

TEACHER'S NOTES

6 year olds	OUR HEAVENLY FATHER
Chapter 21	JESUS GOES BACK TO HEAVEN
Lesson 2	GO FORTH AND BAPTISE

AIMS

1. Children will learn that the Church exists to teach and bring God's grace to the world.
2. They will learn that Jesus commanded that everyone should be baptised in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
3. They will also learn that Catholics enter the Church and receive grace through Baptism.

BEGIN

Remind the children that the purpose of the Church is to continue Jesus' work. The Church teaches the Catholic faith and distributes Jesus' grace. Explain that people enter the Church through Baptism. At Baptism we receive God's life into our souls. It is by Baptism that Catholics become God's children and enter His family, His one true Church.

STEP 1

Read the Special Paragraph from the children's pack with the children.

STEP 2

Read from the Bible story in their packs about Christ's Great Commission (Mt 28:19-20). Be sure the children understand that Jesus ordered His Apostles to do His work, to teach, and to baptise all people.

STEP 3

Ask the children if they remember their Baptisms, or if they have ever seen a Baptism.

STEP 4

Ask the children in what name (not names) they were Baptised - "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Jesus taught the Apostles to do this. This is Baptism in the name of God who is Three Divine Persons but only one God.

STEP 5

Explain to the children that all sacraments, and baptism is the first sacrament that we receive, have three elements: matter (the thing used or the action performed), form (the words spoken), and the minister (usually a priest but anyone can baptise in an emergency). See the table in the children's pack.

STEP 6

Explain to the children that when the matter and form are performed by the minister and there is intent to baptize a person into the true faith of Jesus, then a person is baptised and becomes a member of the Church. This person also becomes a child of God (God claims him as His own), and receives grace (God's life) in his soul.

These new Catholics, especially when they are baptised as babies, must be taught the fullness of the

faith as Jesus taught the Apostles (this is why children must have religious lessons)

REINFORCE

1. Assign the children the colouring exercise in their packs.
2. Ask the children about their baptism,
 - a. where were they baptised,
 - b. who baptised them and
 - c. who were their godparents.

CONCLUDE

1. Pray the Our Father together
2. Teach the children to sing an appropriate hymn such as “Hail the day that sees Him rise,” Adoremus Hymnal, #430
3. Say a prayer for the Church

PREVIEW

In the next lesson we will learn about the Ascension of Jesus.