

CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION  
MELBOURNE

# Seeking to Live the Good News

STUDENT WORKBOOK

YEAR

6

## Seeking to Live the Good News Student Workbook Year 6

Published by Catholic Education Melbourne  
James Gould House, 228 Victoria Parade  
East Melbourne Victoria 3002  
www.cem.edu.au

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This Student Workbook is a companion to *Seeking to Live the Good News Catechist Book, Year 6*

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**Illustrations:** Sharon Freeman (pages 111, 112, 124), Kay Whelan (pages 5, 101)

**All other artwork:** Nova Development Corporation 2004, Art Explosion Image Library, Calabasas, CA.

**ISBN** 978-0-86407-437-9

**Nihil Obstat:** Reverend Monsignor Peter Kenny STD  
Diocesan Censor

**Imprimatur:** Monsignor Greg Bennet  
Vicar General

**Date:** 18 March 2016

The *Nihil Obstat* and Imprimatur are official declarations that a book, pamphlet or prayer card is free of doctrinal or moral error. No implication is contained therein that those who have granted the *Nihil Obstat* and Imprimatur agree with the contents, opinions or statements expressed. They do not necessarily signify that the work is approved as a basic text for catechetical instruction.

### Acknowledgments

Lesson 4 and Lesson 7 activities based on Dr Margaret Carswell's work on teaching scripture using the 'Composite Model'. Website: [www.teachscripture.com/Hear.php](http://www.teachscripture.com/Hear.php)

The 'Names for the Eucharist' activity is an adaptation from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nn. 1329–1332.

Prayer of Saint Teresa of Avila taken from <[www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/prayers/StTeresaofAvila.htm](http://www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/prayers/StTeresaofAvila.htm)> accessed 22 May 2015.

The Christmas card activity and Christmas carol activity are inspired by Ryan, Maurice (2010), *Learning Links to Christmas*, Lumino Press, Brisbane.

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# God Speaks to Us

What I know about God

## Spot God in Action

### Mark 1: 40–45

<sup>40</sup>A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' <sup>41</sup>Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' <sup>42</sup>Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. <sup>43</sup>After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, <sup>44</sup>saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' <sup>45</sup>But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

**What is God saying to us in the action in this story?**

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### Matthew 15: 29–31

<sup>29</sup>Jesus had left that place, he passed along the Sea of Galilee, and he went up the mountain, where he sat down. <sup>30</sup>Great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the maimed, the blind, the mute, and many others. They put them at his feet, and he cured them, <sup>31</sup>so that the crowd was amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.

**What is God saying to us in the action in this story?**

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### Luke 15: 1–7

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

**What is God saying to us in the action in this story?**

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Stick your story and your picture from the newspaper in the space below.

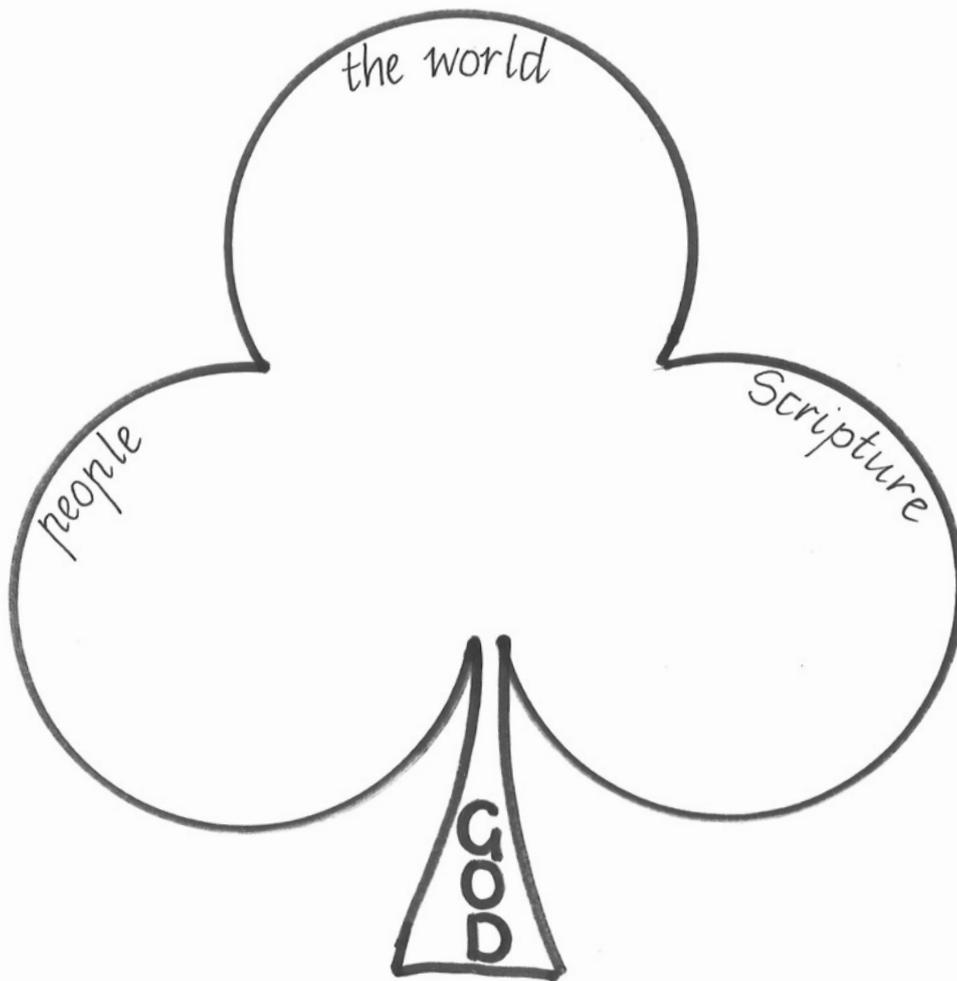
**God in action ...**

**A word that describes God in action ...**

In the story: \_\_\_\_\_ In the picture: \_\_\_\_\_

## Clover Leaf Activity

In each of these leaves, write one example of how you see God in action.



5

### SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

I come to know God through the world,  
through people and through Scripture.

### Let us pray

Catechist: Our response is: God, we know you and we love you.

**Students: God, we know you and we love you.**

Catechist: God, you are the creator of all things. Through being more attentive to the world around us we grow closer to knowing you.

**Students: God, we know you and we love you.**

Catechist: God, Jesus told us about you. Help us to pay attention to your word spoken in the scriptures.

**Students: God, we know you and we love you.**

Catechist: God, our friends and family tell us something about you through the way they live. Help us to remember that we can show you to others.

**Students: God, we know you and we love you.**

**All: Glory be to the Father, ... Amen.**

# The Trinity

## The Baptism of Jesus

### Matthew 3: 16–17

<sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptised, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

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### Mark 1: 9–11

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

### The relationship in the Holy Trinity

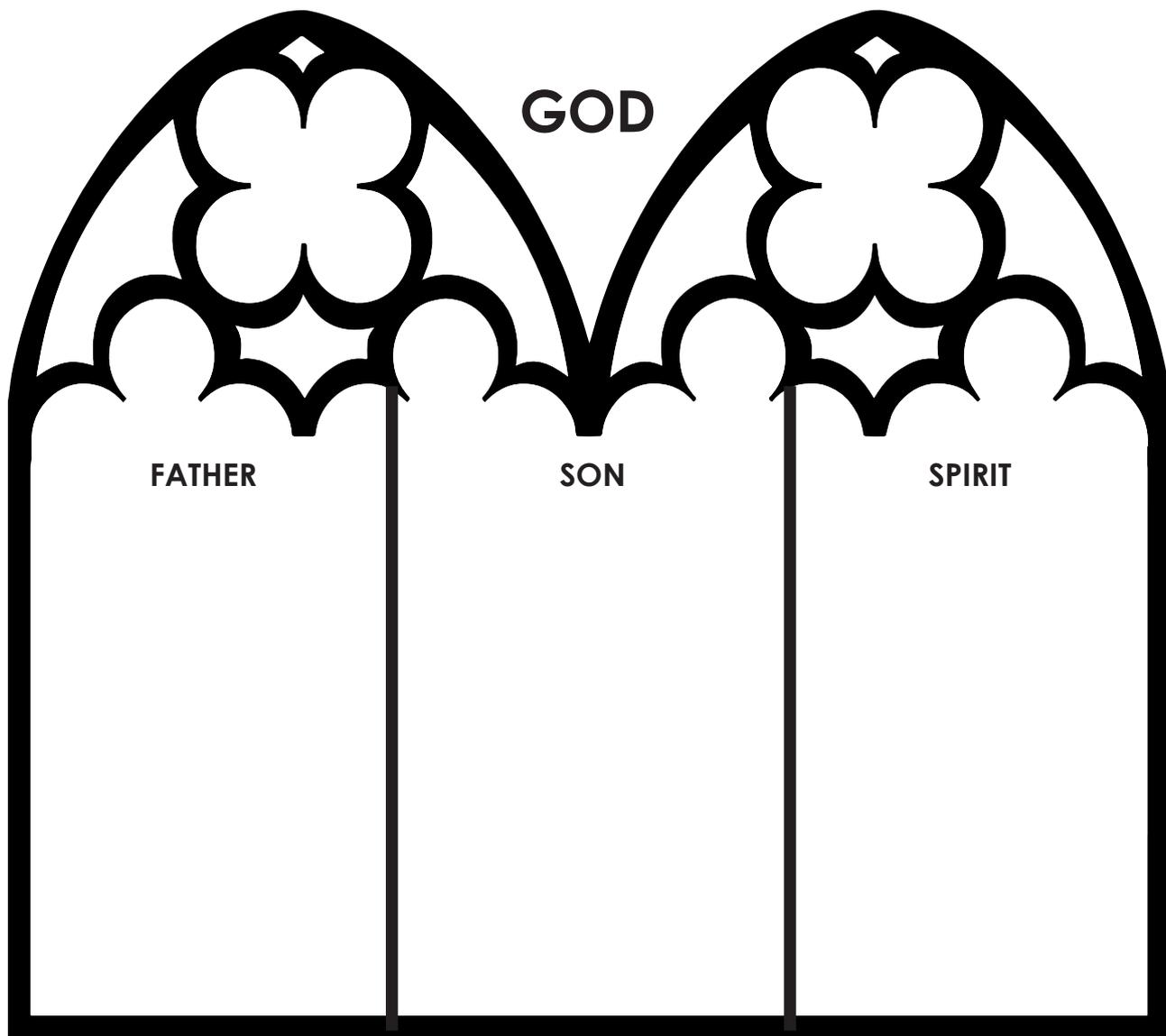
What do these scripture texts tell us about the relationship between these three descriptions of God?

## A Sculpture of the Trinity



Nicholas Mynheer, Holy Trinity, Holy Trinity Church, Blythburgh, Suffolk, UK. Photo: Sharon Freeman.

## The Human Attributes of the Trinity



### Let us pray

Catechist: Let us pray to God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Catechist: God, our Father, we praise you in all creation.

**Students: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

Catechist: Jesus, Son of God, thank you for coming to live among us.

**Students: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

Catechist: Holy Spirit of God, be alive in our lives.

**Students: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

Catechist: Let us finish with the Sign of the Cross.

**All: In the name of the Father ...**

### SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

**We call God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Trinity.**

# Penance

## Definitions Activity

In pairs work with one of the following definitions.

**Reconciliation** is working to restore a relationship e.g. making friends again.

**Write an example of people being out of harmony and how they work at reconciliation.**

**Reconciliation** is when two people or groups work to be friendly again after they have argued.

**Write an example of people being out of harmony and how they work at reconciliation.**

**Reconciliation** is working to bring fighting people into harmony, e.g. when former enemies agree to a truce.

**Write an example of people being out of harmony and how they work at reconciliation.**

**Let us pray**

Catechist:  
Sometimes we make poor choices that result in others  
being hurt or distressed. Let's consider an action for  
which we are sorry.

*(Pause for a few moments)*

Catechist:  
Let us pray together:

**All:**  
**Loving Father, sometimes I fail to live as Jesus showed us.**  
**I want to say sorry to you and to those I've hurt.**  
**I am glad that you want to forgive me and to help me**  
**keep on growing as your friend.**

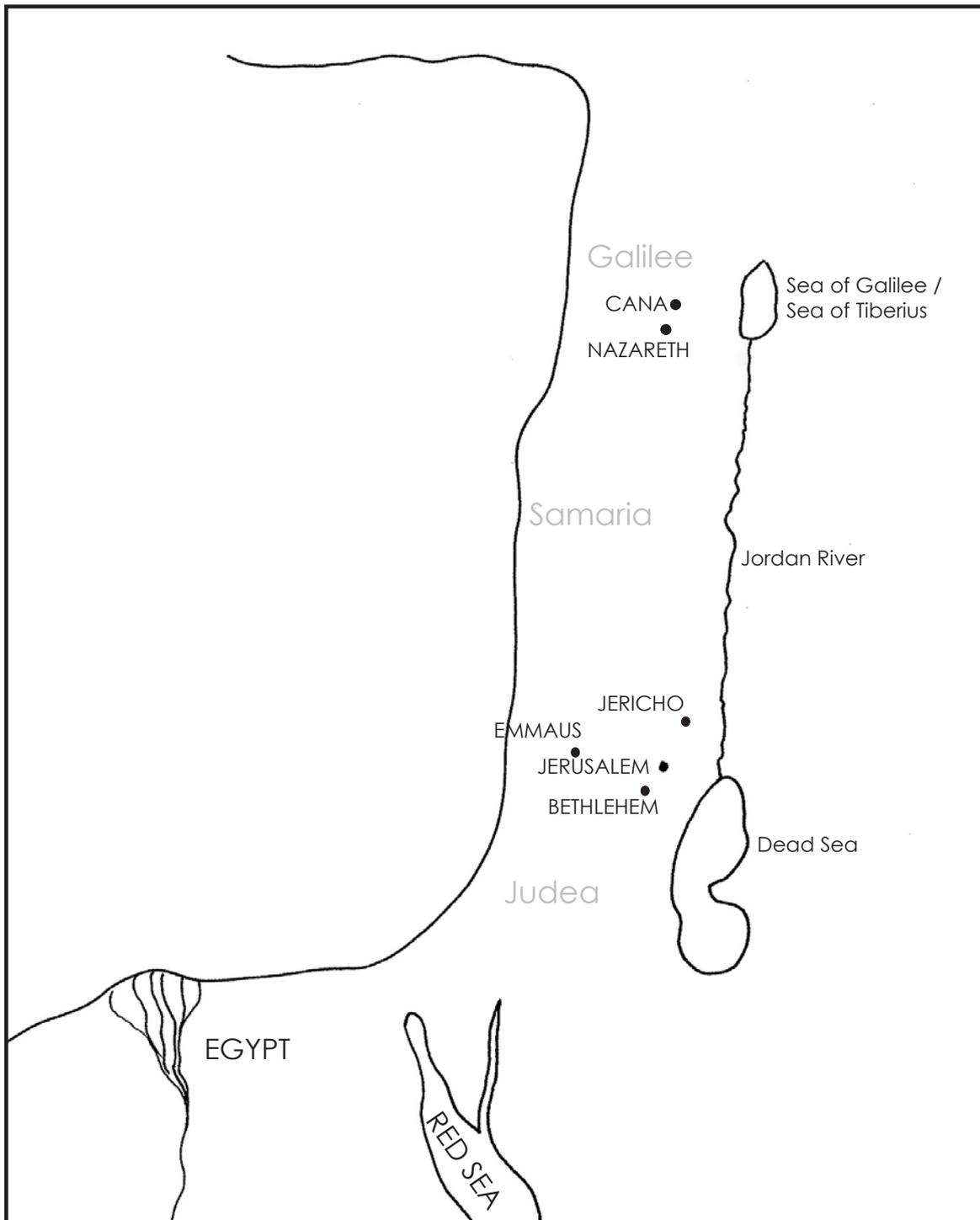
**Amen.**

**SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**We are reconciled with others  
in the sacrament of Penance.**

# Jesus

## Map of Israel at the time of Jesus



## The Life of Jesus

### Luke 2: 1–22 – Jesus' Birth

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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#### GROUP ONE

**What messages of Good News do you think the author, Luke, was trying to tell his audience?**

**Who was this message of Good News for?**



**Matthew 6: 5–15 – Jesus teaches his disciples to pray**

<sup>5</sup>And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>7</sup>When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup>Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

<sup>9</sup>Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

<sup>10</sup>Your kingdom come.

<sup>11</sup>Your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>12</sup>Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup>And do not bring us to the time of trial,  
but rescue us from the evil one.

<sup>14</sup>For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you;

<sup>15</sup>but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

**GROUP TWO**

**What is Jesus saying or doing?**

**What do these words of Jesus show us about the nature of God?**

**What do I learn about God from this passage?**

**How might our friendship with God be deepened by prayer?**



**Luke 7: 36–49 – Jesus Forgives**

<sup>36</sup>One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. <sup>37</sup>And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. <sup>38</sup>She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. <sup>39</sup>Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him – that she is a sinner.'  
<sup>40</sup>Jesus spoke up and said to him, 'Simon, I have something to say to you.' 'Teacher,' he replied, 'speak.'  
<sup>41</sup>'A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup>When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?' <sup>43</sup>Simon answered, 'I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt.' And Jesus said to him, 'You have judged rightly.'  
<sup>44</sup>Then turning towards the woman, he said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. <sup>45</sup>You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. <sup>46</sup>You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. <sup>47</sup>Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.'  
<sup>48</sup>Then he said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.'  
<sup>49</sup>But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, 'Who is this who even forgives sins?'

**GROUP THREE**

**List the main characters in this story.**

**How does the Pharisee criticise the woman, verbally, physically or socially (e.g. by isolation)?**

**How does the attack by the Pharisee make the woman feel?**

**How does the woman react when criticised?**

**How do the other characters react?**

**What does Jesus say to the woman?**

**What does Jesus say to the Pharisee?**

**What is it about the woman that Jesus' words protect? Be specific is it her physical being, her esteem or her thoughts? Or is it something else?**

**What do the words of Jesus and the his actions tell me about the nature of God?**



### MY RESPONSE

Answer the question below about the scripture passage your group looked at. Write the text reference in the space provided.

**Text:**.....

**What does the passage help us to believe about Jesus and about God?**

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### **Growing Closer to God**

**What in the story of Jesus' life has helped me know God a little better?**

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**Thank you God for sending Jesus**

**SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**I can grow closer to God by understanding more about the life of Jesus.**

# Palm Sunday

## Let us pray

**Catechist:** You each have a palm or branch in your hands. Today we are going to look at the story in scripture that uses palms in a special way. This week we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem when people laid their cloaks and palms on the ground and sang Hosanna.

Let us spend a few moments thinking about the implications of this kind of welcome and then listen to the story.

