

# TEACHER'S NOTES

|             |                                     |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6 year olds | <b>OUR HEAVENLY FATHER</b>          |
| Chapter 19  | <b>JESUS WAS RAISED TO NEW LIFE</b> |
| Lesson 1    | <b>JESUS IS RISEN</b>               |

## AIMS

1. Children will learn about the Resurrection of Christ.
2. They will know that Jesus rose on Easter.
3. They will begin to understand the risen Christ, truly risen with His body.

## BEGIN

Review the story of the Passion and Crucifixion of Jesus.. Tell them that if this was the end of the story, it would be a very sad story indeed. But this was not the end of the story because Jesus rose from the dead, He came back to life.

## STEP 1

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

## STEP 2

Read the story of the Resurrection with the children

## STEP 3

Discuss with the children what it means that Jesus rose from the dead three days after the Crucifixion:

1. He has life again
2. He took up His body
3. He saw His mother and His Apostles
4. He is God

## STEP 4

Emphasise to the children just how great an event this is. Jesus had truly died, He is now truly risen, how great is the Lord!

## STEP 5

Discuss with the children the special Easter customs that their families may celebrate:

Some people have special Easter bread - bread is a symbol of the Eucharist

Some hide Easter eggs. Eggs are a symbol of new life.

The Easter Bunny: the bunny is a symbol of new life springing up from out of the ground.

Some people buy new Easter clothes and some women buy Easter bonnets.

An Easter basket stuffed with good things to eat is another Easter custom in some parts of the

world.

Cascarones: in Mexico families stuff empty egg shells with confetti. The children decorate and colour the shells. On Easter morning, the families hide the eggs in the garden. When the children find them, they crack them open and rub the confetti in each others hair.

#### **STEP 6**

Explain that the Church celebrates the Resurrection with a special Mass at midnight called the Easter Vigil. Sometimes adults are baptised, confirmed and make their first Holy Communion at this Mass. It is a beautiful time to enter the Church: just as Christ took up His new life after the Resurrection, so adults find new spiritual life in Christ by entering the Church at Easter.

#### **REINFORCE**

1. Assign the colouring exercise in the children's pack.
2. Show a children's DVD on the Resurrection (Available from Ignatius Press).
3. Colour the First Glorious Mystery of the Holy Rosary in the exercise packs and add this to their Rosary Book.

#### **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 how we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ at every Mass.