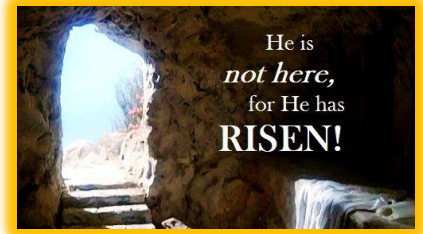


St. Laurence Catholic Parish
Kindergarten
Faith Formation
Week 19 Lesson Plan



Easter Lesson

Essential Question ("EQ"): *Why and how do Catholic Christians celebrate the Season of Easter?*

CATECHIST PREPARATION

To prepare for Easter:

- Prepare your adult heart and mind ahead of the lesson by watching [BISHOP BARRON'S EASTER HOMILY](#), [UNDERSTANDING THE SUNDAY MASS READINGS DURING EASTER](#) or [BISHOP BARRON ON THE MEANING OF EASTER](#) and, reading [WHAT IS EASTER?](#)

As Catholics, we cannot underestimate the importance of the Easter story to the world at large, but more particularly in our own lives. As Bishop Robert Barron mentions in his homily referenced above, Easter was then, *and should remain now*, the literal earthquake that shakes the foundations of the world. Knocking its unsuspecting witnesses off their feet over 2000 years ago, the edgy message left by this miraculous event which occurred in human history has the power to still rock the world today, if we allow it to. Treated by some as a bland spiritual statement that no longer has relevance or fails to 'make tyrants tremble in its wake,' we who have *encountered the Risen Lord in our own lives* should see this as a 'grab everyone by the lapel' moment. Like the first disciples who actually ate and drank with the Risen Lord after his Resurrection and went to their deaths defending the truth of it, we should feel compelled to share this story

with all who will listen. While some may dispel the truth of the Paschal Mystery, [WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION.](#)

After that first Easter morning, Jesus' disciples were downcast and frightened. How could they go on? They thought that Jesus was gone forever and feared for their own lives. During the Easter Season, we recall the appearances of the resurrected Christ to his disciples as recounted in the Bible. Through Jesus' appearances, we come to a deeper realization that Christ is still alive and present to us as well. We, too, can recognize Jesus just as the disciples recognized him on the [Road to Emmaus](#) Jesus is, of course, present in the Scriptures and the Seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church, but most especially in the Holy Eucharist at each Mass. Jesus comes to us each and every day not only in the people that we encounter, but also in our reflection and prayer. We are the Easter people who believe that the cross transformed all suffering and pain, and the Resurrection secured the promise of eternal life. It is this Paschal Mystery, this Easter faith, that we are called to live each day. We do not live by fear, but rather by faith. Jesus' death is not the end of our story. As Pope Saint John Paul II said,

“Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.” [John Paul II ANGELUS](#) (Nov 30, 1986) [REFLECTION](#)

For some other resources on how Jesus is present in our lives, go to:

IMAGINATIVE PRAYER: A MEETING ON THE ROAD TO EMMANUEL

3 MINUTE RETREAT: IN THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE PASCAL MYSTERY IN EVERYDAY LIFE

WE ARE AN EASTER PEOPLE REFLECTION

[WE ARE AN EASTER PEOPLE](#) (video), [WE ARE AN EASTER PEOPLE](#) (article)

- Review the appropriate grade-level learning targets from the *Catechetical Framework for Lifelong Faith Formation* (CFLFF) posted at the end of this lesson plan and on the Catechist website at <https://stlaurence.org/the-catechist> for [KINDERGARTEN](#). 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.
- Establish a comfortable learning space in your classroom for your session.
- 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, but rather the Word of God.
- Reflect upon the Scriptural passage that today's lesson is based upon or extends. Incorporate your understanding of this passage into your teaching today with your learners.

Matthew 28: 5-7

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

- A *Catholic* family or children's Bible (go to [USCCB](#) for approved Bible translations); on campus, we use the **ST. MARY'S PRESS CHILDREN'S BIBLE**.