**Reader:** A reading from Mark's Gospel.

**<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and said to them 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."<sup>4</sup> They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna!**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!**

**Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

**<sup>11</sup>Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve (Mk 11: 1–11).**

**Catechist:** Our response is 'Hosanna in the highest heaven'.

**All:** **Hosanna in the highest heaven.**

**Catechist:** Lord, may we rejoice in expectation of your coming.

**All:** **Hosanna in the highest heaven.**

**Catechist:** Lord, may we be ready to recall your suffering on Good Friday and rejoice in your resurrection on Easter Sunday

**All:** **Hosanna in the highest heaven.**

**Catechist:** Lord, help us to rejoice, singing Hosanna in the highest heaven.

**All:** **Hosanna in the highest heaven.**

## Jesus' entry into Jerusalem

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# The Jerusalem News

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Headline

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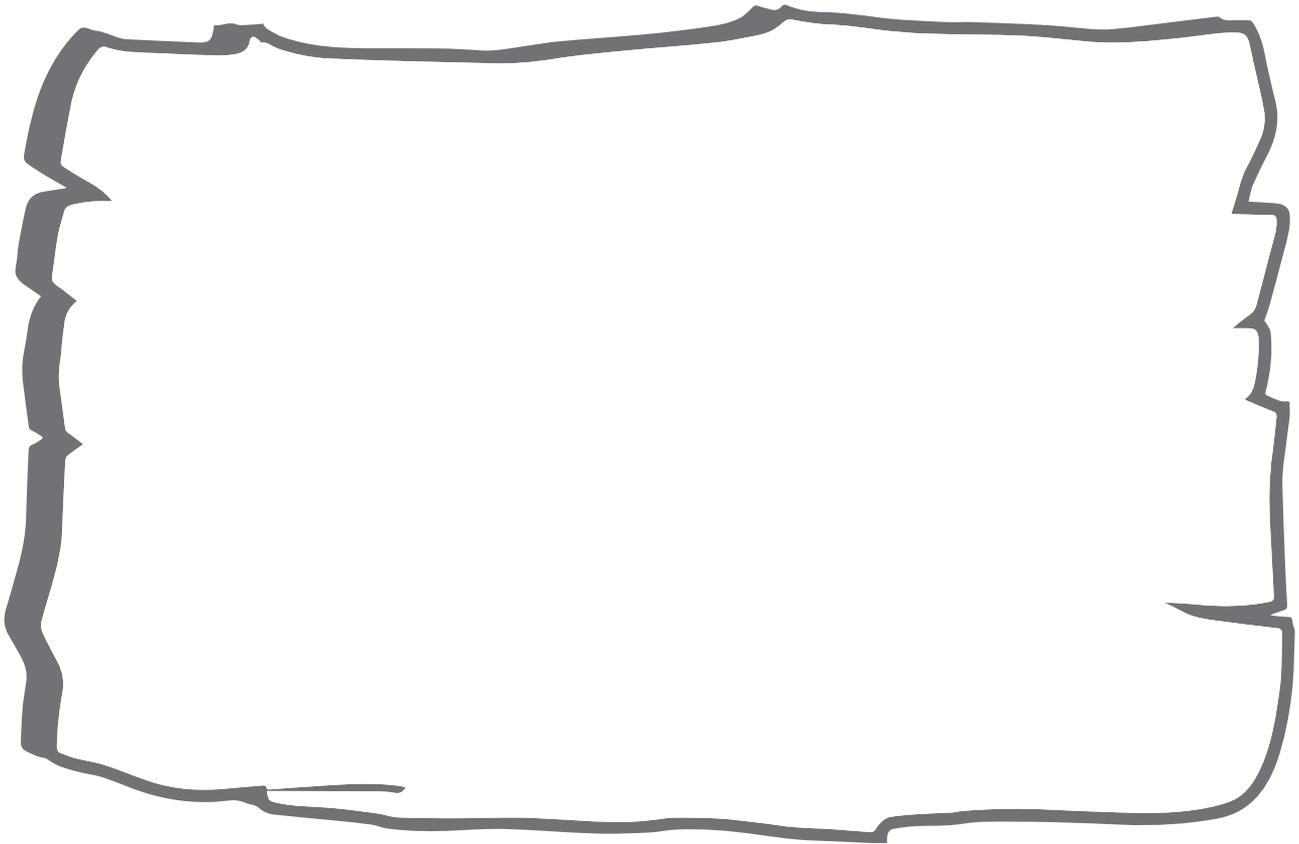
Body of news

Side story

Advertisement

## The message in the text

In this space, write what you think the gospel writer wants us to know about Jesus.



## Let us pray

19

**All:** In the name of the Father ...

Catechist: Lord Jesus, you rode into Jerusalem as a King but your kingdom is not of this world.

**Students:** Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Catechist: Lord Jesus, the people were eager to follow you. Help us always follow in your way.

**Students:** Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Catechist: Lord Jesus, some of the people doubted you. Help us to always have faith in you.

**Students:** Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Catechist: Lord Jesus, you faced your death with courage. Give us the courage to face our fears like you did.

**Students:** Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**All:** Glory be to the Father ...

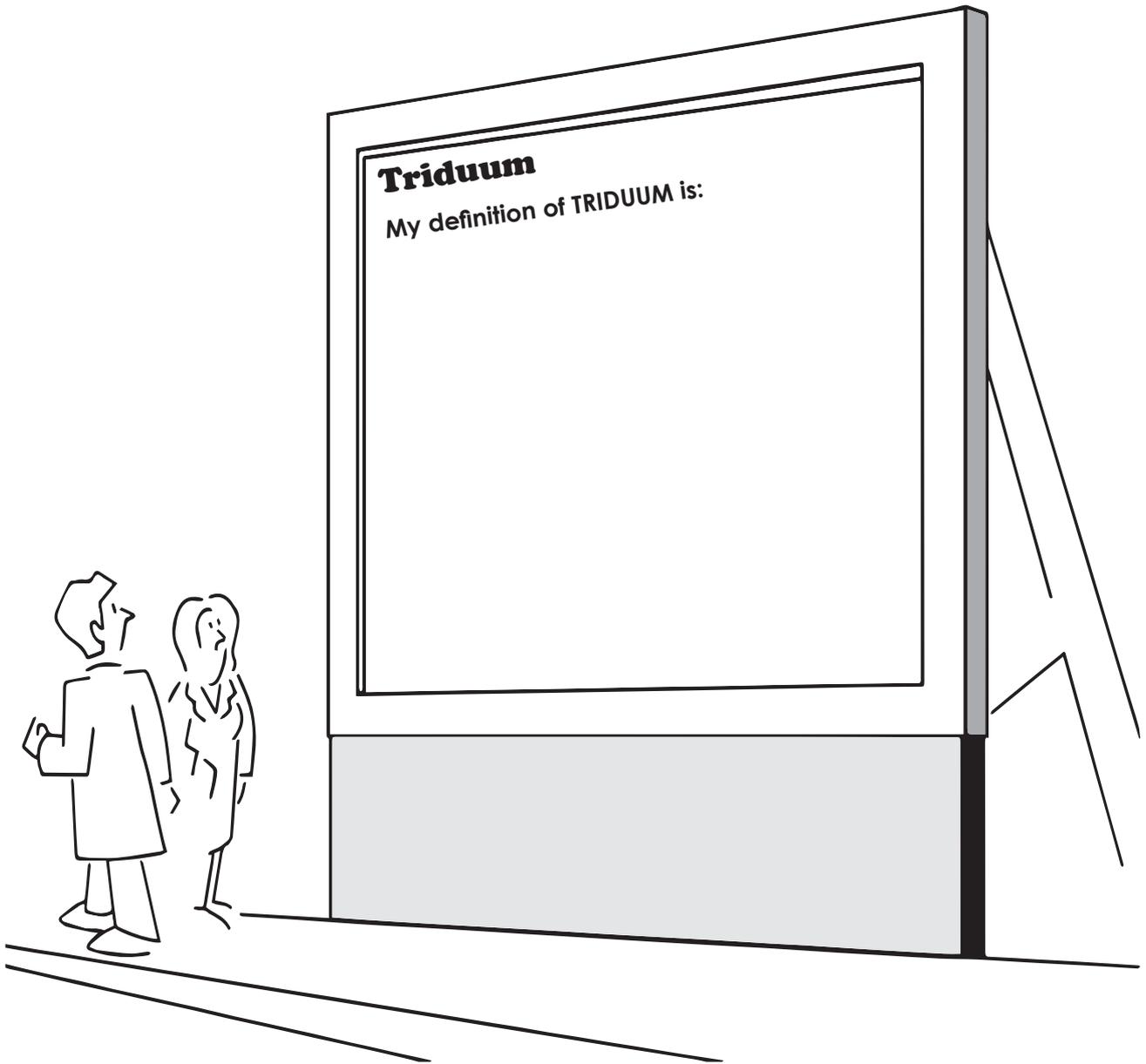
### SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

**Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week.**

# The Triduum

**Triduum**

My definition of TRIDUUM is:



**The three days:**

In the space below, record your description next to each day.

**Holy Thursday**

**Good Friday**

**Easter Sunday**

## The Triduum

### Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday

#### Holy Thursday

<sup>14</sup>Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup>and said, 'What will you give me if I betray him to you?' They paid him thirty pieces of silver. <sup>16</sup>And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

<sup>17</sup>On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' <sup>18</sup>He said, 'Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, "The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples."' <sup>19</sup>So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

<sup>20</sup>When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; <sup>21</sup>and while they were eating, he said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.' <sup>22</sup>And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, 'Surely not I, Lord?' <sup>23</sup>He answered, 'The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. <sup>24</sup>The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.' <sup>25</sup>Judas, who betrayed him, said, 'Surely not I, Rabbi?' He replied, 'You have said so.'

<sup>26</sup>While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.' <sup>27</sup>Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you; <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.'

<sup>30</sup>When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>31</sup>Then Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered." <sup>32</sup>But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you

to Galilee.' <sup>33</sup>Peter said to him, 'Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.' <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' <sup>35</sup>Peter said to him, 'Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And so said all the disciples.

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' <sup>37</sup>He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated.

<sup>38</sup>Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.' <sup>39</sup>And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.'

<sup>40</sup>Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'So, could you not stay awake with me one hour?

<sup>41</sup>Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' <sup>42</sup>Again he went away for the second time and prayed, 'My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.' <sup>43</sup>Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.

<sup>44</sup>So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. <sup>45</sup>Then he came to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>46</sup>Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

<sup>47</sup>While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup>Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.' <sup>49</sup>At once he came up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed him. <sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Friend, do what you are here to do.' Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

Matthew 26: 14–50

## The Triduum

### Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday (continued)

#### Good Friday

<sup>21</sup>They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. <sup>22</sup>Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). <sup>23</sup>And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. <sup>24</sup>And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

<sup>25</sup>It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. <sup>26</sup>The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.'

<sup>27</sup>And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>28</sup>Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, <sup>30</sup>save yourself, and come down from the cross!'

<sup>31</sup>In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. <sup>32</sup>Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.' Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

<sup>33</sup>When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

<sup>34</sup>At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' <sup>35</sup>When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' <sup>36</sup>And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether

Elijah will come to take him down.' <sup>37</sup>Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

<sup>38</sup>And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. <sup>39</sup>Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

<sup>40</sup>There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome.

<sup>41</sup>These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

<sup>42</sup>When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, <sup>43</sup>Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. <sup>44</sup>Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. <sup>45</sup>When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. <sup>46</sup>Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. <sup>47</sup>Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

Mark 15: 21–47

## The Triduum

### Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday (continued)

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#### Easter Sunday

<sup>50</sup>Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, <sup>51</sup>had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. <sup>52</sup>This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. <sup>53</sup>Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. <sup>54</sup>It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. <sup>55</sup>The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. <sup>56</sup>Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

<sup>24</sup>But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup>They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup>but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup>While they were perplexed about this,

suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup>The women\* were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. <sup>6</sup>Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup>that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.'<sup>8</sup> Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup>and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup>Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup>But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup>But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Luke 23: 50 – 24: 12

The Triduum is about ...

**SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

The Triduum is Holy Thursday evening and  
Good Friday through to Easter Sunday.

# Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

## Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

<sup>1</sup>Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself.

<sup>5</sup>Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, 'You do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand.' <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.'

<sup>12</sup>After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you?' <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord – and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them.

John 13: 1–10, 12–16

## Washing the Disciples' Feet

What I think the story means ...

Why I think John, the author of the gospel, included this story ...

## Looking at Peter

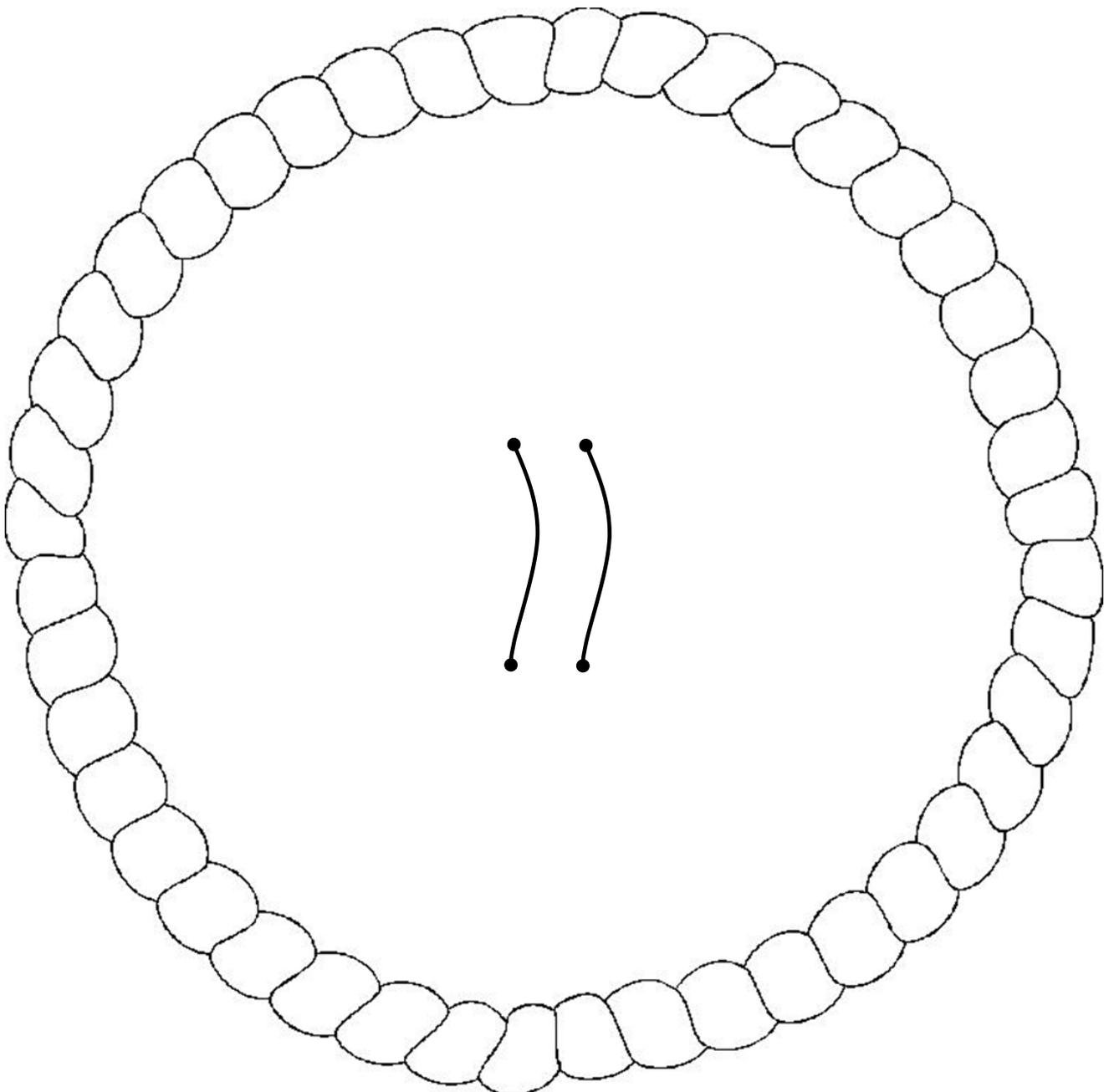
<p>How is Peter portrayed at the start of the passage? Include how other characters react to him.</p>	
<p>What causes Peter to change?</p>	
<p>What does Peter learn?</p>	
<p>What is different about Peter at the end of the story?</p>	
<p>'Fast Forward' to a time when the disciples are gathered together after Pentecost. Create an imaginary situation where Peter has to apply what he has learned. Describe what happens and how Peter behaves.</p>	

**What is important in this text?**

In the 'pie' below indicate the relative importance of each of the 'setting', 'characters', and 'events', by dividing the pie up into three portions, the largest being the most important.

The following questions might help you decide.

- How important is the setting?
- Do we know where the story is set?
- Would the meaning change if the setting changed?
- Are the characters important?
- Are some characters more important than others?
- Could some characters be left out without changing the meaning?
- How important is what happened (the events)?
- Are the events more or less important than the characters or the setting?



## My Response

Complete the statement below:

This passage helps me get a sense of ...

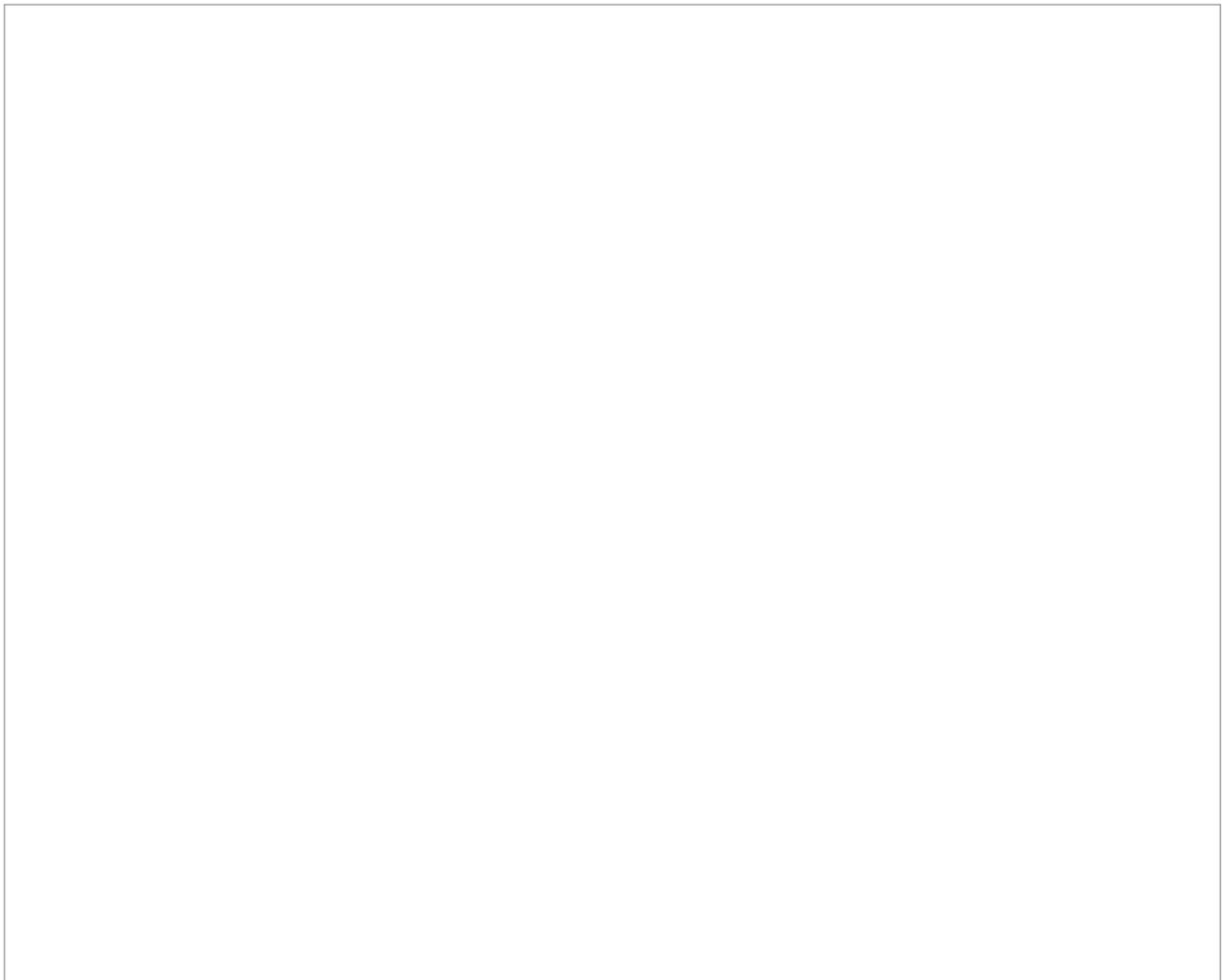
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In the space below trace around your hand. On the palm write a title for the passage of scripture we have been working on. On each finger write one thing that we believe as Catholic Christians that this scripture text has helped us understand better.



### SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

Jesus showed us how to love and serve each other.

# The Disciples' Experience of the Risen Jesus

## The Resurrection of Jesus According to Mark

**1**When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. **2**And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. **3**They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' **4**When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. **5**As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. **6**But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. **7**But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' **8**So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

(Mark 16: 1–8)

**How did Mary Magdalene see Jesus?**

**What do Jesus' words and actions tell us about the risen Jesus?**

**What do you think the gospel writers wanted their readers to believe about Jesus?**

## The Resurrection of Jesus According to Luke

**24**But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup>They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup>but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup>While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup>The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. <sup>6</sup>Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup>that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' <sup>8</sup>Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup>and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup>Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup>But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup>But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

<sup>36</sup>While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' <sup>43</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

(Luke 24: 1–12, 36–49)

**How did Mary Magdalene see Jesus?**

**What do Jesus' words and actions tell us about the risen Jesus?**

**What do you think the gospel writers wanted their readers to believe about Jesus?**

## The Resurrection of Jesus According to John

**20**Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup>So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' <sup>3</sup>Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. <sup>4</sup>The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup>and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples returned to their homes.

