

SECOND GRADE LESSON PLAN

Lesson 19: Jesus and the Eucharist

Materials needed:

- ✓ DVD- The Last Supper (watch at the end of the lesson)
- ✓ Bible – marked at Matthew 26: 26-28
- ✓ THE CONSECRATION sheets (4 per child in tub)
- ✓ Glue sticks
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Crayons

Prayer: Act of Contrition/Our Father

Say:

We have a very special event coming up next week! It's called "ADORATION... has anyone ever heard of it? Would you believe me if I told you that Jesus will be in the church next week and you will be able to see Him? No? Well, let's talk about that!

- First of all, let me tell you that you are SO lucky to be Catholic! There are a lot of reasons for that but the biggest one is that when we receive Communion at Mass, we are truly receiving Jesus' Body.
- It's not just a symbol of His Body, it is His real Body and His real Blood.
- How do I know that? I know because Jesus Himself told me! Jesus tells me all about how it is His real Body and His real Blood in the scripture...the Bible. Would you like to hear it for yourselves?

- **Okay. The Last Supper is the last meal Jesus that would eat with His disciples, in fact, it was the last meal He would ever eat on earth.**
- **But Jesus did something at the Last Supper that would make His final meal unforgettable.**
- **Jesus changed the bread and wine at the table into His own Body and His own Blood. Do you believe Jesus could do that? Why?**
- **Of course, Jesus could do it, He is God. There are some people who have trouble believing that Jesus really did that but as Catholics, we believe everything that Jesus tells us in the Bible. We know its' true because we know that Jesus could never lie.**
- **Would you like to hear exactly what Jesus said?**
- **I have Jesus' exact words right here in my Bible. Jesus had just gathered all the disciples together for one last meal. Jesus knew He was about to die so He had something very important to tell His friends before He did. This is from the Gospel of Matthew, listen: (Read Matthew 26: 26-28)**
- **Why do you suppose Jesus turned the bread into His Body and the wine into His Blood? (Jesus knew that His time on the earth was about to end and he is telling His disciples that there is a way that He will always be with them.)**
- **Even though it was 2,000 years ago, Jesus knew that He would still be giving us His Body and Blood today. It is the way He will always be with us.**

- **But how does it become His Body and Blood if Jesus isn't here on earth to change the bread and wine?**
- **That's a great question!**
- **When the priest speaks the words of consecration over the bread and wine at Mass, Jesus acts through the priest and does the same thing He did at the Last Supper at every single Mass, every single day, all over the world.**
- **Jesus changes ordinary bread and wine into His Body and Blood at every Mass. When we receive the Body of Christ and drink His Blood, we are united to Him, closer than this: (cross your fingers and hold them up for the kids to see).**
- **There are two words that we need to understand before we do a little art project.**
- **The first is CONSECRATION: these are the words the priest speaks that change the bread and wine to Jesus' Body and Blood. He says the same words Jesus used at the Last Supper.**
- **We know that it is Jesus who is speaking these words to us:**

“Take this, all of you, and eat of it,
for this is my Body,
 which will be given up for you.

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.
 Do this in memory of me.

- **The second word we need to understand is HOST. Host is a word that is used for the round unleavened bread that the priest consecrates at Mass. (Show kids one of the hosts from your tub).**
- **The host can be consecrated which means that it has become the real Body of Christ at Mass.**
- **Or it can be unconsecrated which means that it is just plain bread that has not yet become the Body of Jesus. So which kind is this one I am showing you now?**
- **The same is true of the wine. There is wine in the sacristy in a big jug sitting on a shelf. Do you think it has been consecrated? Why? (Because if it was consecrated, it would be Jesus' real blood and would not be sitting in a jug in a cupboard.)**
- **Consecrated wine is always consumed at Mass because it is truly the Blood of Christ.**

(Give each student the 4 coloring pages on the Consecration. Go over them together and have the kids cut out the words "Lord" and "God" and glue them in the appropriate squares. Then do the same with the "Consecration Symbols" sheet.)

Say:

- **Now I would like to talk about something we are going to do next week. It's very important so I want you to listen closely to me.**

- **Our Catholic church knows how important it is to spend quiet time with Jesus. Do you ever get to do that? It can be hard to find quiet time, can't it?**
- **In our church, we have something called ADORATION. It is quiet time set apart for us to be very close to Jesus, in fact, we get to be right next to Him.**
- **When you walk into the church next week, you will see a large consecrated (do you remember what that means?) host up on the altar in a very beautiful holder called a MONSTRANCE.**
- **That host may look like bread but we know what it really is, don't we?**
- **Adoration is a time that we can have Jesus all to ourselves. We can see Him and know that He sees us.**
- **We are as close to Jesus as Mary and the disciples were because He is really with us.**
- **We can talk to Jesus and tell Him anything we want. We can tell Him all our troubles, we can thank Him for all the wonderful blessings we have; we can tell Him anything but maybe we especially want to take this time to tell Jesus how very much we love Him. Have you ever done that?**
- **This is our very special time alone with the Lord and that's something we don't get very often so we are really going to enjoy it!**
- **So it's important to know what we do when we walk into the church and Jesus is right there before us.**

- **Do you think we should be talking and laughing and being rowdy or do you think we should be quiet and reverent before the Lord?**
- **We come into the church quietly and we are sure to GENUFLECT before we enter our pew. We genuflect because Jesus is before us and we want to be sure that we show Him all respect and honor. (Demonstrate and have the kids practice genuflecting.)**
- **Then after we enter our pew, we kneel quietly before Jesus and tell Him all the things that are in our heart.**
- **Anyone who is not acting in a way that honors Jesus will be taken out of the church immediately.**
- **Adoration is a gift. We get very few quiet moments in our world today and even less quiet time to spend with the one who created us. I hope you will make good use of this wonderful gift we are given and that it will bring you closer than ever to Jesus.**
- **A very famous bishop named Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, “The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white host.” This means that Jesus gave His life for us and also gave us a way He would be with us always.**

Watch the DVD “The Last Supper”

Closing Prayer: Hail Mary/Glory Be