Each classroom is equipped with a set of Bibles which are located in the “CCE” storage cabinet or closet. Bring the Bibles out before your learners arrive and have them ready for use with each weekly lesson. Make a habit of always reading Scripture (even those passages in the student textbook) from the Bible, having students practice navigating their way around the Bible ‘library’ when appropriate developmentally.

- An electronic device with reliable internet access (i.e., an in-class mounted TV or TV cart if a video will be watched as part of the lesson)
- Art or any unlined paper
- Crayons, markers and pencils as needed (located in the “CCE” storage closet in your room and your class bin)
- Lesson GPS manipulatives (Resources not found in the classroom *will be placed in your class bin weekly by staff*)



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.

GUIDED PLAY to the SACRED (GPS)

Children learn through play. *Guided Play to the Sacred (GPS)* is a mode of play guided by the catechist to lead children to the Sacred, to God. Many of our kindergarteners and some older children are not reading ready. *Call to Faith* textbook and *Guided Play to the Sacred (GPS)* together are the core of the weekly lesson. This is the compass that guides the lesson in a way in which the children can interact. Further activities such as videos, coloring sheet, crafts and more can also be included in the lesson.

Today's lesson will convey **Call to Faith, Jesus Is with Us! (p. 20-21)**. As the Catechist, your role is to help children understand the weekly lesson. You can convey the content of the Call to Faith textbook in a variety of creative ways that are appropriate and effective for your learners.

- Share today's Essential Question: *Why do we celebrate the Season of Easter?*
- Begin *Guided Play to the Sacred (GPS)*. Use the *Easter Felt Board* to tell the story.
- Read "*Sadness: The Crucifixion*" and place the figures on the board.
- Discuss the story with the children. Ask the following questions and invite the children to share their thoughts, affirming positive answers:
 - *What happened to Jesus?*
 - *Why did Jesus have to die?*
 - *How did Jesus' friends feel? How do we feel about his sacrifice?*
- Read the story a second time. Invite the children to participate by placing the figures on the board. Guide them in this activity as you read the story.
- Read "*Surprise! The Resurrection*" and place the figures on the board. Discuss the story with the children. Ask the following questions and invite the children to share their thoughts.
 - *What is the Resurrection?*
 - *When was the very first Easter?*
 - *Who was there and what happened?*
 - *How did those who were present at the first Easter feel about what happened?*
 - *Why do we celebrate Easter and what day of the week do we celebrate it on? Why?*
- Read the story a second time. Invite the children to participate by placing the figures on the board. Guide them in this activity as you read the story.
- (optional): If time permits, read "*Jesus Goes Home*" and place the figures on the board. Ask the following questions and invite the children to share their thoughts.
 - *Where did Jesus go?*
 - *What did Jesus tell his friends when he went up to heaven?*
 - *How do we place our own trust in God and Jesus?*
- Read *Jesus Is with Us (Call to Faith p.20)*.

FURTHER ACTIVITIES

- ## CONCLUDING THE LESSON

Invite the children to answer the question so as to assess their understanding of the lesson.

Circle of Grace (Above): Repeat

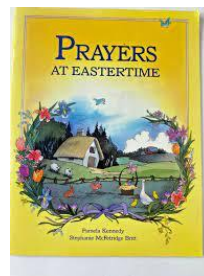
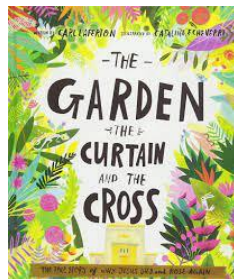
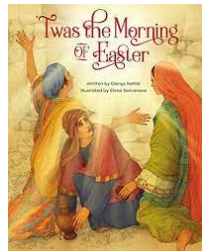
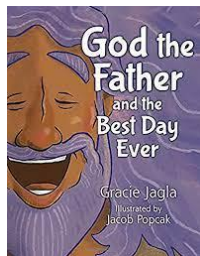
CLOSING PRAYER