<sup>11</sup>But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; <sup>12</sup>and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' <sup>14</sup>When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

(John 20: 11–18)

**How did Mary Magdalene see Jesus?**

**What do Jesus' words and actions tell us about the risen Jesus?**

**What do you think the gospel writers wanted their readers to believe about Jesus?**

### **The Resurrection of Jesus According to Matthew**

**28**After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you.' <sup>8</sup>So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

(Matthew 28: 1–10)

**How did Mary Magdalene see Jesus?**

**What do Jesus' words and actions tell us about the risen Jesus?**

**What do you think the gospel writers wanted their readers to believe about Jesus?**

## SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

Our faith in the resurrection is strengthened by the stories of the disciples' experience of the risen Jesus.

### Let us pray

Catechist:

Today we have learnt that each gospel writer wrote about Jesus' resurrection in different ways but with a similar intention – to lead their readers to believe in Jesus' resurrection. Now let us pray that we might also be alert to meeting the risen Christ in our lives.

Our response is:

Lord, help us to be open to the presence of the risen Christ in our lives.

**All:**

**Lord, help us to be open to the presence of the risen Christ in our lives.**

Catechist:

As we go about our usual daily activities,

**Students:**

**Lord, help us to be open to the presence of the risen Christ in our lives.**

Catechist:

As we sit quietly in prayer,

**Students:**

**Lord, help us to be open to the presence of the risen Christ in our lives.**

Catechist:

As we spend time with family and friends,

**Students:**

**Lord, help us to be open to the presence of the risen Christ in our lives.**

**All:**

**Glory be to the Father ...**

# Jesus Reveals God

## Let us pray

Catechist: Today we will listen to the story from the Gospel of Mark (14: 32–42).

**Reader:** <sup>32</sup>They went to a place called Gethsemane and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray'. <sup>33</sup>He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. <sup>34</sup>And he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.' <sup>35</sup>And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup>He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.' <sup>37</sup>He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? <sup>38</sup>Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' <sup>39</sup>And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. <sup>40</sup>And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. <sup>41</sup>He came a third time and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>42</sup>Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

Catechist: Take a few moments to think about what you have heard and what you think is important about this passage. Consider: why do you think Jesus went to the garden of Gethsemane?

*Pause*

Catechist: I invite each of you to share with everyone what you think was Jesus' reason for going to the garden. We won't take turns, but we will speak only one at a time. The rest of us will listen carefully to what each person is saying.

*Time for students to speak.*

Catechist: This is what we have all reflected on and what we think about this reading from Scripture. Let us now offer our thoughts to God in prayer:

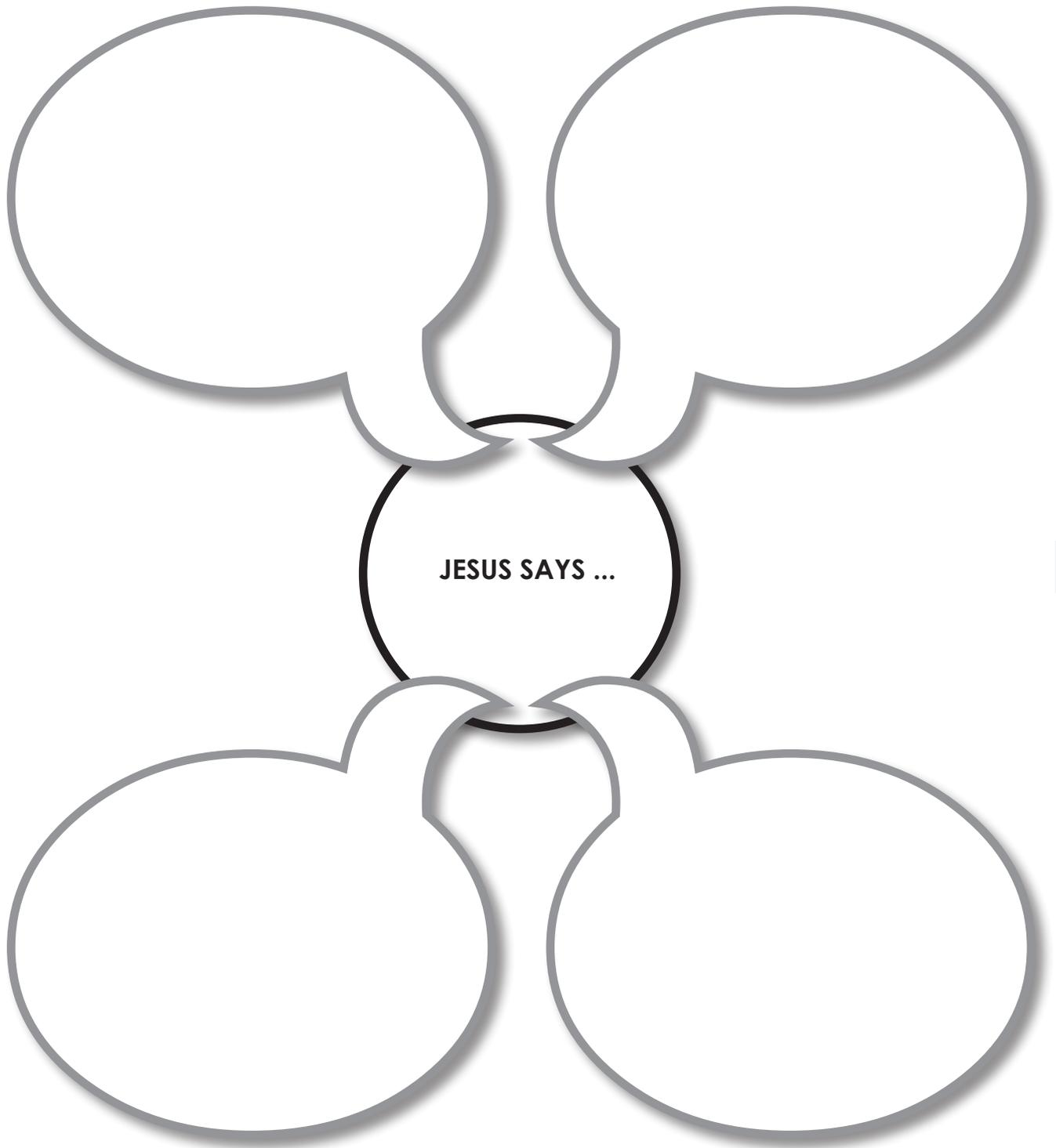
**All:** **Heavenly Father, we offer you our thoughts about Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane. We have come to realise more about Jesus as a man and how he relied on you and trusted you. Help us to come to know Jesus more and in doing so come to know you more. We make our prayer in Jesus' name.**

**Amen.**

## Exploring the Text

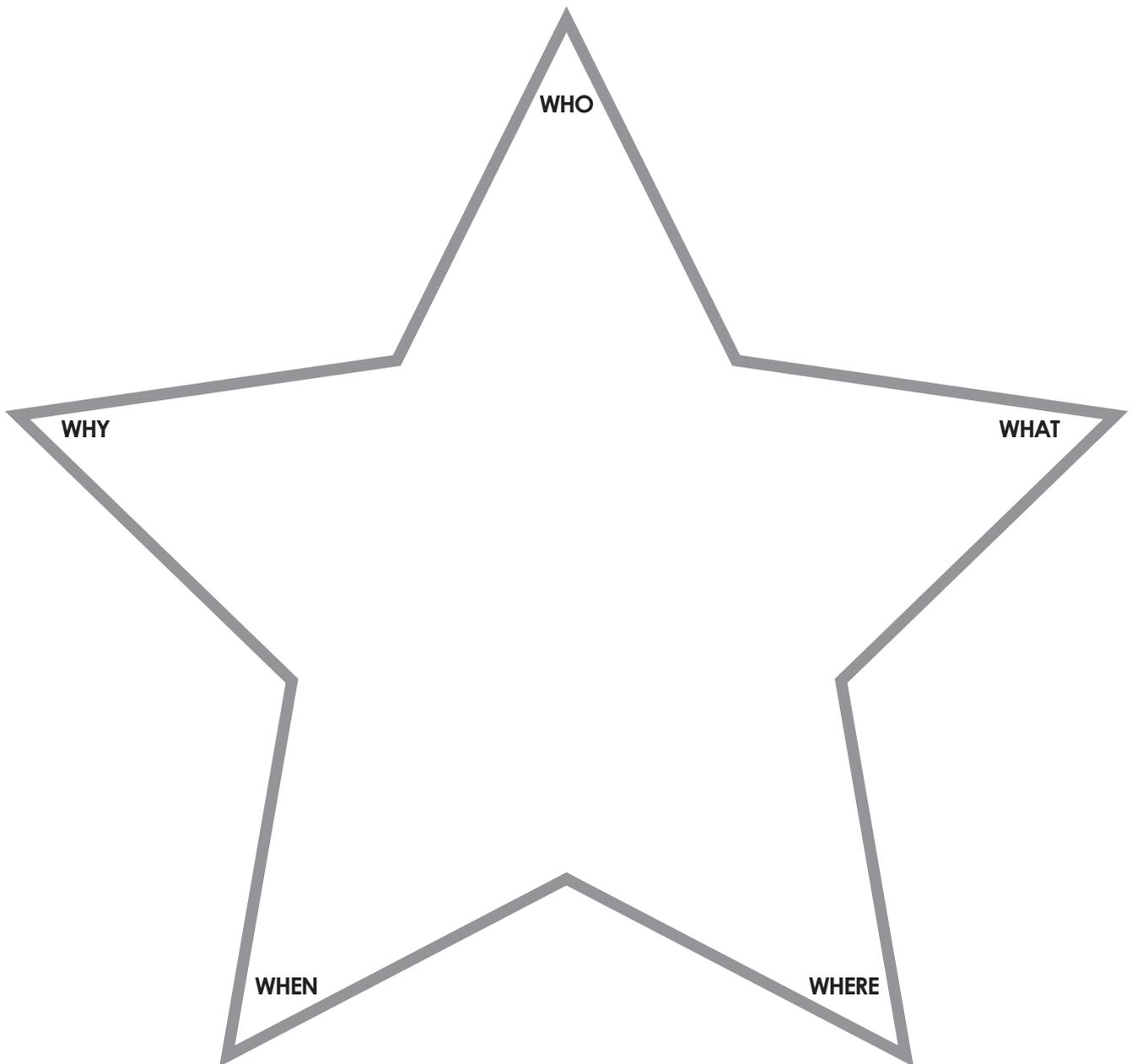
After reading Mark 14: 32–42 – Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane – complete the following tasks:

1. Write what Jesus says in the speech bubbles provided, one phrase per bubble.



## Exploring the Text (continued)

2. Write in the points of the star your answers to the 'who,' 'what,' 'when,' 'where' and 'why' questions about the story of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane.



### Exploring the Text (continued)

**3. What choices could Jesus have made and what would have been the consequences?**

(E.g. Jesus could have chosen to leave Jerusalem and he wouldn't have died on the cross.)

**Choice:**

**Consequence:**

**Choice:**

**Consequence:**

**Choice:**

**Consequence:**

**Choice:**

**Consequence:**

**4. From these answers and your reflection, what has Jesus revealed through this story?  
What do we now know about God?**

List under each heading what you now know about Jesus and about God.

**JESUS**

**GOD**

.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

**SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

Everything that Jesus did and said reveals himself and God to us.

**Jotting Page**

# Liturgy



## The Road to Emmaus

**Narrator:** Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognising him. And he said to them,

**Jesus:** What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?

**Narrator:** They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him,

**Cleopas:** Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?

**Jesus:** What things?

**Cleopas & Other Disciple:** The things about Jesus of Nazareth – who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people – and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.

**Jesus:** Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?

**Narrator:** Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the Scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying,

**Cleopas & Other Disciple:** Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.

**Narrator:** So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognised him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other,

**Cleopas & Other Disciple:** Were not our hearts burning within us – while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the Scriptures to us?

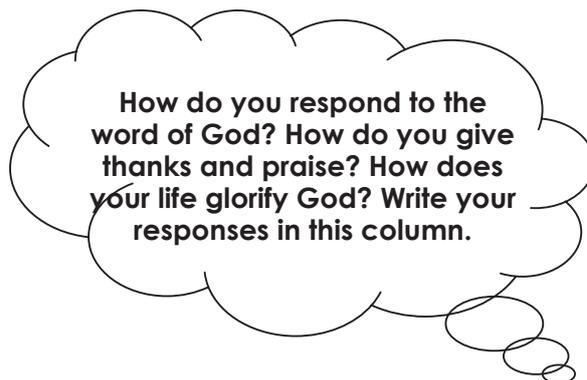
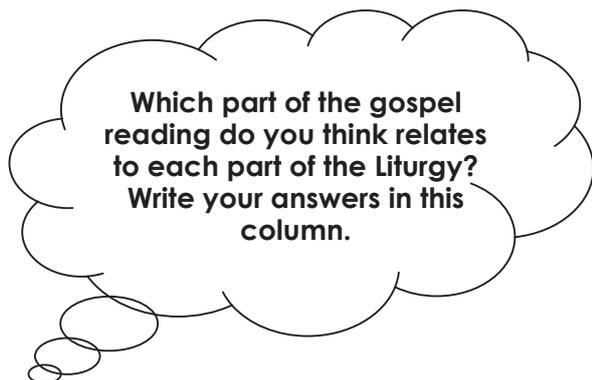
**Narrator:** That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying,

**Eleven & Companions:** The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!

**Narrator:** Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

(Luke 24: 13–35)

## The Liturgy and Scripture



Luke 24: 13–35	The Liturgy	My Life
	<p><b>Liturgy of the Word</b>                      At every celebration of the Eucharist we have the Liturgy of the Word – a time when we listen and respond to stories from the Scriptures. These stories tell us about God's dealings with the people of the Old Testament. The gospels tell us about Jesus' actions and teachings, which all show us something about God. When we think about these stories we find ways of following Jesus and being like him.</p>	
	<p><b>Liturgy of the Eucharist</b>                      In the Liturgy of the Eucharist we bring gifts of bread and wine. The priest offers the gifts and says a long prayer of praise and thanks to God. This prayer contains the words that Jesus said at the Last Supper, 'This is my Body ... this is the chalice of my Blood ...' Soon afterwards, the priest breaks the bread before giving it to us in Holy Communion.</p>	
	<p><b>Concluding Rites</b>                      After Communion the priest commissions each of us to go back to our ordinary activities '... Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life'.</p>	

## **Let us pray**

Catechist:

When we listen to Jesus' teachings and actions in the Liturgy of the Word we are called to respond:

*Students read their responses.*

**All:**

**Father, Son and Spirit,  
help us to live the Good News.**

Catechist:

When we praise and give thanks to God with the priest in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we offer our own thanks and praise:

*Students read their responses.*

**All:**

**Father, Son and Spirit,  
we thank and praise you.**

Catechist:

When the priest commissions us to glorify the Lord in our lives, we:

*Students read their responses.*

**All:**

**Father, Son and Spirit, be with us as we try to  
glorify you by the way we live.**

## **SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**In the liturgy we celebrate Jesus' saving works.**



# Eucharist

## Let us pray

Catechist: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

Catechist Let us pray in silence that we might grow in understanding of the Eucharist as the centre of Christian life.

*Pause*

Catechist: We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (26: 26–29).

**All: Glory to you, Lord.**

Reader: While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Names for the Eucharist

### The Lord's Supper

The Eucharist is called the Lord's Supper because of its connection with the meal Jesus took with his disciples just before his death on the cross.

### The Breaking of Bread

The Eucharist is called the breaking of the bread because that is what Jesus did to the bread at the Last Supper. The disciples at Emmaus recognised the stranger as Jesus at the breaking of the bread. The early Church used this phrase to describe the Eucharist.

### Eucharistic Assembly

We call it the Eucharistic assembly because we always celebrate the Eucharist in a gathering of the faithful. It reminds us that the Church is its people gathered in Christ's name.

### Memorial

We call the Eucharist a memorial because at the Last Supper Jesus told his disciples to do this in memory of him, knowing it would remind us of his passion and death.

### Sacrifice

We call the Eucharist a holy sacrifice because it reminds us that Jesus died for us. At the Last Supper, we remember, Jesus said of the bread, 'Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my Body, which will be given up for you'. Then he said of the wine, 'Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins'. This was his way of saying he was about to die for us the next day.

### Liturgy

Gathering for sacraments is liturgy. Liturgy is the term used to describe all the formal rituals of the Church. The principal act of liturgy in the Church is the Eucharist.

### Holy Communion

We call the Eucharist Holy Communion because in the Eucharist we unite with Jesus. In Communion Jesus makes us sharers in his body and blood; we become a single body.

### Mass

We call the Eucharist Mass (missa) because Mass includes being sent forth (missio) to live the gospel in everyday life. The word Mass comes from the Latin missa or missio for being sent on a mission.



## Names for the Eucharist (continued)

Discuss with your group the meaning of the terms on the Concentration Cards. Discuss how these terms are found in daily life. Record the terms in the upper space of the boxes on this and the next page, and then record your discussion below that.

Name for the Eucharist (1):

The \_\_\_\_\_ is evident in daily life ...

47

Individually, complete the sentences below to explain how understanding the different names for the Eucharist helps you celebrate and live Eucharist better.

### Understanding the Eucharist

Understanding this helps me celebrate Eucharist better by ...

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Understanding this helps me to live better by ...

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## Names for the Eucharist (continued)

Discuss with your group the meaning of the terms on the Concentration Cards. Discuss how these terms are found in daily life. Record the terms in the upper space of the boxes on this and the next page, and then record your discussion below that.

Name for the Eucharist (2):

The \_\_\_\_\_ is evident in daily life ...

Individually, complete the sentences below to explain how understanding the different names for the Eucharist helps you celebrate and live Eucharist better.

### Understanding the Eucharist

Understanding this helps me celebrate Eucharist better by ...

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Understanding this helps me to live better by ...

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## Let us pray

Catechist:  
Lord God, we now have a greater understanding  
of what the Eucharist means. We ask that this  
knowledge leads us to be better Christians.

**All:**  
**Amen.**

Catechist:  
The Lord be with you.

All:  
**And with your spirit.**

Catechist:  
May almighty God bless us:

**All:**  
**In the name of the Father ...**

Catechist:  
Let us go in peace and glorify the Lord by our lives.

**All:**  
**Amen.**

## SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

**The Eucharist is the centre of Christian life.**

# Prayer – Communicating with God

## The Our Father

Circle or underline with a different coloured pencil the phrases that match the five forms of prayer: praise, blessing, petition, sorrow, thanks.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us,

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

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Amen.

## Prayer Station One

Choose the psalm or the traditional prayer or write a prayer of your own.  
Put the prayer to music. Practise singing it to share with the whole group.

### A Psalm

#### *Psalm 150 (Praise for God's Surpassing Greatness)*

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty firmament! Praise him for his mighty deeds;

praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Praise him with trumpet sound;

praise him with lute and harp!

Praise him with tambourine and dance;

praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with clanging cymbals;

praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

*Or*

### A Traditional Prayer

The Our Father

The Hail Mary

The Glory be to the Father

*Or*

### Your Own Prayer

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### Prayer Station Two

Choose one of the five forms of prayer: praise, thanks, petition, sorrow, blessing, and brainstorm words that are similar. Record your list below.

Write your chosen prayer form below and list your similar words.

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Create actions for the words you have brainstormed. Practise to share.

### Prayer Station Three

Write a group prayer for the class. It needs to include at least two of the five forms of prayer. Use one of the beginnings below or create your own.

Beginnings:      Heavenly Father ...      Lord God, you sent us Jesus ...  
                         God of all glory ...      Creator God ...  
                         Loving God ...      God, you are our friend ...

#### Our class prayer

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## Prayer Station Four

In your group choose one of the prayers below and decide what symbol would best represent its meaning and feeling. Draw the symbol in the bookmark and re-write the prayer.

### A Prayer

God of all goodness and love,  
thank you for what you have given me,  
for my family who care for me, and my  
friends who stick by me.  
Help me to be a friend to my friends,  
to care for them as they do for me.  
Help me to look for ways that I can show  
my family that I love them.  
I ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Or

God of glory and love,  
praise be to you for the wonders of  
our universe.  
May your name be held sacred  
throughout the world.  
May your glory shine upon each  
one of us as we go about our daily work.  
Praise and glory to you, Almighty God,  
our Father, now and forever more.

Amen.

### The Bookmark

## SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

**I can pray to God using blessing, petition,  
sorrow, thanksgiving and praise.**

# The Beatitudes

## Let us pray

Catechist:

Jesus, you taught us how to live.  
Help us to respond to your word.

**Students:**

**Blessed are you, Lord Jesus.**

Catechist:

Jesus, you told us what is important in life.  
Help us to make choices that respond to your teaching.

