

## Wednesday, October 3rd 2018- FAMILY NIGHT

### 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Lesson Plan: The Church as Community (Q13)

6:50-7:25 pm

- I. Walk with your small group from the Worship Space to your small group room. Take attendance.
- II. Opening Prayer- we will have already prayed as a large group, but if anyone would like to share and write down a prayer intention for the basket give them a chance to do that. Or if something comes up during check-in that you think might be a good prayer intention, encourage the child to write it down to put in the basket.
- III. Check-in- go around and have everyone share their highs and lows/rose and thorns/hill and valley or however you've decided to do it
- IV. Journey of Faith packets
  - The first page of the packets always has a little story introduction meant for children who are being initiated into the Catholic Faith. If your group really wants to read them you can, but you can skip the first page dialogue most weeks if you'd like.
  - Do the "pop quiz" together and make sure they understand the point it's making about the Church being made up of the people of God.
  - Read through or summarize the text on the inside pages. Be sure to stop for a short discussion each time you get to the question mark.
  - Word Wall- the words printed in bold red are our Catholic Faith Words. When you get to one, stop and write it or have a child write the word and definition on a card for your Word Wall. You'll find your first Catholic Faith Word this week. Every month or so once you've accumulated a certain number of new Catholic Faith Words you can do a review game. Ideas for review games can be found on the website under lesson plans.
  - As a group, work together on the back page. Have the children brainstorm different ways they can be the hands, mouth, heart, feet, and eyes of Jesus. If you'd like to make this activity a little more exciting (especially for younger children) you can have them draw the shape of a person on a blank sheet of paper and write their answer on

or near the various body parts. Or do this together as a large group using the white board.

- V. Activities- the following are ideas for activities to expand on and reinforce what you learned about in the Journey of Faith packets. You may not have much (if any) time for additional activities today with the limited time in our small groups, but it might be smart to have at least one ready just in case you finish everything else early. I've provided a few different activities that will work for different ages and learning styles. You can plan to use whatever you think will be most engaging to your small group. If you need to request any materials for the activities, email me or fill out a Materials Request Form.

A. Many Parts, One Potato Object Lesson- 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade- Visual

Materials needed: Mr. Potato Head. I don't know that I have any of these, you might have to bring your own or just show a picture on the screen.

Follow [this link](#) to see the lesson plan for this activity. Or just show [this video](#) that has the same idea. Be sure you explain this metaphor so that they understand that we're talking about the church of Christ when we are talking about the body, and each of us make up a part of the Church and we each have our own unique gifts that we bring.

B. We are the Body of Christ video- 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Grade- Visual

Watch [this video](#) which explains 1 Corinthians 12 with animations. Have a discussion on how the Church is like a body and what role each person in the group has in the body of Christ.

C. Discussion on roles in a Church Community- 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grades- Verbal

Ask your group to brainstorm different gifts and roles that are useful within our church community. Write down all your ideas on the board. Possible answers could be roles like musician, lector, altar server, priest, person who visits the sick, person who volunteers through social justice ministries (Loaves and Fishes/Sister Parish, etc.), Corn Fest volunteers or they could be gifts like good listener, hard worker, creative thinker, etc. Then have your group discuss the following questions:

- Choose one of the gifts or roles on your list. What would St. Gerard's be like if everyone in the parish had that gift? Would everything that needs to get done get done?

- What gifts do you have? What roles could you maybe play in our Church Community based on what your gifts are?

D. Many and One (song)- 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>- Auditory/Musical

If your group likes music you could have them listen to [this song](#) by Steve Angrisano and/or sing along with it. The lyrics are in the video. This is a good review of the topic and a good way to end the small group session.

VI. When you hear the bell, walk *together as a group* back to the Worship Space and have them find their families once they've arrived.