work: 2184–88, 2193–95 |
| | Worship: 2096–97, 2135–36 |

Scripture References

| Elijah: 1 Kings 18:22–39 | |

Background Reading: The Fundamentals of Catholicism by Fr. Kenneth Baker, S.J.


Summary of Lesson Content

Lesson 1
We celebrate Mass in obedience to the Commandments and to follow Jesus’ instruction, “Do this in memory of me.”

At the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood.

The power to consecrate the Eucharist has been passed on to all validly ordained priests.

Lesson 2
At Mass, the same sacrifice of Christ is offered to the Father for our sins. It is the same sacrifice offered on the Cross.

This is not the same sacrifice offered over and over again, but one time for all, made sacramentally present on the altar.

Lesson 3
At the Mass, the Resurrection is also celebrated.

Mass is celebrated on Sunday, the day of the Resurrection.

Lesson 4
Mass is the perfect prayer, including praise and thanksgiving, petition and intercession.

Man is called to actively participate in Mass.

The Third Commandment is reviewed.
The Christian day of rest and worship is Sunday, rather than the traditional Jewish sabbath of Saturday, because Jesus was resurrected on Sunday. Each Sunday, therefore, is in some sense a re-enactment of the first Easter Sunday, with a part in the joy of God’s greatest gift.

It is customary for Catholic families to celebrate each Sunday with family time, relaxation time, time for preparing for the rest of the week, and time for attending Mass. Sunday Mass is an obligation that cannot be missed, except for very serious reasons.

1. End the day with praying the Our Father (see Teacher’s Manual, p. 427).
2. You may review the responsory parts of the Mass.

The students will learn that we celebrate Mass in obedience to the Commandments and to follow Jesus’ instruction, “Do this in memory of me.” They will understand that at the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood.

Aims

The students will learn that we celebrate Mass in obedience to the Commandments and to follow Jesus’ instruction, “Do this in memory of me.” They will understand that at the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood.

SUNDAY TRADITIONS

The Christian day of rest and worship is Sunday, rather than the traditional Jewish sabbath of Saturday, because Jesus was resurrected on Sunday. Each Sunday, therefore, is in some sense a re-enactment of the first Easter Sunday, with a part in the joy of God’s greatest gift.

It is customary for Catholic families to celebrate each Sunday with family time, relaxation time, time for preparing for the rest of the week, and time for attending Mass. Sunday Mass is an obligation that cannot be missed, except for very serious reasons.

1. Read paragraphs 1–2 from the chapter.
2. Read the Last Supper accounts from the children’s Bible (Mt 26: 20–29; Mk 14:17–26; Lk 22:13–20; 1 Cor 11:23–27). The students may act out this event.
3. Compare a picture of the Last Supper and a picture of the Mass (you may use pp. 106 and 126 of text). What is going on in each picture?
• Who is present?
• Is there an altar in each picture?
• Is there a cup? bread?
• What is happening to the bread and wine?
• Is the Last Supper a Mass? (It is the first Mass.)
• Is Jesus present at our Mass?
• What role does the priest have? (He acts in the person of Christ.)
• Where are the Apostles in the Last Supper picture?
4. Jesus said: “Do this in memory of me.” In the Jewish culture, to remember means to “make present.” It is not just thinking of something that happened a long time ago, but it is making it present now: Jesus wants us to be present with Him now through the Mass. By saying, “Do this…” to His Apostles, Jesus made them priests. All priests have the power, through Jesus, to change bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus, to make Him present now at the Mass. We should want to be there for this great event! When we go to Mass, we are at the Last Supper, with Jesus on the Cross, and at the Resurrection; we are united with Jesus through Holy Communion.
5. If possible, have the class interview a priest.

Develop

1. Read paragraphs 1–2 from the chapter.
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• Who is present?
• Is there an altar in each picture?
• Is there a cup? bread?
• What is happening to the bread and wine?
• Is the Last Supper a Mass? (It is the first Mass.)
• Is Jesus present at our Mass?
• What role does the priest have? (He acts in the person of Christ.)
• Where are the Apostles in the Last Supper picture?

Conclude

1. End the day with praying the Our Father (see Teacher’s Manual, p. 427).
2. You may review the responsory parts of the Mass.

The students will learn that we celebrate Mass in obedience to the Commandments and to follow Jesus’ instruction, “Do this in memory of me.” They will understand that at the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood.

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It is customary for Catholic families to celebrate each Sunday with family time, relaxation time, time for preparing for the rest of the week, and time for attending Mass. Sunday Mass is an obligation that cannot be missed, except for very serious reasons.

1. Have the students work on Activity Book p. 97 (see Teacher’s Manual, p. 311).
2. Teach the children to sing “O saving Victim,” Adoremus Hymnal, #519/520.