**Students:**

**Blessed are you, Lord Jesus.**

Catechist:

Jesus, you call us to love our enemies and do good to others.  
Help us to choose what is right.

**Students:**

**Blessed are you, Lord Jesus.**



## Beatitude Texts in Luke and Matthew

### Luke 6: 17–23

<sup>17</sup>He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup>They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.

<sup>19</sup>And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup>Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup>'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. <sup>22</sup>'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

<sup>23</sup>Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.'

### Matthew 5: 1–12

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

**The Beatitudes:**

What is important for us to know about these texts?

**My Beatitude**

Write your own beatitude in the space below.

**I can bring about the kingdom by ...**

1.

2.

3.

**Let us pray**

Catechist: Through our baptism we are called to live the Beatitudes in order that the kingdom of God might be made real. As we gather to pray today, let us think about all those people who have helped us live our Beatitudes: our parents, grandparents and other significant people.

*Pause for a moment's silence.*

Catechist: Blessed are the poor in spirit,

**Students: For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**All: Glory be to the Father ...**

Catechist: Blessed are the merciful,

**Students: For they shall know mercy.**

**All: Glory be to the Father ...**

Catechist: Blessed are we when we live as God wants us to,

**Students: For we are making God's kingdom present.**

**All: Glory be to the Father ...**

**SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**The Beatitudes help us know what we are called to become.**

# St Peter, St Paul and St Teresa of Avila

## The story of St Peter

Our knowledge of the life of St Peter is limited to what we read in the Scriptures. Peter was a fisherman. He owned his own boats and fished alongside his brother. Peter was the first Apostle to be called by Jesus. We read in the Gospel of Mark that Peter was married. We know this because we are told that Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law. There are many stories about him in the gospels and Acts.

Peter was a devoted follower of Jesus and remained with Jesus as he taught, healed and worked miracles, even up to Jesus' passion and death. In the garden of Gethsemane, we read in one account that Peter was ready to fight for Jesus and he cut off the high priest's slave's ear. Yet we read in another account that, after Jesus was arrested and taken before the high priest, Peter was afraid. Peter was so afraid that he denied knowing Jesus.

Despite all of this, Jesus chose Peter to be the head of his Church (Matthew 16: 13–20). He was the first Bishop of Rome. During the first century the early Christians suffered persecution at the hands of the Romans. During this time, according to tradition, Peter was imprisoned and finally executed on the same day as St Paul. Peter chose to be crucified upside down, saying he was unworthy to follow in Jesus' footsteps. We celebrate his feast day on 29 June.



## The story of St Paul

Paul was first known as Saul. He was both a Jew and a Roman citizen who viciously persecuted the first Christians. He had a dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus. We can read about his experience in the Acts of the Apostles:

Suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying 'Saul, Saul why do you persecute me?' He asked 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came: 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do...' Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' Ananias protested saying, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem ...' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument that I have chosen ... I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptised ...' (Acts 9: 1-19).

After this, Paul began proclaiming in the synagogue that Jesus is the Son of God and because of this he too was hunted by the Jews.

Throughout Paul's life he travelled to many places to bring the teachings of Jesus Christ to the gentiles (non-Jewish people). Paul described his life in his writings to the churches he established. He said he had to face many hardships, including robbers and criticism from those of his own nation. Even the gentiles to whom he preached attacked him at times. He faced difficulties in the city, in the wilderness, and at sea. In Paul's many journeys to spread the word of God he was beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, and imprisoned. Paul's final journey was to Rome as a prisoner. It was there that he was beheaded.

St Paul, according to tradition, died on the same day as St Peter. Much of our knowledge of the early Church comes from the writings of St Paul. We celebrate his feast day on 29 June.



### **The story of St Teresa of Avila.**

St Teresa was born in Avila in Spain in 1515. At the age of seven she ran away with her brother to be martyred in Morocco. Her parents found them and brought them home. When her mother died, Teresa was 12 years old and became devoted to Our Lady as her spiritual mother. When Teresa was 16, her father sent her to a convent school to be educated. It was here that Teresa deepened her spiritual life and decided to become a nun. Teresa joined the Carmelite order but was disappointed with the lack of discipline in the convent.

Teresa contracted malaria, an illness that left her weak and in pain for many days. During her illness, Teresa experienced a closeness to God that helped her cope with the pain. For a time after her illness, Teresa found it hard to pray. Then she met a priest who encouraged her to go back to praying. Slowly, through patience and consistency, Teresa found her connection with God again.

When Teresa was 43 years of age she was determined to reform the Carmelite convents. Teresa wished for the simple contemplative life of prayer and poverty to be the part of the Carmelite nuns' way of living. After she had established the renewed way of living as a Carmelite nun, Teresa undertook much travelling around Spain to establish convents and spread her reforms. To support her Sisters, Teresa wrote many spiritual works about prayer and our relationship with God. Regardless of what people said about her, Teresa continued to do the work of God.

Although she was the founder of the convent, she continued to work at all tasks like her fellow Sisters. She would take her turn at sweeping, spinning and other household tasks. Teresa wrote many things to help her fellow Sisters in their spiritual life. Her spiritual works are considered so important that she was made the first woman Doctor of the Church. Through her writings and her life she showed us how to live like Jesus.

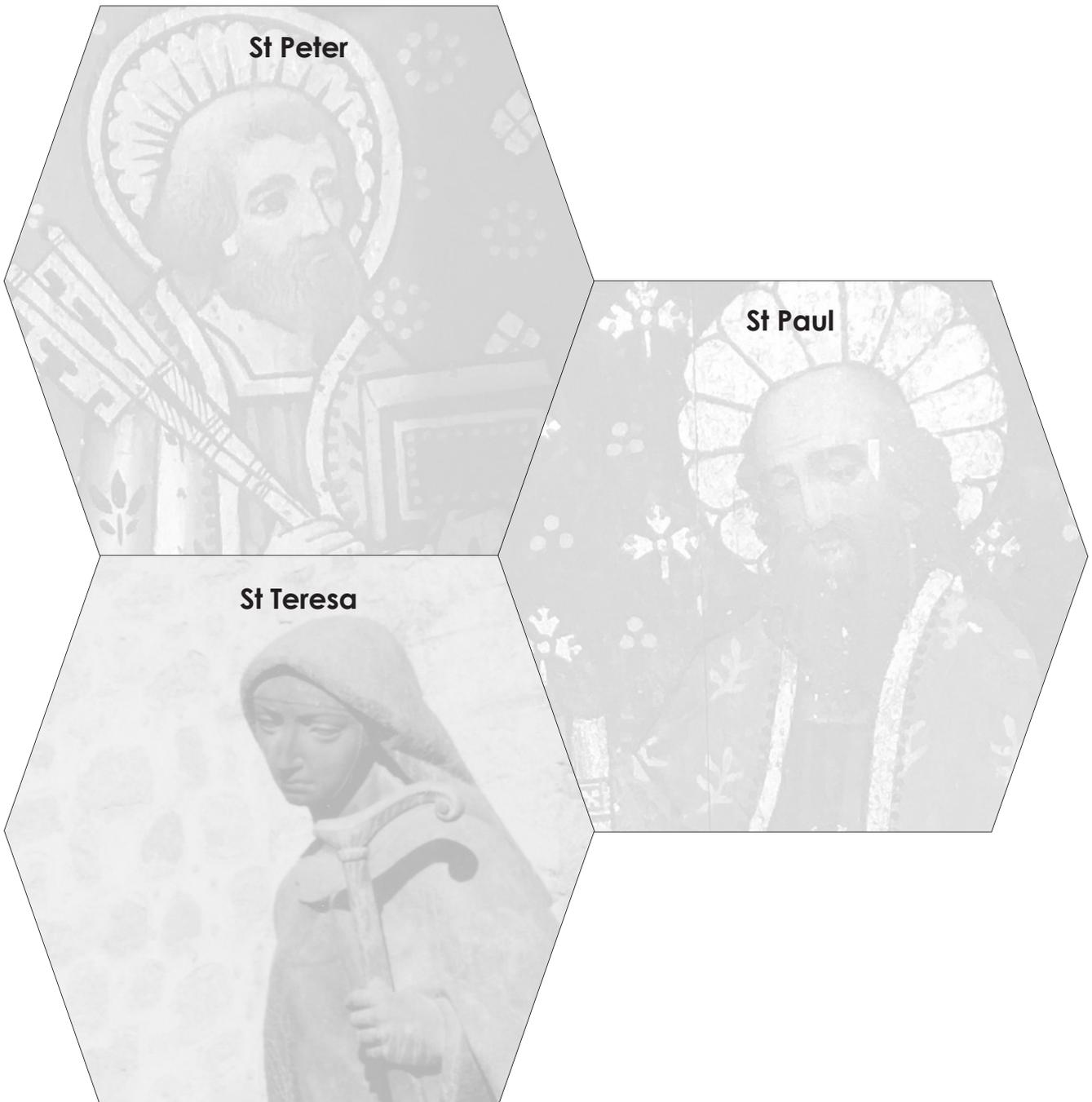
She died in 1582 and her feast day is celebrated on 15 October.



## Saints live like Jesus

Compare and contrast how these saints – St Peter, St Paul and St Teresa – lived their lives.

1. Summarise each story using bullet points and write them in the spaces below.
2. Underline the similarities in one colour and use a different colour to underline the differences.
3. Draw a circle around the things that we can copy or include in our lives so that we can live like Jesus.



**I can live like Jesus ...**

**Let us pray**

Catechist: When we light our candle before we pray, we are remembering that Christ is the light of the world and is with us always.

**All: In the name of the Father ...**

Catechist: We thank you, Lord, for the saints and all those who have shown us how to live more like Jesus.

Let us pray together one of the special prayers prayed by St Teresa.

**All: Let nothing disturb you,  
Let nothing frighten you,  
All things are passing away:  
God never changes.  
Patience obtains all things,  
Whoever has God lacks nothing;  
God alone suffices.**

Catechist: We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**Saints show us how to live like Jesus.**

# Prayer and Meditation

## Let us pray

Catechist:

Come, Holy Spirit, be with us as we begin our lesson.  
May we deepen our relationship with God, our Father, and Jesus, his Son,  
and you, Holy Spirit, through entering into prayer through meditation.

All:

**Come, Holy Spirit,  
and guide us in our prayer.**

Catechist:

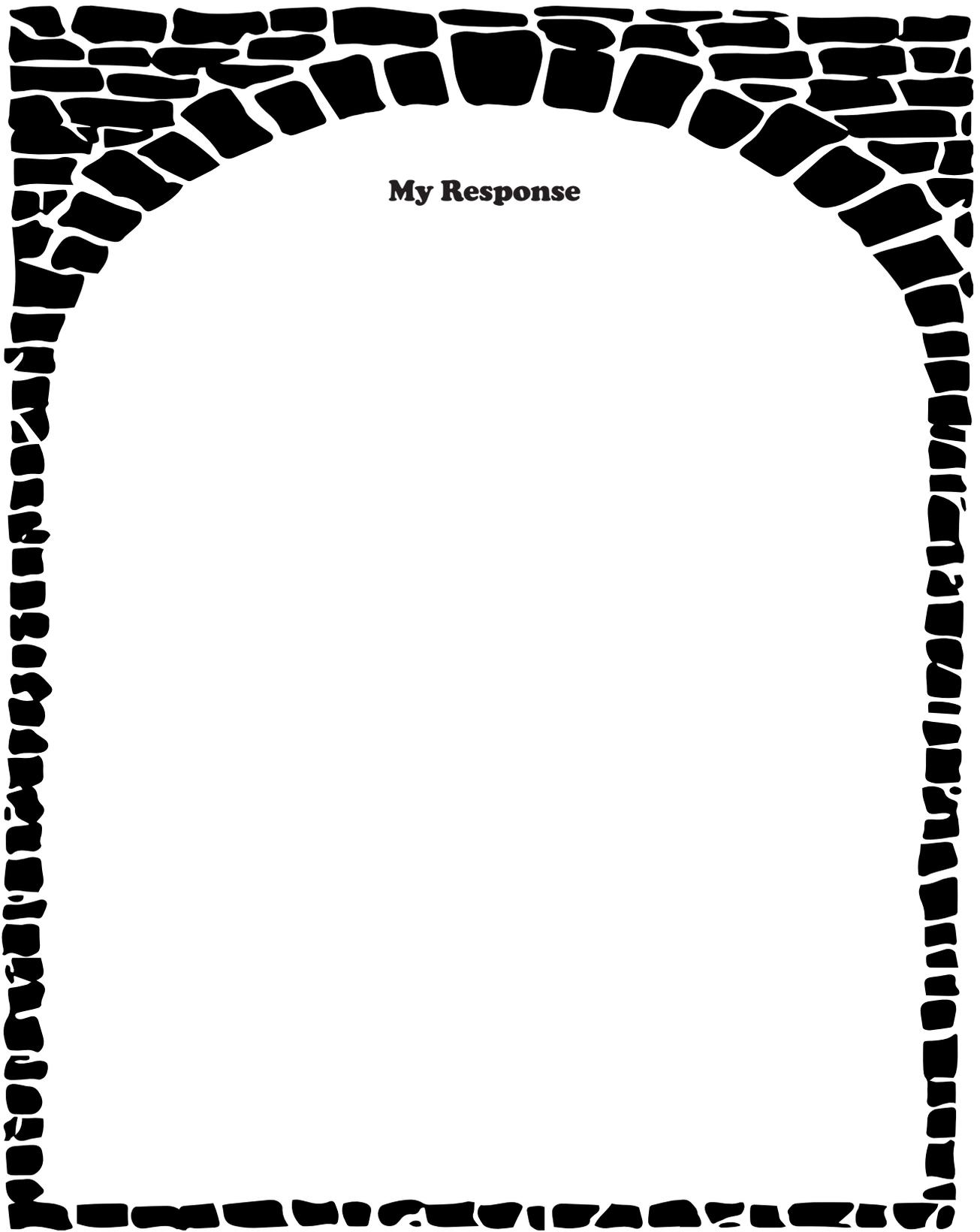
We make this prayer to the Father, through the Son,  
and in the Holy Spirit.

All:

**Amen.**

## Meditation

Meditation requires the quiet,  
unhurried turning of the mind  
and heart to God through focusing  
on either a part of Scripture  
or aspects of our faith.



**SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

We can pray in different ways.

# Jesus, the Word of God

## Let us pray

Catechist: We will now listen to the reading from the Gospel of Luke (1: 26–38).

**Student:** <sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God.' <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Catechist: Let us now pause and think about what we have heard. Let us consider: What was the message to Mary? How might she have felt? What is the message from God to us, today?

*(Pause)*

Catechist: Let us now pray the Angelus, a traditional prayer of the Church.

Catechist: The angel spoke God's message to Mary,

**Students:** **And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.  
Hail Mary ...**

Catechist: I am the lowly servant of the Lord:

**Students:** **let it be done to me according to your word.  
Hail Mary ...**

Catechist: And the Word became flesh

**Students:** **And lived among us.  
Hail Mary...**

Catechist: Pray for us, holy Mother of God,

**Students:** **That we may become worthy of the promises of Christ.**

**All:** **In the name of the Father ...**

### Jesus stills the storm

<sup>35</sup>On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.'<sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him.

<sup>37</sup>A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped.<sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher do you not care that we are perishing?'

<sup>39</sup>He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' The wind ceased, and there was a dead calm.<sup>40</sup>He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?'<sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

(Mark 4: 35–41)

- Underline the words spoken by the disciples with one colour.
- Circle the words spoken by Jesus in another colour.



### SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

Everything about Jesus tells me something about God.

## The Word of God

<sup>4</sup>When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable: <sup>5</sup>'A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. <sup>6</sup>Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. <sup>7</sup>Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. <sup>8</sup>Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold.' As he said this, he called out, 'Let anyone with ears to hear listen!'

<sup>9</sup>Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. <sup>10</sup>He said, 'To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that, "looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand"' (Luke 8: 4–10).

**Answer the following questions in the space provided.**

Who was Jesus speaking to?

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Where did this event take place?

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Why do you think Jesus spoke about this topic?

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What message did Jesus have for his listeners?

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What do we know about God by reading and studying this text?

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### **Forgiveness and the Unforgiving Servant**

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

<sup>23</sup>For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart' (Matthew 18: 21–35).

**Answer the questions below in the space provided.**

68

Who was Jesus speaking to?

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Where did this event take place? If you don't know, how might you find out?

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Why do you think Jesus spoke about this topic?

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What message did Jesus have for his listeners?

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What do we know about God by reading this?

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### **The Pharisee and the Tax Collector**

<sup>9</sup>He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: <sup>10</sup>Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." <sup>13</sup>But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted' (Luke 18: 9–14).

**Answer the questions in the space provided.**

Who was Jesus speaking to?

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Where did this event take place?

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Why do you think Jesus spoke about this topic?

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What message did Jesus have for his listeners?

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What do we know about God by reading this?

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### The Rich Man

<sup>17</sup>As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' <sup>18</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother." ' <sup>20</sup>He said to him, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' <sup>21</sup>Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' <sup>22</sup>When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

<sup>23</sup>Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' <sup>24</sup>And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' <sup>26</sup>They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?' <sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.'

<sup>28</sup>Peter began to say to him, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.' <sup>29</sup>Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, <sup>30</sup>who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age – houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions – and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup>But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first' (Mark 10: 17–31).

70

Answer the questions below in the space provided.

Who was Jesus speaking to?

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Where did this event take place?

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Why do you think Jesus spoke about this topic?

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What message did Jesus have for his listeners?

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What do we know about God by reading this?

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### Story Capture:

Draw the three scenes from the text you studied.

REFERENCE: \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus is telling us...

Jesus is telling us...

Jesus is telling us...

Why is this important for me as a Christian?

# The Promise of the Holy Spirit



## **The promise of the Holy Spirit**

<sup>15</sup>If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

<sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever.

<sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him.

<sup>25</sup>I have said these things to you while I am still with you.

<sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

John 14: 15–17a, 25–26

## Glossary

- Advocate:** A person who acts on another's behalf, e.g. solicitor, supporter, sponsor, guide, helper, someone who encourages us.
- Pentecost:** Jewish festival held 50 days after the Passover; Christian festival celebrating the first coming of the Holy Spirit; festival held 50 days after Easter; the celebration of the birth of the Church.

## The Coming of the Holy Spirit

**Narrator:** <sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked,

**Crowd:** 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.'

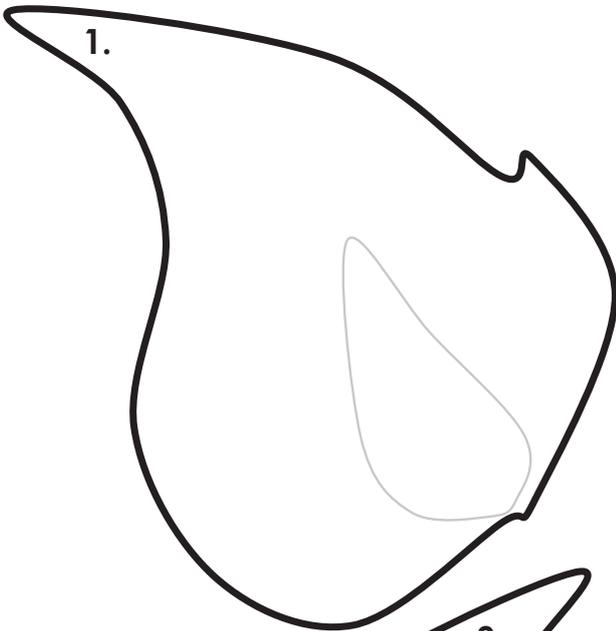
**Narrator:** <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another,

**Crowd:** 'What does this mean?'

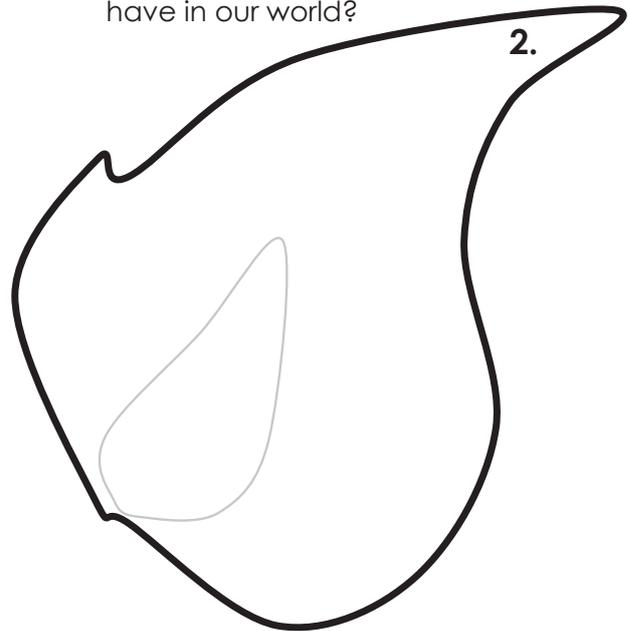
Acts 2: 1–12

## The First Pentecost

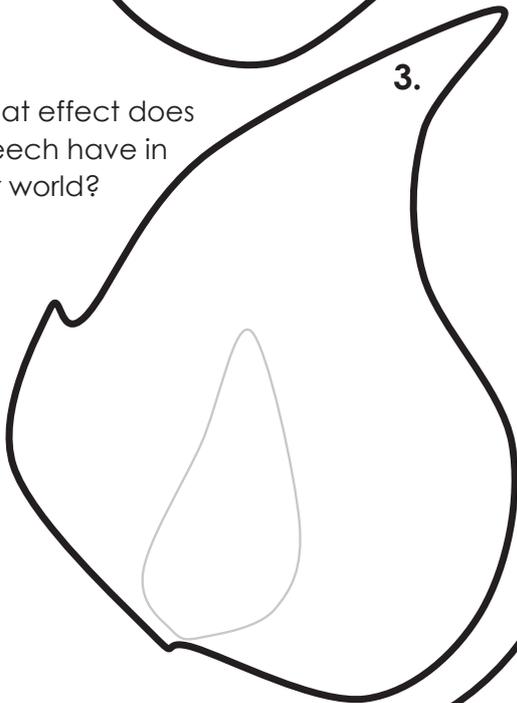
1. The story of the first Pentecost contains three symbols of the Holy Spirit. What do you think they are?



