

St. Laurence Catholic Parish
Elementary Children's Faith Formation (CCE)
Week 6 Lesson Plan



Unit 2 – How do we get to know and love Jesus Christ?

EQ #1: *How does praying help me know and love Jesus Christ? (Part 1)*

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: [THE POWER OF PRAYER](#) or [HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO PRAY?](#)
- Review the appropriate grade-level learning targets from the *Catechetical Framework for Lifelong Faith Formation* (CFLFF) posted on the Catechist website at <https://stlaurence.org/the-catechist> for your age group. Keep these targets in mind as you prepare for and progress through the weekly lesson, making discussion points based upon these specific age-appropriate targets.
- Reflect upon a favorite Scriptural passage about prayer that you would like to share with your children and why it is important to you, or consider any one of the following:
[MATTHEW 6: 5-13](#), [MARK 1: 35](#), [LUKE 22: 39-46](#), [1 THESSALONIANS 5: 16-18](#), or [PHILIPPIANS 4: 6](#)
- 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.

Supplies you may want to have on hand before beginning the Lesson:

EQ “Essential Question”

(This question serves as a cognitive bookend for the children – i.e., it is the targeted “so what” or “take-away” of the lesson being presented. If your learners can articulate a relevant answer to this question by the end of the session, you have done your job. 😊)

Share and post the physical representation of the lesson’s EQ in your classroom
(Note: Each classroom is equipped with a set of *EQ posters* corresponding to those posted on the weekly *Lesson Schedule*):

How does praying help me know and love Jesus Christ?

EXPLAIN (Either as a class guided with your assistance, or working independently -or in groups- have the children review their relevant grade-level material – listed below - and complete the workbook activities, where applicable).

Grade 1: * *Alive in Christ*, Chapter 9 (*Jesus Teaches Us to Pray*)

Grade 2: *Alive in Christ*, Chapter 15 (*Ways to Pray*)

Grade 3: *Alive in Christ*, Chapter 6 (*Pray Always*)

Grade 4: *Alive in Christ*, Chapter 6: pg. 114 (*Making Good Choices*), Chapter 7: pg. 126 (*The Beatitudes*) **plus review pg. 324-330** (*We Pray*)

Grade 5: *Alive in Christ*, pg. 9-11 (Ordinary Time - *Queen of the Holy Rosary*) **plus review pg. 324-330** (*We Pray*)

***NOTE:** We are aware that some of our lower Elementary learners have been delayed and are not all reading ready. As the Catechist or class facilitator, your role is to help your learners understand or connect with the *content* of the weekly lesson. You can convey the assigned weekly content from the *Alive in Christ* textbook in a variety of creative ways that are appropriate and effective for your learners and does not involve the class taking turns reading from the student text. Review the content *beforehand*, and feel free to introduce other methods of conveying it or more specifically adapting it to your learners. Some suggested ideas can include the use of any of the following, many of which are available on campus. Just ask a staff member. These are:

- *Story Books*
- *Felt Board Creation Figures* to tell the stories
- *Role-playing/Skits*
- *Manipulatives*
- *Costumes/Dress-up*
- *Puppets*

If you have any questions or need suggestions, be sure to reach out to a staff member. Be sure to also check out the supplemental resources at the end of this Lesson Plan outline for additional ideas.

EXTEND

(Gather back together and invite children to share, in turn, what they learned about prayer. Affirm positive answers and interject grade-level learning targets into the discussion, where applicable. As a class (or in groups), come up with a list of *at least three new things* that the children learned, were surprised by or think others should know about God. Then, *extend the lesson together by completing at least one of the activities* provided below).