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2. Teach the children to sing “O saving Victim,” Adoremus Hymnal, #519/520.

2. Remind them that Jesus is the victim of a sacrifice of love. Teach the children to pray a spiritual communion, uniting themselves to the Father with Jesus’ sacrifice.


In the next lesson, we will learn that Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection.

Begin by writing “sacrifice” on the board. Ask the students if they can explain what this word means (make sure they know how to pronounce it first). Use the picture on p. 120 of the text to help explain what a sacrifice is. A sacrifice is when we give our best to God without taking it back. In the times before Jesus, for example, people would take their best crops or animals and burn them on an altar, leaving nothing for themselves. It is to give something totally to God. Ask the children how Jesus is a sacrifice. What was His altar? (Cross/altar at Mass.)

Develop

1. Read the third paragraph from this chapter with the students.

2. Go through the chalk talk at right with them. This exercise may be done on the board.

3. Find examples of sacrifices in the Bible, such as Isaac in Genesis 15 and Elijah in 1 Kings 18:22-39.

4. Read the Crucifixion of Jesus and point out how it, too, is a sacrifice (Mt 27:22–32; Mk 15:15–39; Lk 23:33–46, Jn 19:16–37):
   - Offered to the Father
   - Jesus was the victim and the priest
   - Withheld nothing, not even His life
   - Atoned for our sins

5. Ask them how the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross can be present at Mass more than 2000 years later. With God, there is no time. How do we tell time? With the sun, moon, rotation of the earth, etc. God made all these things; therefore, He is outside of them. At Mass, the same Victim is being offered to the Father. The victim is Jesus, His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. He is being offered for our sins. It is the same sacrifice as on the Cross, only celebrated in the unbloody Eucharist. Ask the children if Jesus is being sacrificed over and over again at each Mass. No. (See Heb 7:26–27.) He was sacrificed once for all and for all time.

Conclude


2. Remind them that Jesus is the victim of a sacrifice of love. Teach the children to pray a spiritual communion, uniting themselves to the Father with Jesus’ sacrifice.


The students will learn that at Mass, the same sacrifice of Christ is offered for our sins. It is the same sacrifice Jesus offered on the Cross.

CHALK TALK: THE HOLY MASS

Every Sunday we go to church to do what Jesus told twelve disciples to do when He said, “Do this in memory of Me.” You see, the Last Supper was the very first Mass. At the Last Supper, Jesus changed bread and wine into His Body and Blood. He gave the disciples the power to do this, too. The disciples gave that power to other men. That is why our priest today can change bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ at every Mass.

At Mass we offer the same sacrifice that Jesus offered for our sins. That is the sacrifice which Jesus offered to the Father when He died on the Cross. Sacrifice means giving up something dear to us completely to God. Jesus gave Himself up to God the Father for us. This is the sacrifice we offer at every Mass.

We also celebrate the Resurrection. That is why we go to Mass on Sunday, because Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday. Each Sunday is a “Little Easter.” This is a community celebration and that is why we all come together on Sunday.

Why do we go to Holy Mass?
We go to praise our God, Who is great and good. We go to say “thank you” to God for all the good things He has given us.
At Mass we tell God we are sorry for our sins, and we ask His help to be better.
We also pray for the things we need, and for the needs of others.

If we listen carefully to the Mass and try to say the prayers, God will give us His grace and blessing. Taking part in the Mass will help to prepare you for your First Communion.

The most perfect prayer is the (Mass)....
In the next lesson, we will learn more about the Mass as prayer.
Aims
The children will learn that Mass is the perfect prayer.
They will learn that we are called to actively participate in Mass.
They will review the Third Commandment.

Materials
• Activity Book, p. 100
• Poster board, crayons
• Optional: “O saving Victim,”
  Adoremus Hymnal, #519/520

Begin
Review with the children why Sunday is the Lord’s Day, and why Mass is so important:
• Sunday (not Saturday) is the Lord’s Day because it is the day of the Resurrection.
We are present for the sacrifice of the Lord to the Father, and we unite ourselves with the perfect sacrifice of Jesus. Jesus told us to do this in remembrance of Him.

Develop
1. Finish reading the chapter with the students.
2. Ask the children the questions in the text, and have them write their answers on the board.
   - Why do we go to Mass?
   - How do we praise God? And for what?
   - How do we thank God? And for what?
   - What will God give us at Mass?
   - How can we prepare for First Communion?
Add the Memorization Questions:
• What is the Mass?
• Why is the Mass offered to God?
3. Together, read the “Sunday is God’s Day” box.
4. Ask them in what ways their families make the Lord’s Day special.
5. Review the Third Commandment:
   - No (unnecessary) work
   - Go to Mass
   - No (unnecessary) shopping
   - A meal with the family
   - Time together with family (and friends)
   - Time to rest
   - Time for prayer and talking about God
   Be sure to review what one should do, as well as what one should not do. You may write these on the board.
6. Review the responsory parts of the Mass. Encourage the children to listen for these parts the next time they attend Mass.