2. What effect does wind have in our world?



3. What effect does speech have in our world?

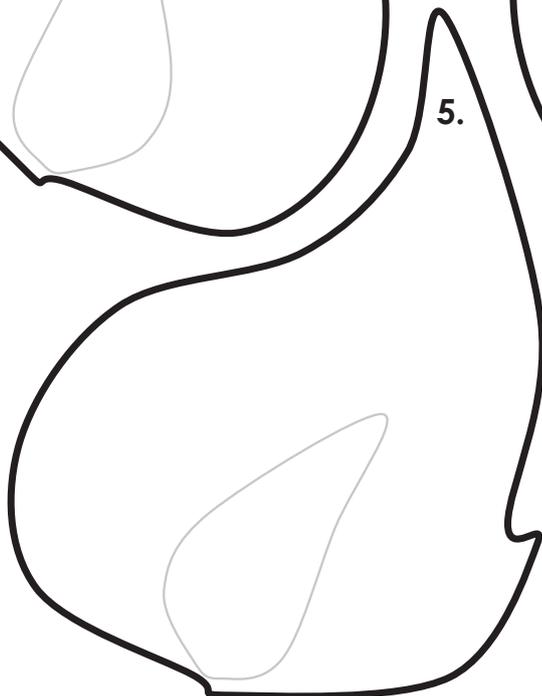


4. What effect does fire have in our world?



5.

5. If wind, fire and speech have these effects in everyday life, what might they mean as symbols of the Holy Spirit?



## Illustrating the Symbols

In the spaces below, draw something that represents each symbol. Then write an explanation as to why you have chosen this image and what it says about the Holy Spirit.

	<p><b>My explanation as to why I chose this image.</b></p>
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<p><b>My explanation as to why I chose this image.</b></p>	
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	<p><b>My explanation as to why I chose this image.</b></p>
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# The Church: Pentecost Today

## Let us pray

**Catechist:** We remember that Christ is present with us always and lighting this candle reminds us of this today.

**All:** **In the name of the Father ...**

**Catechist:** As we gather today to understand more about the love of God, we pray in thanksgiving and praise that in Jesus we have the example to follow, and the gift of the Holy Spirit to strengthen us on our mission.

**Left side:** I give thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart ... I sing your praise; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything. On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

**Right side:** All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

**Left side:** The Lord will fulfil his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.

**Right side:** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

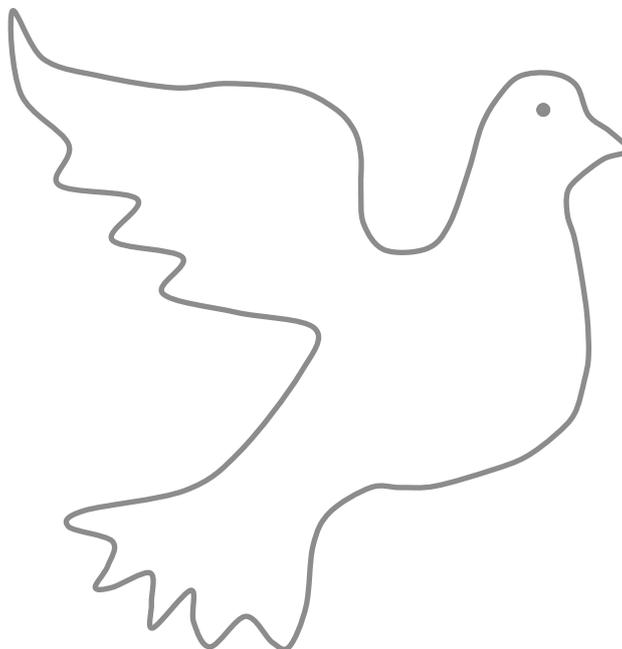
**Left side:** as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end.

**All:** **Amen.**

## The Holy Spirit

Write all the things you know about the Holy Spirit around the picture of the dove.

What I know about the Holy Spirit ...

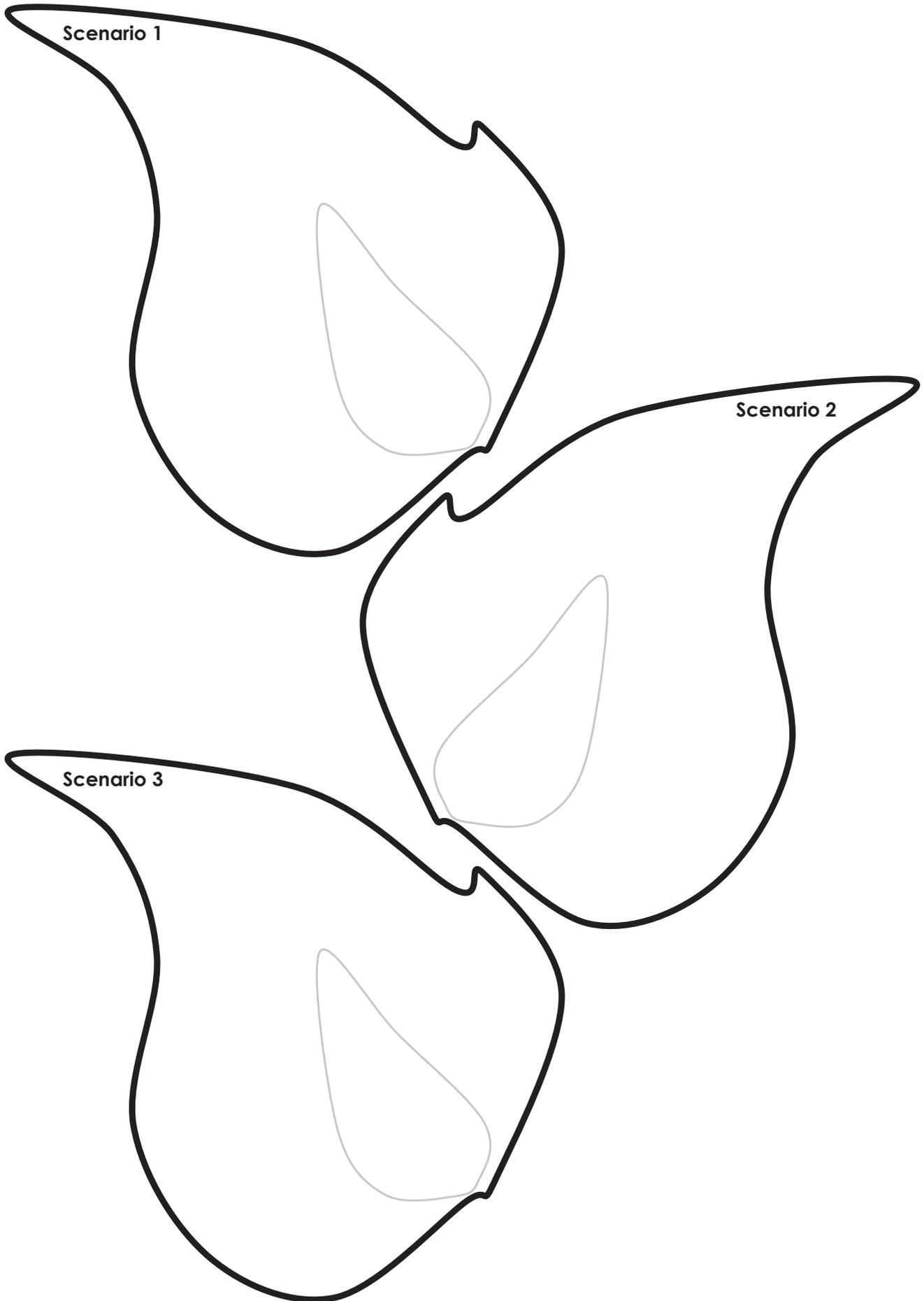


## A Spirit-filled Person

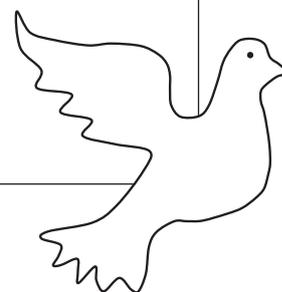
Name: .....

This person is a Spirit-filled person because ...

## A Common Sanctity



**I can be a Spirit-filled person ...**



### **Let us pray**

Catechist: Let us pray to the Holy Spirit, asking that we might become truly Spirit-filled. Let us begin with the Sign of the Cross.

**All: In the name of the Father ...**

Catechist: Come, Holy Spirit, and fill our hearts.

**All: May we be filled with the Holy Spirit.**

Catechist: God of all goodness, light the flame of your glory and grant us the desire to live each moment filled with the Holy Spirit.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, and fill our hearts.**

Catechist: God, source of all that is beautiful and right, open our eyes that we might see the needs of others around us, that we might respond with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and that we might always seek to do what is right in the ordinariness of our lives.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, and fill our hearts.**

Catechist: We make this prayer through Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

### **SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**The Holy Spirit lives in the Church today in me.**

# Baptism

## Let us pray

All:

God, our Father, when we were baptised  
you gave us your Spirit to help us live like you.  
We look forward to Confirmation when you will give us  
the fullness of your Spirit. So we pray together,

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Amen.

## Oil

- On the A3 sheet of paper, create a list of ways in which oil is used or experienced in everyday life. (10 minutes)
- Place an asterisk beside any that have a negative aspect, e.g. spills. (2 minutes)
- Think of a time when oil has been significant for you, and tell the rest of the group. (5 minutes)
- Sit quietly and reflect on the prayer said as the priest anoints the person with the Oil of Catechumens: I anoint you with the oil of salvation in the name of Christ, our Saviour; may he strengthen you with his power. (2 minutes)
- Consider your responses and reflections. As a group, discuss with each other what meaning oil might have in the sacrament of Baptism. (6 minutes)
- Each person, individually, completes the sentence on page 82: 'I think oil is used in Baptism because ...' (5 minutes)

## Water

- On the A3 sheet of paper, create a list of ways in which water is used or experienced in everyday life. *(10 minutes)*
- Place an asterisk beside any that have a negative aspect, e.g. floods. *(2 minutes)*
- Think of a time when water has been significant for you, and tell the rest of the group. *(5 minutes)*
- Sit quietly and reflect on the prayer that is said over the baptismal water: Father, we use your gift of water as a symbol of the grace you give in baptism. Send your Holy Spirit upon the water of this font. *(2 minutes)*
- As a group discuss with each other what meaning water might have in the sacrament of Baptism? *(6 minutes)*
- Each person, individually, completes the sentence on page 83: 'I think water is used in Baptism because ...' *(5 minutes)*



## Garment

- On the A3 sheet of paper, create a list of ways in which garments are used or experienced in everyday life. *(10 minutes)*
- Place an asterisk beside any that have a negative aspect, e.g. too warm. *(2 minutes)*
- Think of a time when a garment has been significant for you, and tell the rest of the group. *(5 minutes)*
- Quietly reflect on the prayer said when clothing with the white garment: See in this white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity. Bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven. *(2 minutes)*
- As a group, discuss with each other what meaning the white garment might have in the sacrament of Baptism? *(6 minutes)*
- Each person, individually, completes the sentence on page 83: 'I think a white garment is used in Baptism because ...' *(5 minutes)*

## Light

- On the A3 sheet of paper, create a list of ways in which light is used or experienced in everyday life. *(10 minutes)*
- Place an asterisk beside any that have a negative aspect, e.g. overexposure. *(2 minutes)*
- Think of a time when light has been significant for you, and tell the rest of the group. *(5 minutes)*
- Prayer: Pass the candle around the group. When you give the lighted candle, say: Receive the light of Christ. Walk in the light and keep the light of faith alive in your heart. *(2 minutes)*
- As a group, discuss with each other what meaning light might have in the sacrament of Baptism. *(6 minutes)*
- Each person, individually, completes the sentence on page 84: 'I think light is used in Baptism because ...' *(5 minutes)*



**I think oil is used in Baptism because:**

**I think water is used in Baptism because:**

**I think a white garment is used in Baptism because:**

**I think light is used in Baptism because:**

84

**How do you live like Jesus?**

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**Let us pray**

God, our Father, when we were baptised  
you gave us your Spirit to help us live like you.  
We look forward to Confirmation when you will  
give us the fullness of your Spirit.  
So we pray together,  
Come, Holy Spirit, come.  
Amen.

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# The Symbols of Confirmation

## Let us pray

Catechist: As you prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation you declare your belief in God, Jesus and the Church. So let us together pray the prayer, called the Apostles' Creed, that provides us with the words.

**All:** 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.

**All:** In the name of the Father ...

## The Laying on of Hands:

The laying on of hands is an ancient symbol. In the Bible, hands were laid on the prophets as a sign of God's favour. In the early Church, the apostles raised their hands over the newly baptised person and called on the Holy Spirit to be with them. This blessing continues today in the Sacrament of Confirmation, when the bishop lays hands on the candidates while he prays.

During the Rite of Confirmation the bishop prays for the candidates to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The candidates are asked to stand and the bishop extends his hands over the people to be confirmed, saying:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who brought these your servants to new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, freeing them from sin: Send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete; give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety; fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord. Through Christ, Our Lord.



## Anointing With The Oil Of Chrism

Chrism is the scented oil used during some of the sacraments. The oil is blessed by the bishop and priests of the archdiocese, along with the oil of healing and the oil of catechumens during a special Mass of Oils during Holy Week. The Church chooses this day in Holy Week because it is near to the time of year when Christ died and rose from the dead.

During the celebration of Confirmation, candidates are 'marked' by being anointed with the oil of chrism. They are given the seal of the Holy Spirit, which is the sign that they totally belong to Christ and will spread his word. When the bishop makes the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of each candidate with chrism, he is marking them with the sign of consecration – they are joined with Christ.

This sign of consecration reminds Christians that they share fully in the mission of Jesus Christ. The bishop anoints the candidates with the holy oil, says their name, and makes the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads while saying, 'Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit'. Being anointed with chrism helps the candidates to be more conscious of how the Holy Spirit can be active in their life. The Christian can call on the Holy Spirit for the help needed to continue the work of Christ each day.

## A Symbol of Confirmation

### Cloze Activity

The \_\_\_\_\_ on of \_\_\_\_\_ at Confirmation is a symbol  
of the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ empowering us with gifts.

### Word Find

U	P	I	E	T	Y
N	S	F	R	L	K
D	V	E	X	C	N
E	Z	A	Q	O	O
R	F	R	W	U	W
S	O	O	I	N	L
T	R	F	S	S	E
A	T	T	D	E	D
N	I	H	O	L	G
D	T	E	M	K	E
I	U	L	G	A	W
N	D	O	X	B	U
G	E	R	Z	M	L
Q	H	D	Y	I	V

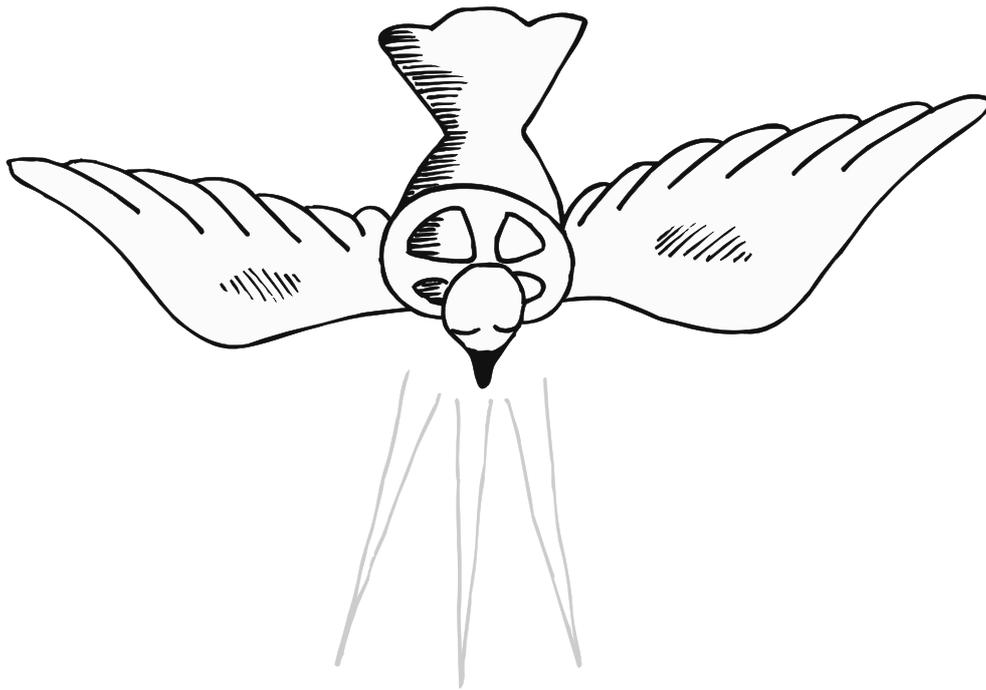
These gifts are:

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**How will you show that you are a genuine follower of Christ after you have been sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit?**



I will show that I am a genuine follower of Christ by ...

### **SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**The symbols of Confirmation are the laying on of hands  
and anointing with chris**

# The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

## Let us pray

Catechist: The Holy Spirit empowers us to live a Christian life.

**Students: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. (Luke 4: 18)**

Catechist: The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of wisdom.

**Students: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.**

Catechist: The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of understanding.

**Students: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.**

Catechist: The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of counsel.

**Students: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.**

Catechist: The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of fortitude.

**Students: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.**

Catechist: The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of knowledge.

