

TEACHER'S NOTES

6 year olds	OUR HEAVENLY FATHER
Chapter 19	JESUS WAS RAISED TO NEW LIFE
Lesson 2	WE CELEBRATE THE MASS

AIMS

1. Children will be able to relate to the Apostles' joy in the Resurrection.
2. They will understand that Catholics celebrate the Resurrection at every Mass, but especially during the Easter Sunday Mass.

BEGIN

Ask the children the following questions:

QUESTION	ANSWER
Why do people celebrate Easter with a party and special foods?	To celebrate Christ's rising from the dead.
What day did Christ rise from the dead?	Easter Sunday
What day do Catholics celebrate Christ's rising from the dead?	Easter Sunday – but also every Sunday at Mass.

Tell the children that today they will learn how they can celebrate Christ's rising from the dead and why we should attend Mass joyfully.

STEP 1

Read the special paragraph in the children's packs with the children.

STEP 2

Ask the children to retell scenes from the story of the Resurrection in their own words from the following:

- Jesus speaking to Mary Magdalene
- Mary Magdalene telling Peter and John that she had seen the Lord
- Jesus meeting the Apostles on Easter Sunday morning.
- Jesus walking with the Apostles to Emmaus

Ask the children how each person might have felt in the scenes listed above.

STEP 3

Make the connection with the children that at each Sunday Mass, Catholics celebrate the risen Lord. Just as the sacrifice of the Cross is made present, so also is Christ's rising; Catholics can receive His life in Holy Communion. This is a wonderful gift.

Ask the children what they should do when they come to Mass – enter quietly, be joyful, be reverent, pray quietly, etc.

STEP 4

Explain the parts of the Mass to the children:

1. Mass of the Catechumens
 - a. Prayers at the foot of the altar
 - b. Priest at the altar
 - c. Instruction (Epistle, Gospel and Sermon)
2. Mass of the Faithful
 - a. Offertory
 - b. Consecration
 - c. Communion
 - d. Conclusion

The Mass is the re-presenting to God of the sacrifice made by His Son on Calvary and the celebration of His Sons resurrection.

Next time you are at Mass, see if you can work out which part you are at.

STEP 5

Emphasise that everyone can visit and have chat to the risen Lord in the tabernacle. Try to make a visit sometime in your own, without being told by your parents or the priest. Jesus is very happy when children come to see Him without being told.

REINFORCE

1. Assign the “draw-a-line” exercise in the children’s pack.
2. Learn catechism questions 40 and 41 in their packs.
3. Say a simple prayer thanking Jesus for His Resurrection and the gift of everlasting life, and for the Mass. Tell the children they should say a similar prayer whenever they are near the tabernacle.

CONCLUDE

1. Teach the children to sing an appropriate hymn such as “Christ the Lord is Risen Today,” Adoremus Hymnal, #415
2. Pray the First Glorious Mystery of the Rosary with the children.

PREVIEW

In the next lesson we will learn more about the Mass, we will hear a message from Jesus and we will respond to him.