Reinforce
1. Have them students complete Activity Book p. 100 (see Teacher’s Manual, p. 311).
2. Have them make posters showing how they should celebrate the Lord’s Day (and why).

Conclude
2. End with making a spiritual communion and praying the Our Father and the Glory Be (see Teacher’s Manual, p. 427).

Sunday is God’s Day
The Third Commandment says: Remember to keep holy the Lord’s Day. By going to Mass on Sunday we are obeying God’s Law and keeping His Day holy. But we should do more than just go to Mass on Sunday to honor God. We should make it a special day and we can do that by:
- not doing any work that can be done on another day.
- wearing our best clothes when we go to church.
- not going shopping.
- having a special meal with our family.
- spending time together with our family.
- spending more time thinking and talking about God.

Words to Know:
Mass     sacrifice     praise

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Questions
Q. 53 What is the Mass?
The Mass is the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross, and the gift of Himself in the Eucharist. The priest offers the Eucharist in church (CCC 1362, 1366–67).

Q. 54 Why is the Mass offered to God?
The Mass is offered to God to worship Him, to thank Him, to make up for our sins, and to ask for His help (CCC 1357, 1360, 1367).

PATRON SAINTS
• Schools: Saint Catherine (November 25)
• Science: Saint Catherine (November 25)
• Silence: Saint John Nepomucen (May 16)
• Singers: Saint Cecilia (November 22)
• Souls in Purgatory: Saint Odilo (May 11)
• Step-parents: Saint Leopold III (November 15)

Preview
In the next lesson, we will review the material covered in this chapter. There will also be a quiz.
**Aims**

The students’ understanding of the material covered this week will be reviewed and assessed.

**Materials**


**Review and Enrichment**

1. Review that the Last Supper was the first Mass, in it Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood.
2. Review that Jesus gave the power to the Apostles, so that through Him, they could change bread and wine into His Body and Blood. This power has been passed on to all validly ordained priests.
3. Review that at Mass, we offer to the Father the same sacrifice that Jesus offered for our sins when He died on the Cross. A sacrifice is totally giving up to God of something dear to us. Jesus gave that up for us to God the Father by uniting ourselves to the sacrifice of Jesus.
4. Review that at Mass, we offer the same sacrifice that Jesus offered for our sins when He died on the Cross. A sacrifice is the total giving up to God of something dear to us. Jesus gave that up for us to God the Father by uniting ourselves to the sacrifice of Jesus.
5. Review that we go to Mass to praise God, to make a poster inviting people to Mass.
6. Review that we are encouraged to actively thank Him, to tell Him we are sorry for our sins.
7. Review that to obey the Third Commandment we should:
   - Go to Mass
   - Not work or shop
   - Spend time with family and friends
   - Rest

**Assess**

1. Distribute Quiz 25. Answer any questions that they may have. When the students turn in their quiz, individually quiz them on the Memorization Questions and Words to Know that they learned this week (see Teacher’s Manual, p. 309).
2. When all quizzes have been turned in, review the correct answers.

**Conclude**

2. Pray the Our Father (see Teacher’s Manual, p. 427).

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**Word Search**

Can you find these words in the puzzle? Look carefully! The words go across and down.

BREAD SACRIFICE GRACE CHURCH EASTER BLOOD PRIEST CAREFULLY PRAY CROSS BODY WINE

**Activity Book Answer Keys**

Name: _____________________

**Sunday is God’s Day**

List ways to make the Lord’s Day special.

Answers will vary.

Draw yourself honoring God on Sunday.

Name: _____________________

**Can you fill in the blanks?**

Every Sunday we go to church to do what Jesus told us to do when He said, “Do this in memory of Me.” You see, the Last Supper was the very first Mass.

At the Last Supper, Jesus changed bread and wine into His Body and Blood. He gave the disciples the power to do this too. The disciples gave that power to other men. That is why our priests today can change bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ at every Mass.

At Mass, we offer the same sacrifice that Jesus offered for our sins. That is the sacrifice which Jesus offered to the Father when He died on the Cross. A sacrifice is the total giving up to God of something dear to us. Jesus gave Himself, up for us to God the Father. This is the sacrifice we offer at every Mass.

Name: _____________________

Faith and Life Series • Grade 2 • Chapter 25 • Lesson 1

Faith and Life Series • Grade 2 • Chapter 25 • Lesson 2

Name: _____________________

Faith and Life Series • Grade 2 • Chapter 25 • Lesson 3

Faith and Life Series • Grade 2 • Chapter 25 • Lesson 4