**Students: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.**

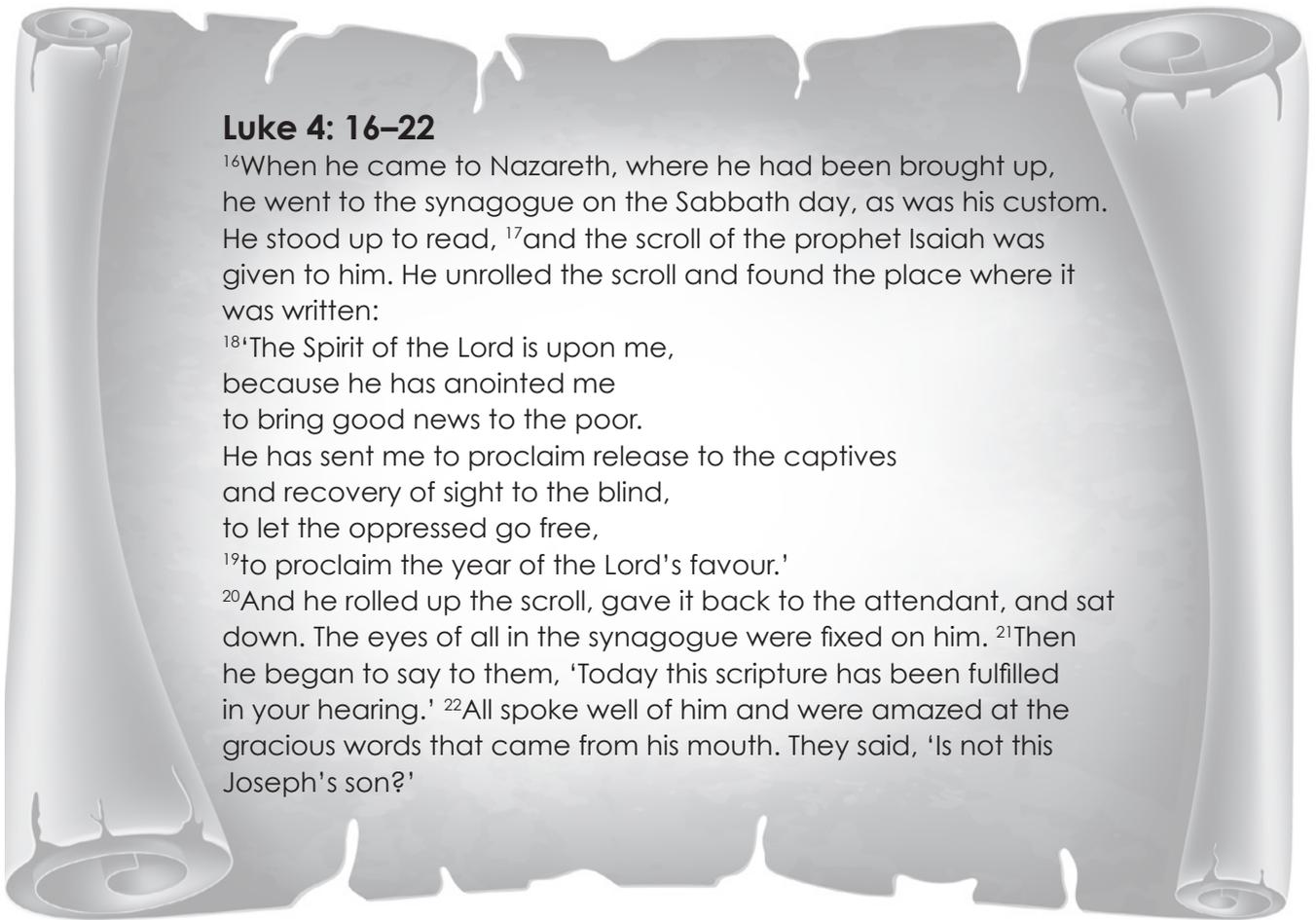
Catechist: The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of piety.

**Students: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.**

Catechist: The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of fear of the Lord.

**Students: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.**

All: Amen.



**Luke 4: 16–22**

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' <sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?'

**The Scripture is fulfilled ...**

What do you think Jesus meant when he said that 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing'?

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What challenge is the gospel writer, Luke, offering us?

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What is the message of faith being given to us in this text?

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## The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Using a highlighter, underline the gifts of the Holy Spirit in each of these texts.

### Isaiah 11: 2

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

### The Rite of Confirmation

The bishop alone sings or says:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who brought these your servants to new birth by water  
and the Holy Spirit, freeing them from sin:

send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;  
give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and fortitude,  
the spirit of knowledge and piety;  
fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.  
Through Christ, our Lord.

## The Gifts

Match the gifts by drawing a line to link the parcels to the definitions below.

1. The gift that helps you know what it means to live a life close to God. It helps you know the difference between right and wrong, to make good choices.
2. This gift helps you grasp the teaching of Christ. It helps you grow in your ability to be compassionate to others. It enhances your ability to recognise and respond to the needs of others because of your faith.
3. The gift that strengthens your common sense so that you can live a life closer to Jesus. This gift helps you choose the right things to do so that you can follow Jesus.



4. This gift helps you stand up for your faith. It strengthens your confidence in your belief and helps you to declare yourself as a member of God's family. This gift helps you to act as a person of faith.
5. This gift helps you discover how to be like Christ. It helps you to search out the teachings of Christ and avoid the obstacles that can prevent you from growing in God's love.
6. This gift strengthens your confidence and admiration of God. You trust God and seek to follow Jesus in order to know God more. You willingly want to worship and serve God because you love God.
7. This gift encourages you to respect God and delight in God's goodness. It strengthens you to do the right thing in order to show your love for God.

## Using the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

My strongest 'gift of the Holy Spirit' is ...

I show these strengths in my life when I ...

## My Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit ...

### SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

The gifts of the Holy Spirit empower us to live a Christian life.

# Living in a Spirit-filled Community

## Let us pray

Catechist: Today we will listen to the Word of God as spoken through the prophet Isaiah. Our response after the reading is 'Thanks be to God'.

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
Because the Lord has anointed me;  
He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
To bind up the broken-hearted,  
<sup>2</sup>To proclaim liberty to the captives,  
And release to the prisoners;  
To proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,  
And the day of vengeance of our God;  
To comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup>To provide for those who mourn in Zion –  
To give them a garland instead of ashes,  
The oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
The mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit (Isaiah 61: 1–3).

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Catechist: God, you give us your Spirit.

**Students: Lord, help us to be open to your Spirit.**

Catechist: God, you provide us with people who can lead and guide us.

**Students: Lord, may we listen to these people.**

Catechist: God, you welcome us into your family, the community of the faithful.

**Students: Lord, help us to recognise the love, friendship and guidance offered in our faith community.**

All: Glory be to the Father ...

## The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me

### Isaiah 61: 1–3

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
Because the Lord has anointed me;  
He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
To bind up the broken-hearted,  
<sup>2</sup>To proclaim liberty to the captives,  
And release to the prisoners;  
To proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,  
And the day of vengeance of our God;  
To comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup>To provide for those who mourn in Zion –  
To give them a garland instead of ashes,  
The oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
The mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

How might the words of the prophet Isaiah (above) be translated for today's world?  
Write your personal interpretations below.

## A Spirit-Filled Community

To belong to a Spirit-filled community, a member is required to ...



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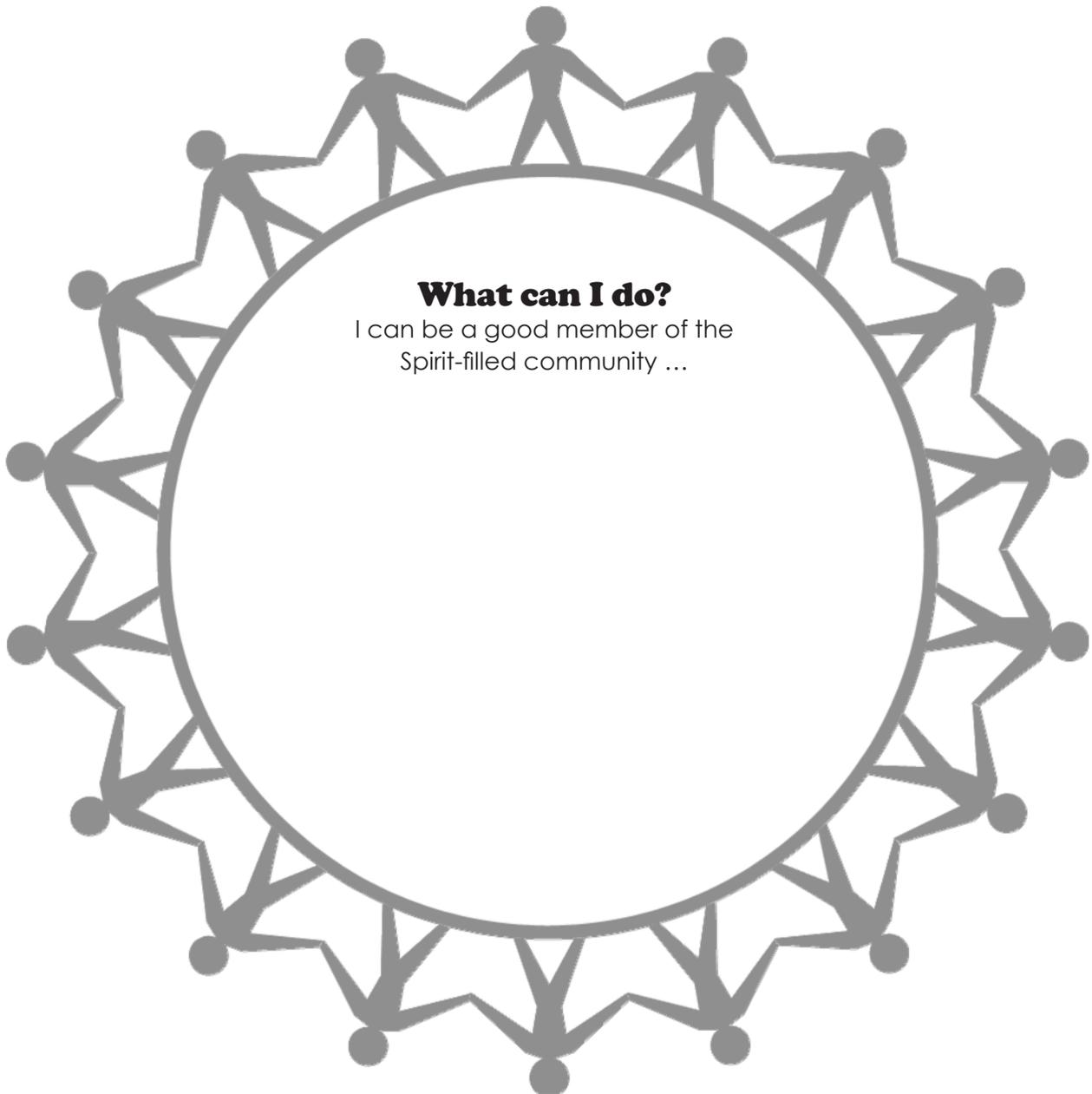


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**SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

The gifts of the Holy Spirit enable me to live and respond as a Spirit-filled person.

# Celebrating in a Spirit-filled Community

## The Spirit With Us

### Gather and Welcome

### Sing the Entrance Hymn

*The reader of the gospel will process from the back of the group to the front.*

**Welcome parents and students** to the gathering:

**Leader:** Today, we gather to celebrate the Holy Spirit in our community. We recognise that just simply gathering together is a sign of our belonging to a Spirit-filled community. Those of us who have completed our initiation, as well as those of you who will be completing your initiation in a few weeks time, share in God's presence: Father, Son, and Spirit.

So, as we gather together in the name of God our Father, and light our candles as a sign of Christ's presence, let us make the Sign of the Cross.

**All:** **In the name of the Father ...**

**Leader:** O God, you who bless everything that is good,  
bless your whole Church, every people and every nation.  
Grant us the gifts of your Holy Spirit.  
May the Holy Spirit shine across the face of the earth  
and fill our hearts once more, as believers of your word.  
We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.

**All:** **Amen.**

**Leader:** Let us now prepare ourselves to hear the word of God.

*The reader goes to the front, picks up the Bible and proclaims the word from the front.*

**Reader 1:** **A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians (1: 15–19)**

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. The word of the Lord.

**All:**           **Thanks be to God.**

**Reader 2:**    Our response is: Let all the people praise you, O God;  
let all the people praise you.

**All:**           **Let all the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.**

**Reader 2:**    May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face shine upon us,  
that your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations.

**All:**           **Let all the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.**

**Reader 2:**    Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with fairness  
and guide the nations upon the earth.

**All:**           **Let all the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.**

**Reader 2:**    The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God continue to bless us;  
Let all the ends of the earth revere him.

**All:**           **Let all the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.**

*The first reader leaves the reading space, while the second reader comes forward to read the gospel.*

**Reader 3:**    **A reading from the Gospel of John (14: 23–27)**

Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.'

The gospel of the Lord.

**All:**           **Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.**

*Pause*

*The Reader leaves the reading space.*

*You are invited to sit quietly and think about what the Holy Spirit means to you. Ask yourselves: 'What has the Holy Spirit taught me?'*

**Leader:**      As we listen to the hymn to the Holy Spirit, I invite you to bring out your dove and place it on and around the prayer focus.

*Stand, gather around the prayer focus with your workbooks and prayer sheets, and pray together:*



**All:**           **Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.  
Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.  
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love only what is holy.  
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.  
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen.**

**Leader:**       As people of faith, we pray not only for ourselves but for all those whom God loves. God promised us the Holy Spirit so that we could follow in Jesus' footsteps. The Holy Spirit is given to us, to our community, to enable us to reach out, tell others about Jesus and show others how much God loves us all.

So with this in mind we pray, asking God, through Jesus and the Holy Spirit, to guide us and help us be strong members of a Spirit-filled community who can celebrate Jesus in our lives, together.

For those who lead our Church, Pope ..... and Archbishop .....: that they may be open to and guided by the Holy Spirit in their discussions and decision-making. Lord, hear us.

**All:**           **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader:**       For the leaders of our country, that they seek only to do good in their decision-making. Lord, hear us.

**All:**           **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader:**       For all of us here today, especially those who are going to receive their Confirmation soon: may the Holy Spirit be alive and active in their lives, today and always. Lord, hear us.

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**All:**           **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader:**       For all members of our Spirit-filled community: that we recognise the prompting of the Holy Spirit when we work and speak with each other, enabling the message of Jesus to be lived and celebrated in our lives each day. Lord, hear us.

**All:**           **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader:**       For those of our Spirit filled community who are sick: that they may find comfort and strength in the knowledge of our prayers and the prayers of all those in the community, asking for the Holy Spirit to be with them. Lord, hear us.

**All:**           **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader:**       So, with these prayers offered to God our Father, through Jesus, God's Son, and the Holy Spirit, we pray together:

**All:**           **Glory be to the Father ...**

**Leader:**       As we have prayed together and gathered as a Spirit filled community, we now ask God to bless us and send us on our way. Let us hold out our hands with our palms uppermost as we pray:

Come, God our Father, bless each and every one of us as we go to live our lives in a Spirit-filled community. Help us to reach out to you through your Son, Jesus, and with the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit, so that we might spread your message to all whom we meet. We ask this, through Christ, our Lord.

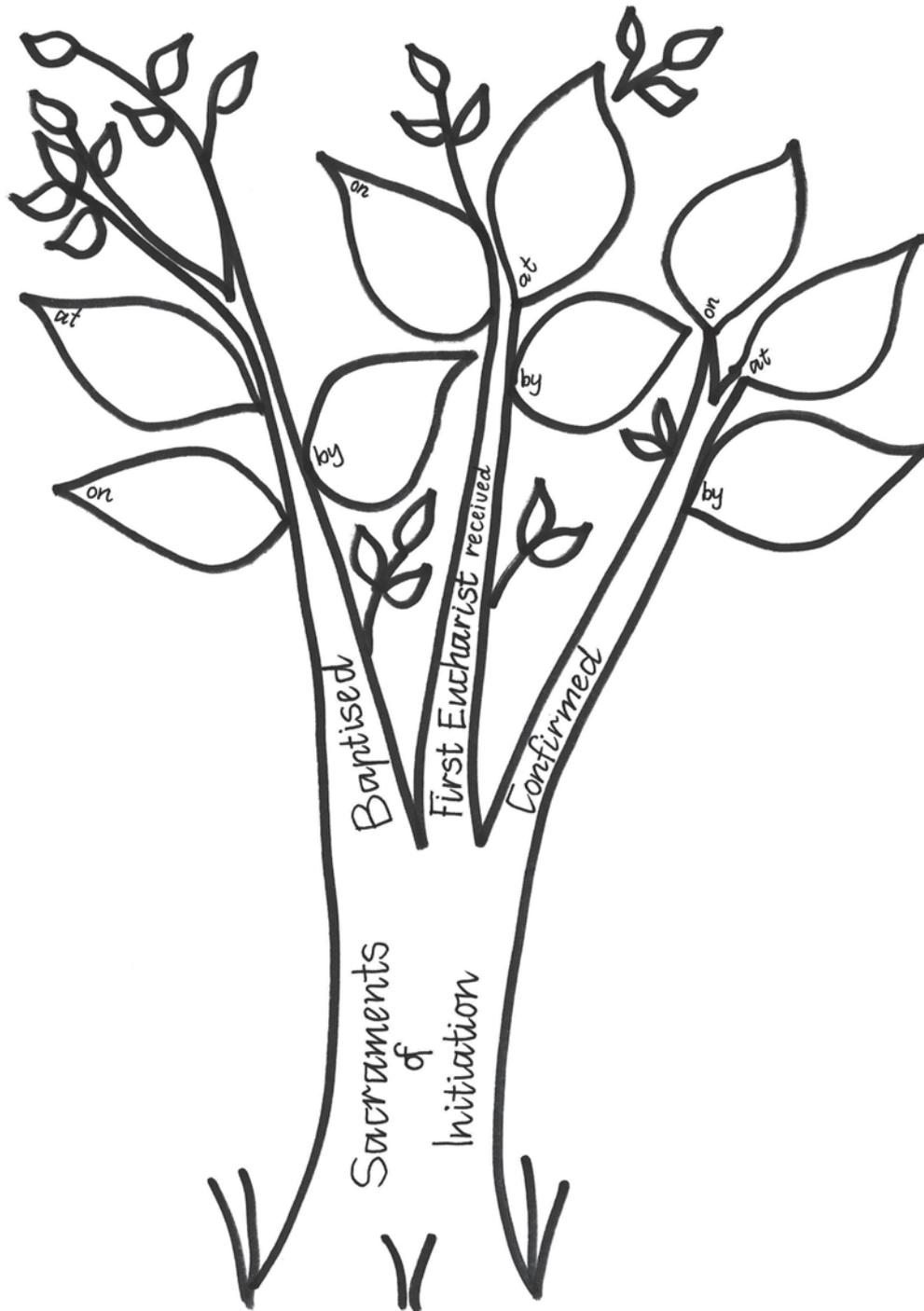
**All:**           **Amen.**

**In the name of the Father ...**

# We Celebrate Confirmation

## Sacraments of Initiation

Complete the Initiation Tree by adding in the dates and places, when you were baptised, received your first Eucharist, and where you will be confirmed.



## The Rite of Confirmation

### The Entrance

The celebration of the Rite of Confirmation takes place within the celebration of the Eucharist. When we gather with our family and other parish members, we are joining with the family of the Church. At this time we will be finalising our initiation into the Catholic Church.

During the gathering and entrance, the bishop and priests will process into the church. The congregation sing an appropriate hymn.

### Liturgy of the Word

The Liturgy of the Word is the proclamation of the readings from Sacred Scripture. These readings can be found in the Lectionary. Take some time to read them and think about what they mean for you and the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

### The Instruction

*After the gospel, the candidates for Confirmation are presented to the bishop. The bishop then delivers a homily in these or similar words:*

(From the Rite of Confirmation)

The Apostles, who had received the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost in fulfilment of the Lord's promise, had power to complete the work of Baptism by the giving of the Holy Spirit, as we read in the Acts of the Apostles. When Saint Paul had laid his hands on certain people who had been baptised, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

The Bishops, as successors of the Apostles, possess the same power and, either in their own right or through Priests lawfully appointed to fulfil this ministry they confer the Holy Spirit on those who have already been born again in Baptism.

Even if today the coming of the Holy Spirit is no longer widely made manifest by the gift of tongues, we know by faith that the Spirit, through whom the love of God has been poured into our hearts and through whom we are gathered in unity of faith and in diversity of callings, is received by us and is working invisibly to make the Church holy and one.

Dearly beloved, the gift of the Holy Spirit, which you are about to receive, will be a spiritual seal, by which you will be conformed to Christ and will be made more fully members of his Church. For Christ himself, anointed by the Holy Spirit in the baptism he received from John, was sent forth for the work of his ministry, to pour out on the earth the fire of the same Spirit.

Therefore, you who are already baptised will now receive the power of his Spirit and be signed with his Cross on your foreheads. And so, you must always bear witness to his Passion and Resurrection before the world, so that your manner of life, as the Apostle says, may be in every place the pleasing fragrance of Christ. His Mystical Body, which is the Church, the People of God, receives from him diverse graces, which the same Holy Spirit distributes to individuals for the building up of that Body in unity and love.

Be living members of this Church, therefore, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, seek to serve all people like Christ, who came not to be served but to serve.

*After all have been instructed by the bishop, the candidates renew their baptismal promise by rejecting Satan and professing their faith in the Lord and the Church. In this way, the candidates are reminded that Confirmation completes the sacraments of initiation. They accept the Christian way of life as their own.*

## Renewal of Baptismal promises

(From the Rite of Confirmation)

Bishop: Do you renounce Satan, and all his works and empty promises?