Lower Elementary:

- **Video** Watch the [OUR FATHER SONG](#), [HOW DO WE PRAY?](#) or [GOD'S STORY: PRAYER](#) video
- **Crafts** Make the [OUR FATHER PRAYER CROSS](#), [FIVE FINGER PRAYER CRAFT](#), [I CAN PRAY WHEEL](#) or the [PRAYER HANDS BOOKLET](#)
- **Activities** [GOD CAN HEAR ME OBJECT LESSON](#) or the [PRAYING HANDS CONNECT THE DOTS](#)

Upper Elementary:

- **Video** Watch the [EXPLAINING THE LORD'S PRAYER TO KIDS](#) , [HOLY FATHER, TEACH US TO PRAY](#) or [THE LORD'S PRAYER \(IN ARAMAIC\)](#) video
- **Crafts** Make the [CATHOLIC PRAYER PUZZLES](#) using [COMMON PRAYERS BY AGE/GRADE](#) or [CATHOLIC PRAYERS](#) (you can print out the prayers you want to make puzzles of for free from either of these two sites) or have each child make a [PRAYER JOURNAL](#)
- **Activities** Play one of the [PRAYER GAMES FOR KIDS](#) or complete one of the [YOUTH PRAYER ACTIVITIES](#) together as a class

EVALUATE/REFLECT

Restate today's Essential Question (EQ) – *How does praying help me know and love Jesus Christ?*

- Summarize what's been learned during this lesson, emphasizing those concepts which may have been missed or misunderstood in the EXPLORE step above and keeping a mind's eye on the grade-level learning targets for this Unit.

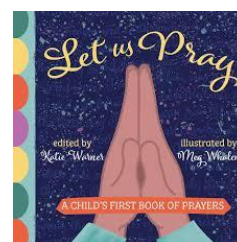
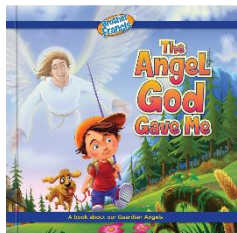
Say, "Today's lesson showed us that prayer is a *conversation* with God. Just as Jesus talked with God and listened to Him, we can too. Prayer is so important that when he lived on earth, Jesus showed us not only how *he* prayed to God, his Father, but also how He wants us to pray. He did this by sharing the perfect prayer, the *Lord's Prayer* (or *Our Father*) with us. Don't forget that as Catholics, every time we begin and end our prayers with the *Sign of the Cross*, we are reminded of the *Holy Trinity* which is a mystery of our faith. We believe that there is one God who exists in three persons, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Our daily prayer life should include at least morning and evening prayers, as well as prayers before and after meals. We can pray by ourselves or with others (think of Mass), any time or anywhere, with our own words or those in prayers commonly used by Catholics. When we talk to our friend Jesus deep within our hearts, it keeps us close to God and helps us to better understand His will for our lives."

[CENTERING PRAYER FOR CHILDREN](#) (6:44), [HOW DO WE PRAY?](#) (1:04), [GUARDIAN ANGEL PRAY & SONGS](#) (5:13), [ST. MICHAEL PRAYER AND SONG](#) (3:58)

- **On FORMED.org:** Brother Francis: *Let's Pray! A Lesson on Prayer*, Cat Chat: *Teach Me to Pray, Learning About Prayer* (Refer to [INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACCESSING FORMED](#) to gain free access to the St. Laurence parish membership subscription).
- **Activities/Crafts:** [I CAN PRAY SPINNER CRAFT](#), [CHILD'S PRAYER JOURNAL](#), [CATHOLIC PRAYER PUZZLES](#), [PRAYER WORKSHEETS](#), [PRAYER CRAFTS](#), [CATHOLIC ICING](#), [PRAYER HANDS](#), [THE LORD'S PRAYER BRACELET](#), [CHILDREN'S PRAYER STARTERS](#)



- **Picture Books: (Check with Staff for copies)**
 - *What Happens When I Talk to God?* by Stormie Omaritian
 - *The Angel God Gave Me* by Brother Francis
 - *Take it to the Queen: A Tale of Hope* by Josephine Nobisso
 - *Let us Pray: A Child's First Book of Prayers*, by Katie Warner



- **Other Resources:** [LECTIO DIVINA WITH KIDS](#), [LECTIO DIVINA](#), [LECTIO DIVINA FOR KIDS](#), [POPE FRANCIS 5 FINGER PRAYER](#)