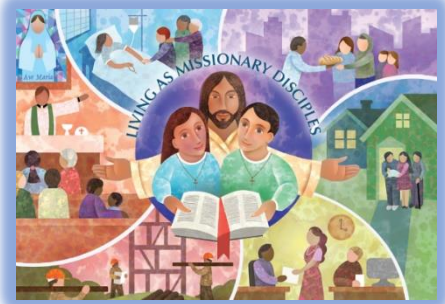


St. Laurence Catholic Parish
Kindergarten Faith Formation
Week 22 Lesson Plan



Unit 4 – How are we called to become missionary disciples of Jesus Christ?

VOCATIONS

CATECHIST PREPARATION

To prepare for this week's lesson:

- Prepare your adult heart and mind by watching one of the following videos ahead of the lesson: [HELPING YOUR CHILD DISCERN THEIR VOCATION](#), [DISCERNING GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE](#) or [WHAT'S YOUR CALLING?](#), and reading one of the articles at [HOW TO ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD'S RELIGIOUS VOCATION](#) or [OUR VOCATION & CALLING: A GIFT FROM GOD](#)

As a parent, you may also be interested in tips for praying that your children are attentive to whatever Christian vocation they are called to and, should marriage be their path, how to begin praying now for their *future spouse* – yes, starting now. You will find some beautiful reflections at:

[PARENTS' PRAYER FOR THE VOCATIONS OF THEIR CHILDREN](#)

The focus of this Unit has been on how we go forth and help to bring about the Kingdom of God right here on earth as Christian disciples. God has a special plan, or *vocation*, for each of our lives. This vocation is designed to use the unique gifts and talents that we were created with in order to cooperate with God in making His Kingdom visible here on earth. When we live lives of virtue that are driven by care, concern and service to others and a desire to share all that we know to be true about our beloved Savior with those who we encounter, we answer our Baptismal call, vocation or mission. By answering the call to become our authentic selves – i.e. the best version of ourselves that God created us to be - we experience *true* happiness in our life. We are defined through our relationship with God and Jesus Christ and not by the world around us. This freedom allows us to grow deeper in that happiness with the Spirit enkindling in our hearts a passion bursting forth to share the source of our joy – i.e. the Gospel message

with others. Through the example of our lives, we follow in Jesus' footsteps and serve as his missionary disciples throughout our earthly journey. This is the perfect time to discuss with the children how their relationships with Jesus have changed this year through all they have learned about their Catholic faith and how they can be open to discerning God's plan (or vocation) for their lives even at this young age.

- Reflect upon a favorite Scriptural passage that you would like to share with your children about how God has a special plan, or *vocation*, for each of our lives, and explain why the passage is important to or resonates with you. Or, you might like to consider any one of the following:

[GENESIS 12: 1-9](#), [EXODUS 3: 1-12](#), [ISAIAH 6: 1-13](#), [1 SAMUEL 3: 1-14](#), [JEREMIAH 1: 4-10](#),
[LUKE 1: 26-38](#), [ACTS 9: 1-19](#)

- Create a [Prayer Table](#) (or check out [How to Make a Prayer Table for Kids](#)) in a special corner of the classroom. Keep a Bible reverently displayed there to be used for readings in your lessons. When proclaiming *The Word* to children, it is more impactful to read directly from the Bible and not just from their workbooks. This gives them the sense that this is not just any book.
- Establish a comfortable learning space in your classroom for your session.



BEGINNING THE LESSON with CIRCLE OF GRACE

Raise your hands above your head and then bring your outstretched arms slowly down. Extend your arms in front of you and then behind you; embrace all of the space around you then slowly reach down to your feet, knowing that God is in this space with you. This is your Circle of Grace. You are in it.