**Candidate: I do.**

Bishop: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

**Candidate: I do.**

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
Who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried,  
rose again from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**Candidate: I do.**

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who today  
through the Sacrament of Confirmation is given to you in a special way  
just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost?

**Candidate: I do.**

Bishop: Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

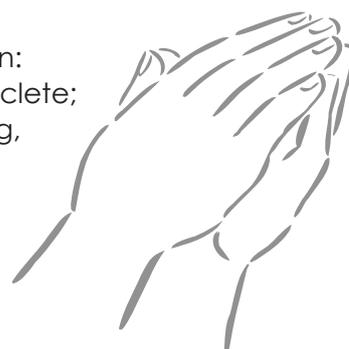
**Candidate: I do.**

## The Sacrament of Confirmation

After the bishop has given the 'Instruction' or homily, the Sacrament is conferred on those presenting themselves for Confirmation and who are prepared in heart and mind to receive the seal of the Holy Spirit.

*The bishop asks the assembled community to pray for the candidates. After all have prayed in silence, the bishop holds his hands over the candidates, asking the Holy Spirit to come in power upon them. With outstretched arms, he prays:*

Bishop: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who brought these your servants to new birth  
by water and the Holy Spirit, freeing them from sin:  
send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;  
give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and fortitude,  
the spirit of knowledge and piety;  
fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.  
Through Christ, our Lord.



**All: Amen.**

*The oil of chrism is then brought to the bishop.*

*Each candidate is presented to the bishop and stands or kneels before him. The candidate's sponsor places his or her hand on the shoulder of the candidate, and the bishop, with his thumb moistened in the sacred chrism, makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the one to be confirmed while saying:*

Bishop: N., be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

**The newly confirmed responds: Amen.**

The bishop gives the newly confirmed a sign of peace.

Bishop: Peace be with you.

**The newly confirmed responds: And with your spirit.**

### **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

After the Sacrament is conferred, the Mass continues. The newly confirmed receive Holy Communion.



### **Let us pray**

Catechist: God our Father made us his children by water and the Holy Spirit: may he bless us and watch over us with fatherly love.

**All: Amen.**

Reader 1: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, promised that the Spirit of truth would be with his Church for ever: may he bless us and give us courage in professing the true faith.

**All: Amen.**

Reader 2: The Holy Spirit came down upon the disciples and set their hearts of fire with love: may he bless us, keep us one in faith and love and bring us to the joy of God's kingdom.

**All: Amen.**

Catechist: May almighty God bless us, The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**



# The Writers of the Gospels (Part 1)

## Beautiful Music

There was once a boy named Felix, who lived with his mother, Rebecca. The boy's father had died during a particularly bad winter a couple of years earlier. On a wild and stormy night, the wind blew tiles from the family's roof. When Felix's dad went out to fix it, he slipped and fell to his death. So now, Felix and Rebecca were together, trying to keep themselves fed and comfortable.

One day, the owner of the house demanded that Rebecca pay him an extra \$50 rent. The only problem was that he wanted it before the rent was due; in fact, within the next week. Felix was just 13 years old and Rebecca only had a part-time job, so finding an extra \$50 was impossible. The one thing they had to sell was the jersey cow, Daisy, which provided them with rich, creamy milk every day.

Desperate, Rebecca told Felix that the next day he was to take Daisy to the market in town and sell her. He was not to come back without at least \$50.

Early the next morning, Felix awoke, washed and got dressed ready to go to market. He had no transport so he would have to walk the five kilometres to town. Felix wasn't too happy about the walk, but knew he had better do what his mother had asked him. So Felix went out to the field where Daisy was grazing, caught her and put a rope around her so that he could lead her to market. Felix didn't eat any breakfast because there wasn't anything ready and he needed to get to market early to get a good price for the cow.

On his way to market, Felix met a group of performing artists who were also going to town. They juggled, tumbled, told jokes and sang. The leader of the troupe liked Daisy

very much and asked Felix to exchange the cow for a musical instrument, the clarinet. Felix was quite taken with the beautiful sound, so he agreed to hand over the cow.

After the troupe had moved on, Felix then realised that he no longer needed to go to market, so went home.

Rebecca was surprised to see Felix home so soon and asked how much he had received for the cow. Felix suddenly realised he had a problem, since he had no money and only the clarinet. He showed his mother the clarinet and quickly explained that he could go busking to raise the \$50. Rebecca was furious and told Felix to get outside and do his chores, as now they were likely to starve to death, as well as have no roof over their heads.

Felix was very sad and upset. He hadn't meant to cause this trouble – he had just been mesmerised by the music and the clarinet. So he sat at the back of the barn where Daisy used to be milked, and tried to play the clarinet. He didn't know anything about music but still, he put the clarinet to his mouth and blew.

To his surprise, a most beautiful note came out of the instrument. He blew again, and again another lovely note came forth. Felix just simply enjoyed making and listening to the sound. At last, he decided that he had better get on with his chores: sweeping the barn, changing the hay and collecting any eggs that the chickens had laid. When Felix went into the barn, he found to his amazement that the chickens had laid golden eggs. Solid gold! He collected all six of them and took them to Rebecca.

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## Beautiful Music (continued)

Rebecca was sure there was something illegal about all of these golden eggs, so she interrogated Felix as to where he found them and how they got there. Felix told her that all he did was play the clarinet. He showed her exactly how, and what beautiful music it made. When Felix played, Rebecca noticed something amazing: the eggs duplicated and the six golden eggs turned into 12 golden eggs.

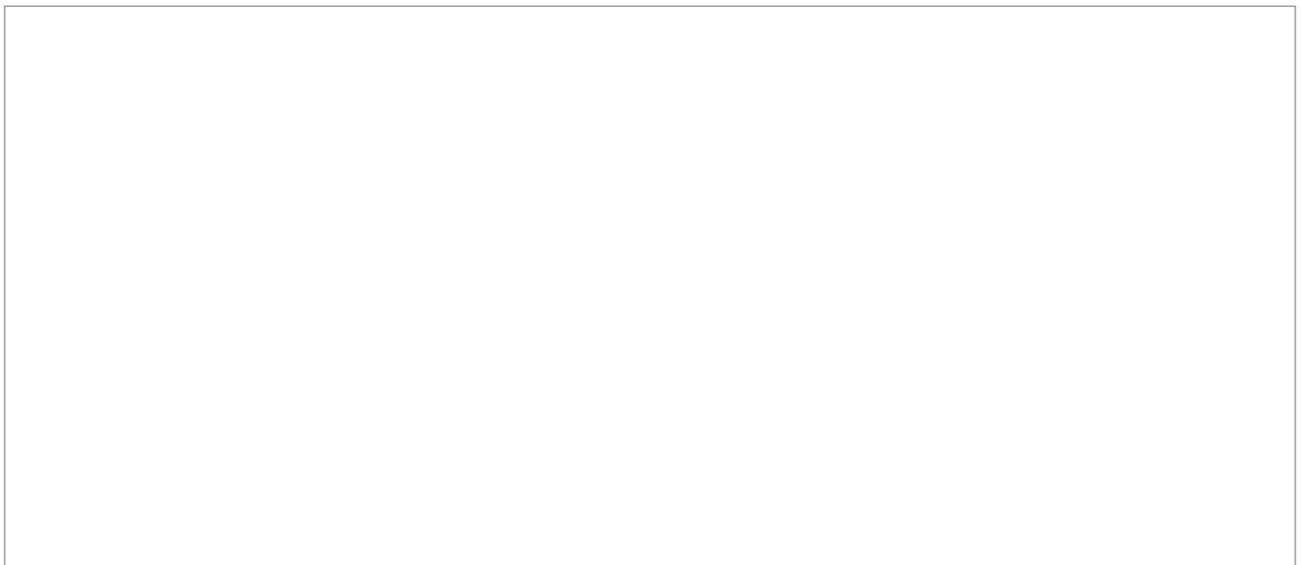
The two of them were so happy! Rebecca selected two of the eggs and hid the remaining 10 and the clarinet. She told Felix that he wasn't to tell anyone about the clarinet or the golden eggs. Rebecca took the eggs to market herself and sold them for more than \$50. When she returned, she was able to pay the owner of the house and still have enough for their needs.

## The Writing of the Gospels

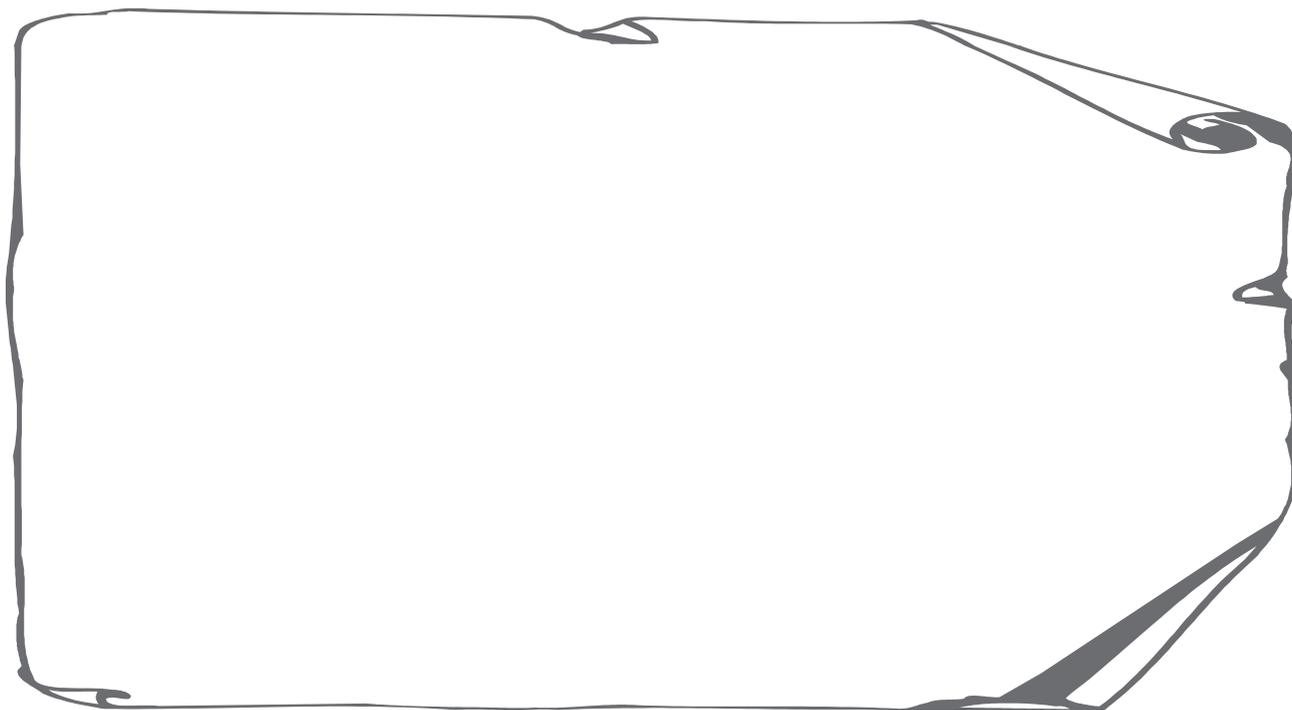
### The Oral Tradition



### The Collection of Stories



## The Written Gospels



### My Learning

Today I have learnt...

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### SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

Each gospel is different but has similar characteristics.

# The Writers of the Gospels (Part 2)

## Examining Texts about Jesus

Whenever you have a text from the gospels, you can look at it and break it open by asking and answering these questions:

### THE CHARACTER

What titles are given to Jesus?  
Is Jesus the main character?  
How does Jesus initiate contact with other characters?

### THE PLOT

What happens?  
Why do you think Jesus chose to do this?  
How did the other characters react?

### THE TIME

When does this story take place?  
Is a day mentioned?  
When in Jesus' life does this happen?  
Why do you think that?

### THE SETTING

Where does this story take place?  
Is a place mentioned?  
Is a building mentioned?  
Why do you think Jesus was in that place?

### THE PURPOSE

What does the text show us about Jesus?  
What message does it convey?  
Why might the author have included it?

### THE PLACEMENT

How do the stories before and after the text relate to it?

### THE CULTURE AND CUSTOMS

What religious customs do the people practise?  
What cultural practices are evident?  
Why do you think these customs were important?

### THE WRITING STYLE

What genre is used?  
What questions are raised by the text?  
Why do you think the author used that genre?

## The First Disciples of Jesus

### Groups 1 & 2

#### Matthew 4: 18–22

<sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake – for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

### Groups 1 & 2

#### Luke 5: 1–11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' <sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

## The First Disciples of Jesus (continued)

### Groups 3 & 4

#### Mark 1: 16–20

<sup>16</sup> As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake – for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' <sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup> As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup> Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

### Groups 3 & 4

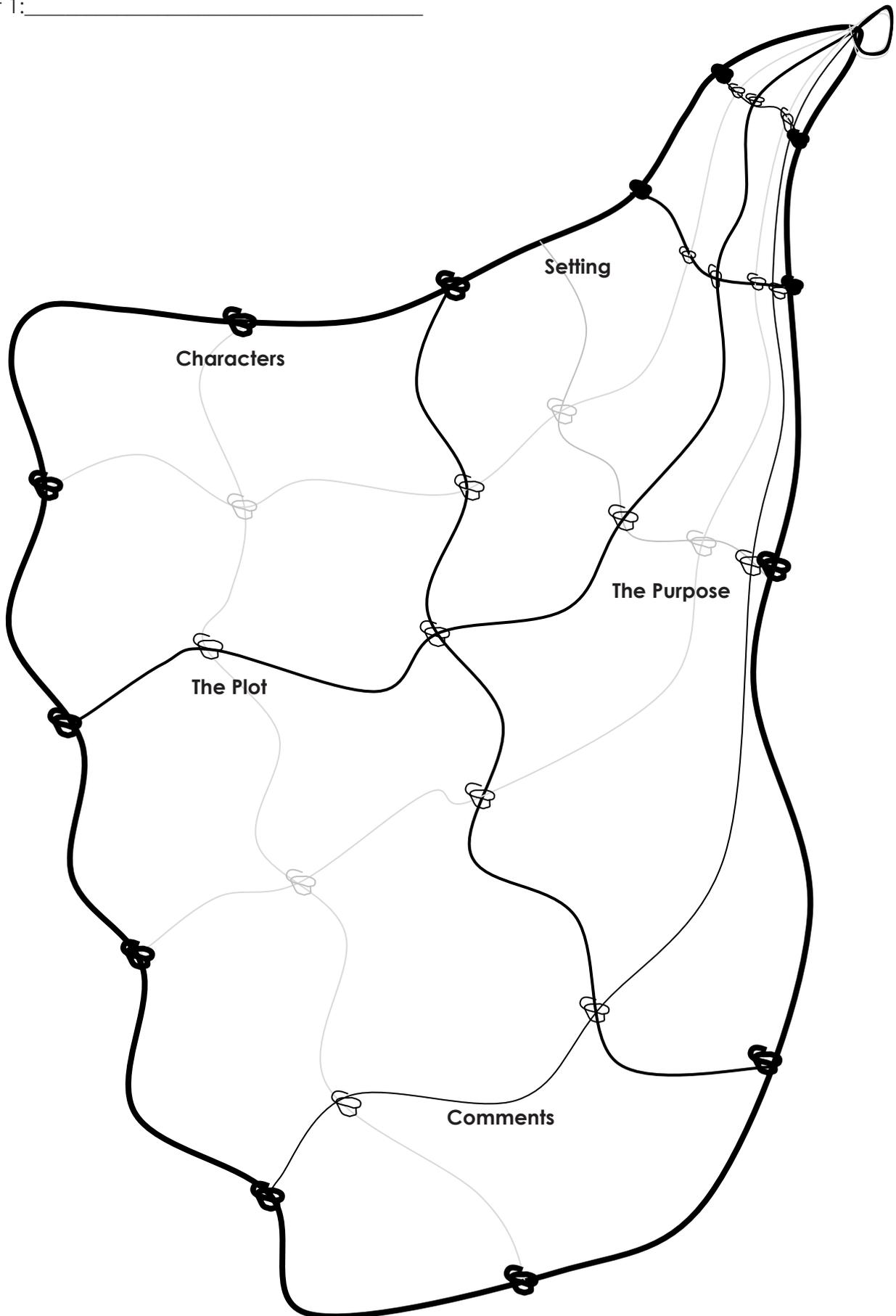
#### John 1: 35–51

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' <sup>39</sup> He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter). <sup>43</sup> The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' <sup>47</sup> When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' <sup>48</sup> Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' <sup>49</sup> Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' <sup>51</sup> And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

## Jesus Calls His Disciples

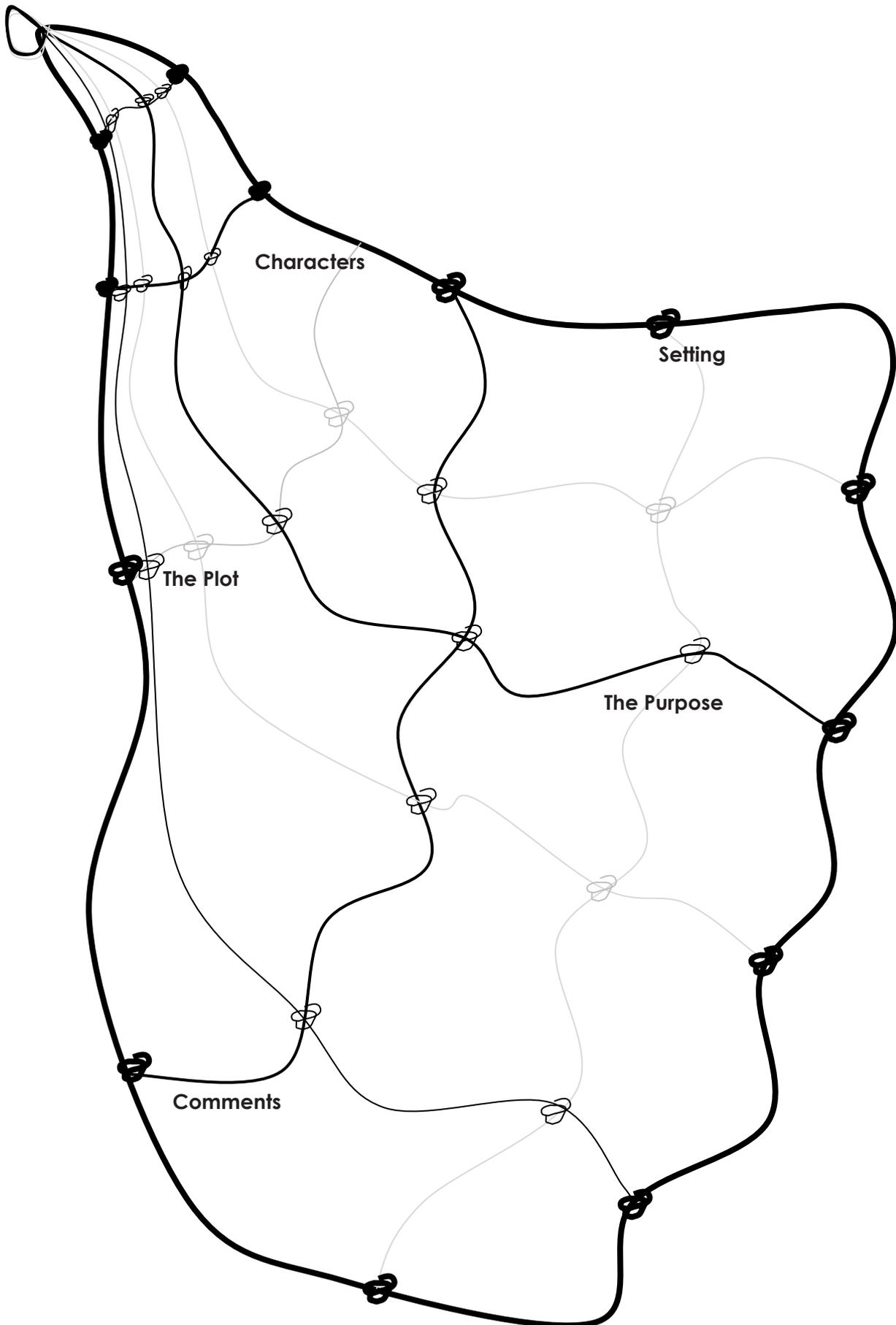
Complete the following organiser, using your group's first text.

Text 1: \_\_\_\_\_



Complete the following organiser, using your group's second text.

Text 2: \_\_\_\_\_



## The Life of Jesus

Read the following texts and identify the similarities and differences between them.