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APPENDIX

- **Catechist Preparation Videos/Resources:** [THE ROLE OF HOPE IN HOLY WEEK](#), [PRAYING THRU HOLY WEEK](#), [GOOD FRIDAY: THE MEANING OF THE CROSS](#), [BISHOP BARRON ON THE SCANDALOUS CROSS OF JESUS](#) (9:00), [BISHOP BARRON ON THE POWER OF THE CROSS](#), [WHAT MAKES GOOD FRIDAY GOOD?](#), [HOW TO PREPARE FOR HOLY WEEK](#), [MATT MAHER: PALM SUNDAY](#), [MATT MAHER: THE LAST SUPPER](#), [MATT MAHER: BETRAYAL](#), [MATT MAHER: GOOD FRIDAY](#), [MATT MAHER: WAITING](#)
- **Catechist Preparation Videos/Resources:** [BISHOP BARRON ON THE MEANING OF EASTER](#), [UNDERSTANDING THE SUNDAY MASS READINGS DURING EASTER](#), [WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION](#), [BISHOP BARRON ON THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS](#), [THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY](#), [BISHOP BARRON'S EASTER HOMILY](#), [THE ROAD TO EMMAUS](#), [DOUBTING THOMAS AND THE ACTIVITY OF THE EARLY APOSTOLIC CHURCH](#), [BEING CATHOLIC: THE JOY OF EASTER](#), [DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET EXPLAINED](#), [HOW WE PARTICIPATE IN DIVINE MERCY](#)

- **Videos:** [GOD'S STORY: PALM SUNDAY](#), [PALM SUNDAY AND THE PASSION FOR KIDS](#), [THE STORY OF EASTER \(THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY\)](#), [THE STORY OF EASTER \(THE LAST SUPPER\)](#), [GOD'S STORY: THE LAST SUPPER](#), [LEGO STATIONS OF THE CROSS](#),
- **Videos:** [GOD'S STORY: EASTER](#), [THE STORY OF EASTER \(JESUS' SACRIFICE\)](#), [CATHOLIC KIDS MEDIA: EASTER SUNDAY](#), [CATHOLIC KIDS MEDIA: EASTER SUNDAY!](#), [THE EASTER STORY](#), [EASTER ACCORDING TO KIDS](#), [JESUS IS ALIVE! EASTER MESSAGE FOR KIDS](#), [THE REAL MEANING OF EASTER: JESUS IS ALIVE!](#), [HE IS RISEN](#), [THE BEGINNER'S BIBLE: THE STORY OF EASTER](#), [BIBLE STORIES FOR TODDLERS: THE STORY OF EASTER](#)
- **Crafts:** [THE GOSPEL IN AN EGG SHELL](#), [DIY STATIONS OF THE CROSS](#), [TRIDUUM PLATE CRAFT](#), [CLOTHES PIN CRUCIFIX](#), [EASTER CRAFTS](#), [HOLY WEEK IN HANDPRINTS](#), [EASTER EGG & CROSS CRAFT](#), [RESURRECTION CRAFT](#)
- **Picture Books** (Certain copies are on hand – just ask!)
 - ***God the Father and the Best Day Ever***, by Gracie Jagla (x1); for a read along video, go to [GOD THE FATHER AND THE BEST DAY EVER](#)
 - ***'Twas the Morning of Easter***, by Glenyst Nellist (x1)
 - ***Easter Bunny's Amazing Day***, by Carol Benoit x (1)
 - ***The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross***, by Carl Laferton (x1)
 - ***Prayers at Eastertime***, by Pamela Kennedy (x1)



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LEARNING TARGETS FOR THIS LESSON

Learners will understand that:

Key Targets

- Jesus was born, died, and went to heaven. (CCC#437; 525; 599; 604-05; 613; 619; 623)¹

¹ Catechism of the Catholic Church; paragraph number identification.

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6