VOCATIONS

- Share today's Topic: *God Made Me Special and has a Plan for Me!*
 - *Recently, we have been discussing how we are called to follow Jesus Christ and the expectations of how we live that out. Today, we will talk about how God creates each of us for a special purpose in making His Kingdom known here on earth. You know, when we answer God's call to serve him in a particular way, we live out the special purpose that He created us for, or our vocation."*
 - *What can you tell me about the different ways we might follow Jesus as we respond to God's call for our Christian vocation?"*

- Vocations Kinder Lesson: Vocations Lesson ["Let the Children Come"](#).
- "Everyone has a vocation. A vocation is God's plan for our lives: the specific purpose for which He made us. Sometimes God calls a person for a particular role. When Jesus was ready to begin his work here on earth, he gathered some friends to help him. Remember them? The first twelve disciples. Jesus said he would make them 'fishers of men' as they helped him spread the Good News of God's love. Not everyone hears God's call as clearly as the first disciples did. Sometimes it takes many years of praying and listening to know our vocations. Our vocation is usually not the same thing as our job or what we do for a living, but rather is our Christian purpose – what God wants for our lives so that we can experience true happiness.



- Videos [VOCATION 101: WHAT IS A VOCATION?](#)
- Videos [VOCATIONS FOR KIDS](#)
- Crafts [VESTMENTS](#)
- Crafts [HANDS THAT SERVE](#)
- Feel free to choose your own activities that are relevant to today's lesson.

Restate today's topic: *God Made Me Special and has a Plan for Me!*
Invite the children to share so as to assess their understanding of the lesson.

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APPENDIX

- **Catechist Preparation Videos/Resources:** [PATHS OF LOVE](#) , [VOCATIONS](#), [PROMOTE VOCATIONS](#), [OUR VOCATION & CALLING: A GIFT FROM GOD](#), [PARENT'S SUPPORT IN VOCATION DISCERNMENT](#), [TEACHING YOUR KIDS ABOUT THEIR VOCATION IN LIFE](#), [ENCOURAGING VOCATIONS FOR PARENTS](#), [HELPING YOUR CHILD DISCERN THEIR VOCATION](#), [WHAT'S MY VOCATION?](#), [WHAT'S YOUR CALLING?](#), [DOMINIC'S VOCATION](#), [DON'T BECOME A PRIEST](#), [CATHOLIC PRIESTHOOD FISHERS OF MEN](#), [DISCERNING GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE](#), [DISCERNING YOUR VOCATION?](#), [WHAT IS MY VOCATION?](#)
- **Crafts:** [VESTMENTS](#), [HANDS THAT SERVE](#), [LOOK TO HIM & BE RADIANT PART 2](#), [NUN PUPPET](#), [PAPER DOLL PRIESTS](#), [PRIEST PEG DOLLS](#), [NUN FINGER PUPPET](#), [MAKE YOUR OWN MASS KIT](#) or [MASS KIT](#), [PRAYING FOR OUR PRIESTS CARDS](#), [NUN PEG DOLLS](#)
- **Picture Books:**
 - *So Many Ways to be Holy: A Child's Book About Vocations*, by Kristen M. Soley
 - *Of Bells and Cells*, by M. Cristina Borges and Michaela Harrison
 - *What is a Vocation?* By Annemarie Thimons and Nancy Rosato-Nuzzo
 - *Book of Heroes: Stories of Catholic Heroes and Saints throughout History*, By Amy Welborn and Vitali Konstantinov
 - *Becket Wants to be a Priest*, by Matt & Stephanie Regitz
 - *Molly McBride and the Purple Habit*, by Jean Schoonover-Egolf
 - *The Story of Saint John Paul II: A Boy Who Became Pope* by Fabiola Garza

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LEARNING TARGETS

Learners will understand that:

Key Targets

- Jesus invites all people to follow him. (CCC#542-543; 849; 851; 868; 2063)
- Christians are called to talk about Jesus with other people. (CCC#831; 849-852; 868)
- People show God's love by helping others in need. (CCC#1932; 1939-41; 1948)
- A Christian family helps others in need. (CCC#2208; 2452; 2459; 2462)
- All people have gifts from God to share with others. (CCC#1932; 2319)

Supporting Targets

- Catholics share food and clothes with others so that all people will have the things they need to live. (CCC#1932; 1937; 1947-48; 2443-44; 2447; 2452; 2459; 2462)
- It is loving to care for those who need food and shelter. (CCC#1932; 1947-48; 2447; 2451-52; 2459; 2462)
- Baptized Christians help other people the way Jesus did. (CCC#899-900; 941)
- Mary and Joseph said “yes” to God’s call. (CCC#488; 967; 973; 2674)

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