### Matthew 28: 1–10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' <sup>8</sup>So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

### Mark 16: 1–8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**Luke 24: 1–12**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup>They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup>but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup>While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup>The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. <sup>6</sup>Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup>that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' <sup>8</sup>Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup>and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup>Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup>But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup>But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

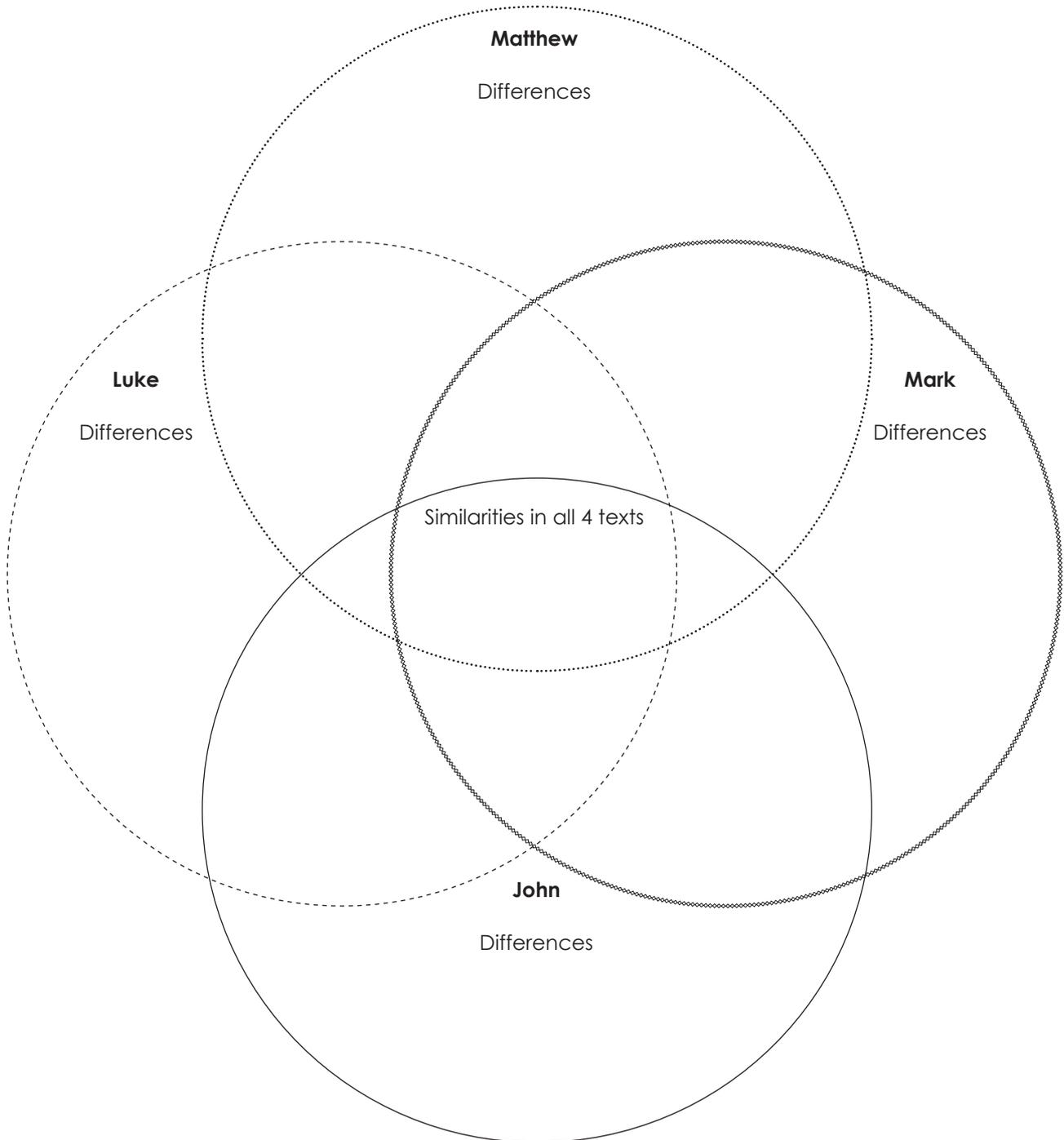
**John 20: 1–18**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup>So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' <sup>3</sup>Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. <sup>4</sup>The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup>and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples returned to their homes.

<sup>11</sup> But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; <sup>12</sup>and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' <sup>14</sup>When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

## The Life of Jesus

Write the reference for each piece of scripture in the space provided, and then identify the similarities and differences and record them in appropriate places.



**I have learnt today ...**

# We Remember the Dead

## Let us pray

Catechist: Our response to each title of the saint is: Pray for us.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: St Andrew, the fisherman,

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: St Anthony, the miracle-worker,

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: St Anne, mother of the blessed Virgin,

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: St Augustine, bishop and doctor of the Church,

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: St Barbara, a brave martyr,

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: St Bernadette, little girl from Lourdes,

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: St Dominic, the great preacher,

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: St Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist,

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: St ... (add your parish saint if appropriate)

**All: pray for us.**

Catechist: Let us pray:

God, our Father, we recall the good men and women of every time and place who have lived their lives in honour of you. May we, who also try hard to live as you wish us to live, share in their peace and your love, here on earth and in heaven. We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.

**All: Amen.**



## A Prayer for a Loved One this November

Name God:

Describe an attribute  
of God:

Identify what you are  
praying about:

Praise God with a  
phrase:

Conclude with an  
ending:  
(E.g. *We make this  
prayer through Christ,  
our Lord. Amen*)

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### A Traditional Prayer for the Dead

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord,  
And let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace.  
Amen.

**Let us pray****A Prayer Service in Remembrance of the Dead**

**Catechist:** All around us, we see people, animals and plants come to life, grow and then die. There is a season for everything. 'A time for giving birth, a time for dying ...' (Ecclesiastes 3: 1, 2). During the month of November, we remember all our family, friends and all those who have died. We ask God to take them into God's presence and embrace them in God's love.

Let us begin with the sign that points to our belief in God who is three yet one.

**All:** **In the name of the Father ...**

**Catechist:** Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord. May our friends and family be drawn ever closer to your presence.

**Reader 1:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (Jn 6: 37–40)

**All:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Reader 1:** Jesus said to the crowds: 'Everything that God gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what was given me, but that I should raise it on the last day. For this is the will of my God, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise them on the last day.'

**Catechist:** While we are quiet, let us think about those friends and family who have died.

*(Pause). The students are invited to come forward with their pictures and stories of loved ones and place them around the candle.*

**Catechist:** Let us pray. Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for his Church. We all know someone who is in Heaven – someone who loved Jesus very much and is now with Jesus in Heaven.

**Reader 2:** We pray for our family members who have died. May they find peace with God. Lord, hear us.

**All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader 3:** We pray for those in our world who die alone with no one to care about them. May they find friendship and peace with God. Lord, hear us.

**All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader 4:** We pray for ourselves that we might continue to remember to pray for those who have died. May our prayers, Lord God, rise up to you like incense. Lord, hear us.

**All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Catechist:** During November, we remember all the dead. Lord, remember those who have died and have gone before us in faith, especially those who have died recently. May these, and those who sleep in Christ, rest in your presence experiencing light, happiness and peace. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

**All:** **Amen.**

**SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**In November, we remember all of the dead.**

# The Spirit Alive in Me



## Let us pray

Catechist:  
Let us begin with the Sign of the Cross.

**All:**  
**In the name of the Father ...**

Catechist:  
The Spirit was alive in St Teresa and Sts Peter and Paul.  
Help us to allow the Spirit to live in us. Lord, hear us.

**All:**  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Catechist:  
Let us ask the saints to help us.

St Teresa,

**All:**  
**Pray for us.**

Catechist:  
Sts Peter and Paul,

**All:**  
**Pray for us.**

Catechist:  
Let us finish with the Sign of the Cross.

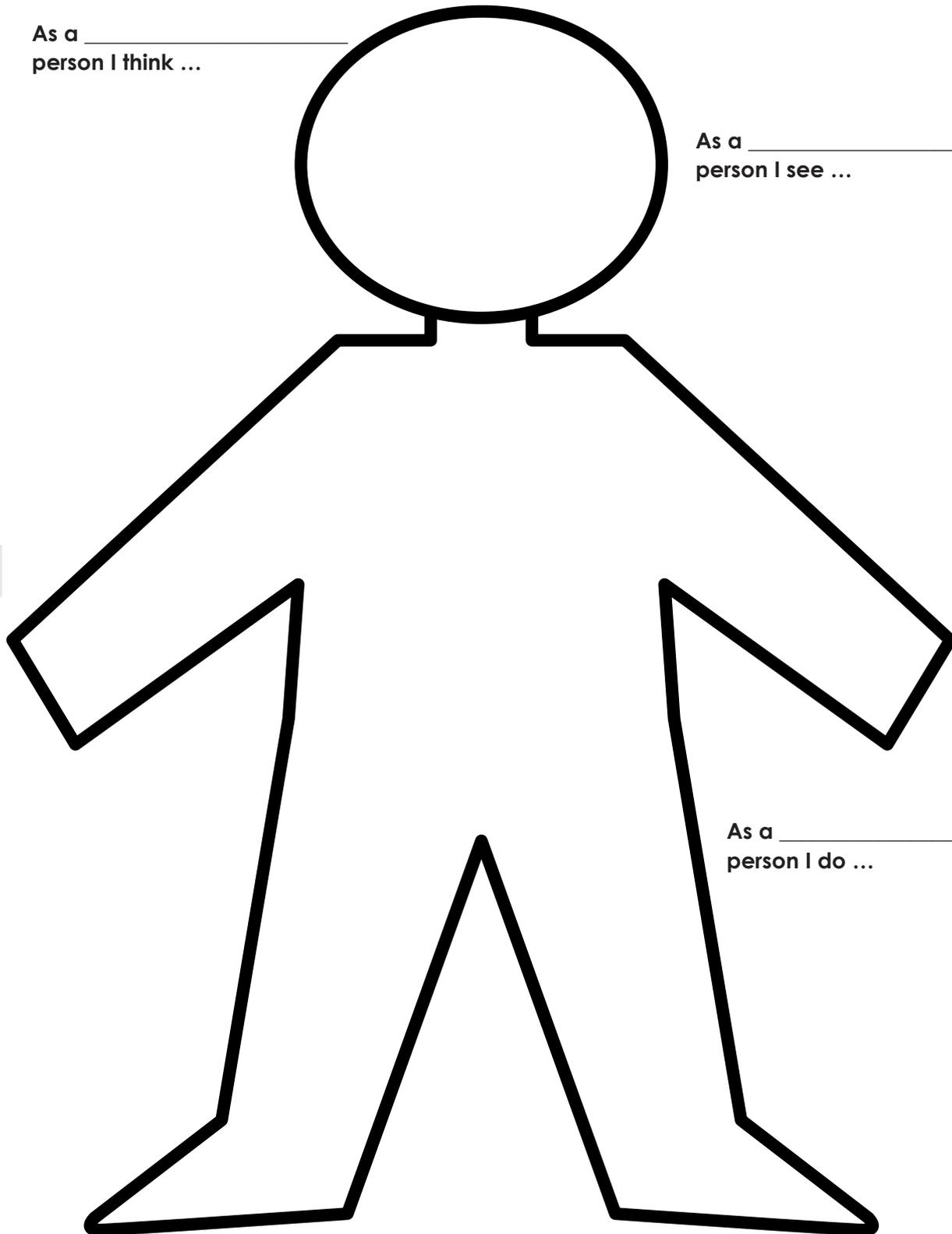
**All:**  
**In the name of the Father ...**

**Character Analysis of** \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

**Characteristic:** \_\_\_\_\_

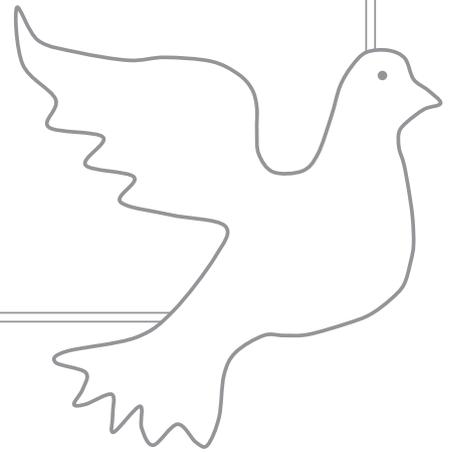
As a \_\_\_\_\_  
person I think ...

As a \_\_\_\_\_  
person I see ...



As a \_\_\_\_\_  
person I do ...

**Holy Spirit, you are alive in me when I ...**



### **Let us pray**

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**Catechist:** Holy Spirit, you are always present in my life.  
Holy Spirit, you are alive in me when I ...

**All:** **Holy Spirit, you are alive in me.**

**Catechist:** Holy Spirit, you are always present in our lives.  
Holy Spirit, you are alive in us. Let us pray together:

**All:** **Glory be to the Father ...**

### **SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**I can respond to the Spirit active in my life.**

# Stewards of Creation

## Let us pray

**Side One:** Praise the Lord!  
Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights!  
Praise him, all his angels;  
praise him, all his host!  
Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you shining stars!  
Praise him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens!  
Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for he commanded and they were created.  
He established them for ever and ever;  
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

**Side Two:** Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps,  
fire and hail, snow and frost,  
stormy wind fulfilling his command!  
Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars!  
Wild animals and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds!  
Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!  
Young men and women alike,  
old and young together!

**Side One:** Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
his glory is above earth and heaven.  
He has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for all his faithful,  
for the people of Israel who are close to him.  
Praise the Lord! *(Psalm 148)*

**All:** **Glory be to the Father ...**

## Stewardship

In your group, discuss the following question about the newspaper item.  
Record your answers on the large sheet of paper that you have been given.

**How can we, in society, be good stewards for this particular issue?**

### I am a steward of creation

In the space below, write several examples of how you can be a good steward of creation in your local area, around your home, school and community.

### Five Ways to be a Good Steward of Creation

In the space below, list your top five ways of how someone can be a good steward of creation.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

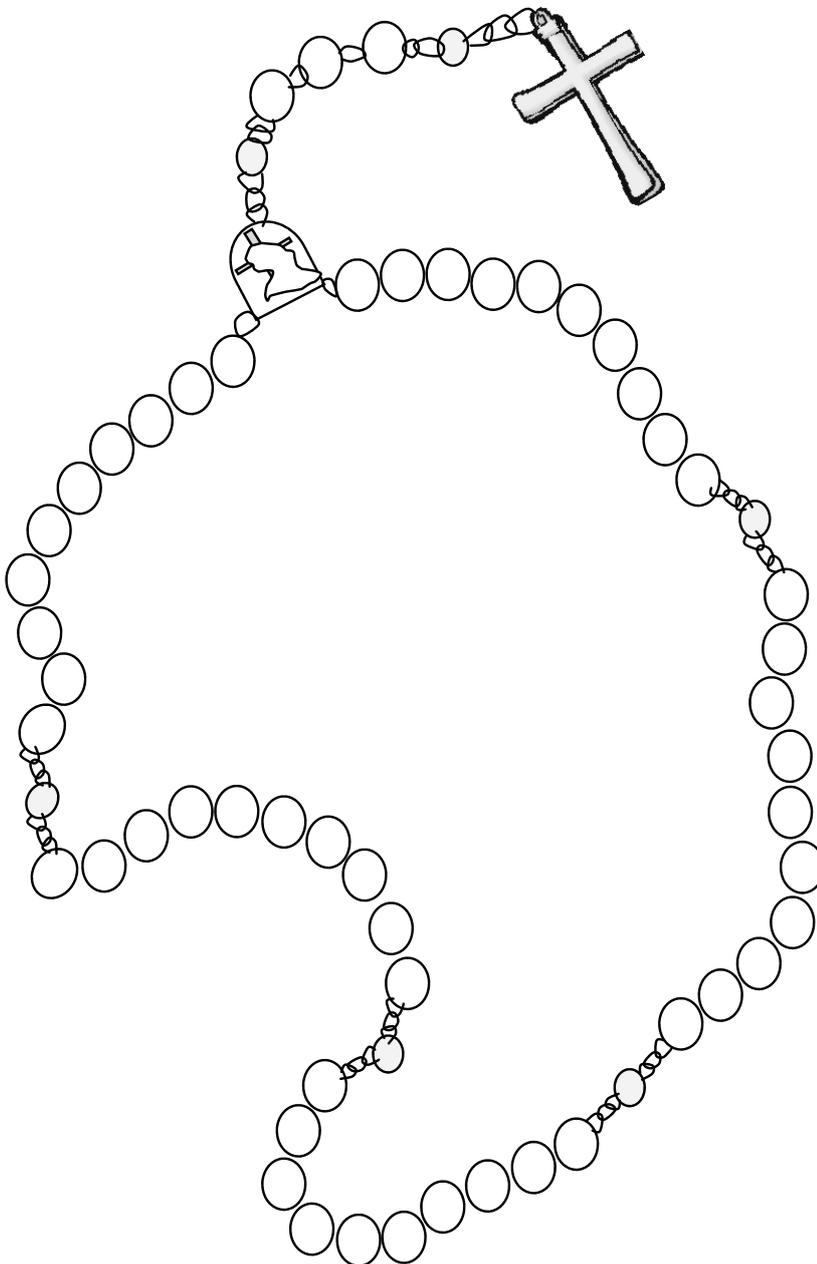
### SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

We care for the gift of creation

# I Can Pray the Rosary

## The Rosary

Connect the prayers on the right-hand side with the appropriate beads on the rosary. Connect them only once, even though the prayers are repeated.



The Our Father

The Hail Mary

The Glory Be

## The Mysteries of the Rosary

From your list of stories of Jesus' life, place each one under the most appropriate heading in the numbered spaces.

JOYFUL MYSTERIES	MYSTERIES OF LIGHT	SORROWFUL MYSTERIES	GLORIOUS MYSTERIES
1 The angel asks Mary to be Jesus' mother	1	1	1
<b>Annunciation</b>	<b>Baptism</b>	<b>Agony</b>	<b>Resurrection</b>
2	2	2	2
<b>Visitation</b>	<b>Wedding</b>	<b>Scourging</b>	<b>Ascension</b>
3	3	3	3
<b>Nativity</b>	<b>Kingdom of God</b>	<b>Crowning with thorns</b>	<b>Holy Spirit</b>
4	4	4	4
<b>The Presentation</b>	<b>Transfiguration</b>	<b>Carrying the Cross</b>	<b>Assumption</b>
5	5	5	5
<b>Finding Jesus</b>	<b>Last Supper</b>	<b>Crucifixion</b>	<b>Coronation</b>

LESSON 31

# The Jesse Tree

## People in God’s Story of Salvation

Complete the table with information that you know about the characters.

Character	Information about the character	Scripture
Adam & Eve		
Noah		
Abraham		
Jacob		
Moses		

## The people in God's story of salvation (continued)

Character	Information about the character	Scripture
David		
Jeremiah		
John the Baptist		
Mary		
Jesus		

### SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

The Jesse Tree helps me prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

# Christmas

## Analysing a Christmas card

Identify the items in the Christmas card.

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Christmas Blessings

Blank boxes for identification are located above and below the illustration, connected by lines to various elements in the scene.

In which gospel would you find the story depicted on this card?

## Matthew's Nativity Narrative

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.' <sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

**2**In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." '

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

(Matthew 1: 18 – 2: 12)

### Luke's Nativity Narrative

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

(Luke 2: 1–20)

### Nativity Narrative Activity for Both Texts

	According to Matthew	According to Luke
In what town was Jesus born?		
In what building is Jesus born?		
How is Jesus covered/dressed?		
Who visited Jesus?		

## A Christmas Carol

### The First Noel

The First Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds  
in fields as they lay;  
In fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.

And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then entered in those wise men three  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,  
And with his blood mankind hath bought.

**Noel:** means Christmas in the French language.

Which scriptural version of the nativity is this carol from?

Did the shepherds see a star?  
If not, what did they see and do?

In Matthew's account of Jesus' birth how many wise men visited Jesus?

When did the Magi start following the star?

What do you think is the message conveyed by this carol? Why might we sing this at Christmas?

**What should a Christmas carol include?**

### **A discussion**

**'Christmas carols that don't include something about Jesus are useless.'**

Do you agree or disagree? Place your argument for, or against, this statement in the space below. Discuss your arguments with others in your group. Remember to use the Scriptures to support your argument, where possible.

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### **SOMETHING TO REMEMBER**

**During the Christmas season the Church celebrates the birth of Jesus.**

**References**

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