



Teaching This Week's Lesson

Share Experiences

Objectives • The young people will:

- Use Bible verses, symbols to map their personal sacramental journeys.
- Assess how every family member contributes to its well-being.

 Have the young people gather in your prayer space. Play and sing "Blest Are They" (CD-2, #11). Lyrics are available to download and print at gospelweeklies.com/lyrics.

Gathering Prayer Remain in your prayer space. Have one of the young people read Psalm 96:1–3, 7–10 from the Bible, pausing after each verse. After each verse, the class **responds**: "Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations." Point out that they will pray this psalm as a parish community at Sunday Mass.

Cover Activity • Sacramental Journey (page 1)

Have the young people examine the cover. They will need their Bibles for this activity. Read the directions together. Distribute scissors and glue or tape. Be prepared to clarify the symbols: *Water: Baptism; chairs: Reconciliation; bread and wine: Eucharist; dove: Confirmation; stole: Holy Orders; rings: Marriage; oil: Anointing of the Sick.*

Have the young people work in pairs to look up the Scripture citations, select the corresponding sacrament, and cut and paste the symbols onto the life map. Then ask them to work independently to fill in important life events, past, present, and future. Bring them together in small groups to share what they wrote or drew and where they placed their sacramental symbols.

Story • A Wedding in the Family (pages 2–3)

Read aloud the title. Ask the young people if any of them have attended a family wedding or been a member of a wedding party. What age were they? What's fun about being in a wedding? Take turns reading the story aloud.

 **Discuss the Talk questions on page 3. Answers:**
 1. *May be nervous, excited, embarrassed; accept all answers.* 2. *James and Henry are brothers; it's a chance to be closer, despite their age difference; Henry wants him to be part of his important day; James' parents want the family to celebrate together; open-ended.* 3. *His dad tells him it's a good way to support Henry and Sarah; open-ended.* 4. *Support for the new couple; celebrate an important, happy occasion; open-ended.*

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

Objectives • The young people will:

- Investigate Jesus' miraculous signs in John's Gospel.
- Appreciate the importance of the Christian community.
- Review the Sacraments at the Service of Communion—Holy Orders and Matrimony.

Gospel Ritual Gather the young people in the area you have reserved for proclaiming the Gospel. Play and sing the Gospel Acclamation, "Word of Truth and Life" (CD-1, #1).

Sunday Gospel • Jesus Blesses a Wedding Feast at Cana (page 4) Ask for volunteers to take the four parts and proclaim the Gospel.

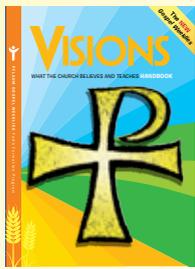
 **Discuss the Talk questions related to the Gospel. Answers:**
 1. *The embarrassment of running out of refreshments for guests at a wedding.* 2. *He changed water into wine, a sign that he is the new wine, the Messiah people have been waiting for. Jesus' actions show his concern for people's feelings, his regard for the value of celebration, his generosity.* 3. *Jesus himself is the best wine, who comes among us to reveal God's love and begins the Messiah's banquet for all people.*

Catholic Faith Word • Community (page 5) Ask for a volunteer to read aloud the definition to the class. Ask the young people to name the communities to which they belong.

 **Connecting Gospel and Doctrine • Jesus Gathers Us in Joy (page 4)** Read this feature as a summary of Sunday's Gospel concept. Jesus is the New Law, but he is not legalistic. His law is one of love.

 **Discuss the two Talk questions on page 4. Answers:**
 1. *Open-ended; ushers greet people at the door of the Church; priests talk with parishioners and visits after Mass; there may be doughnuts and coffee after Masses. The Sacraments of Christian Initiation—Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation—welcome new Catholics into the faith community.* 2. *Open-ended; you invite them to do things together, include them in your social network (e.g., group chats, texting).*

 **Distribute the What the Church Believes and Teaches handbooks.**



What the Church Believes and Teaches

Sacraments at the Service of Communion (page 25)
What Happens in the Sacrament of Holy Orders? (page 25)

Have the class look at the cover of their *Visions* lesson and explain how the Sacramental Journey and their life journeys broadly coincide. Recall each sacrament has a link to the Gospels.

Summarize the introductory paragraph on Sacraments at the Service of Communion on page 25. The primary significance of the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony is that the people who receive them will help others gain their salvation. Ask the young people how they think deacons, priests, bishops, and married people help others reach salvation.

Turn to page 25 and take turns reading aloud the section on the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Make sure that the young people understand the significance of each role—deacon, priest, and bishop.

Emphasize that this sacrament leaves an indelible mark on the man who receives it. This means that his soul is forever changed. Ask the young people to name the requirements for those who wish to receive the sacrament.

Turn to page 26 and take turns reading the section on Matrimony. Ask the young people the purposes of Matrimony. To perfect their love for each other, to strengthen their unity, to make them holy, and to prepare them for eternal life.

Have the young people take the two quizzes: We Celebrate (page 27) and Saints and Feasts (page 28). You may choose to have the young people work on the quizzes without help, so that you may assess what you need to work on as a class, or assign an “open-book” quiz, so that they may use their handbooks as a reference.

 **Have the young people close their *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbooks and return to *Visions*, page 5.**

Our Catholics Faith • Jesus Is the Best Wine (page 5) Distribute Bibles. Have the class read this feature about the signs Jesus performs in John’s Gospel. Arrange the young people into seven small groups and assign one story to each group. Complete the sentences in the right column as a group. You may wish to look up the exact words in a missal before class.

Live the Gospel

Objectives • The young people will:

- Investigate the words and actions of the Seven Sacraments.
- Associate the sacraments with other moments in their lives.

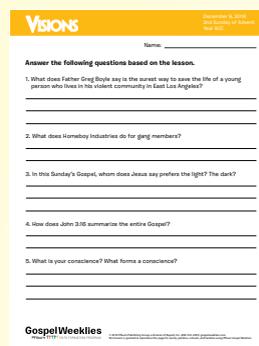
Activity • Sacraments Make Our Faith Visible (pages 6–7) Choose volunteers to read the directions on page 6. Have the young people divide into groups of two or three. Each group chooses a type of sacrament: initiation, healing, or service. Give them several minutes to respond and discuss the question. Move about the classroom and help prompt conversation where needed. Once each small group has completed the activity, invite them to report to the class.

After the presentations, ask the young people to respond individually to the question on page 7. Then discuss their responses. Young people at this age can understand the sacraments on a deeper level. **Ask:** How do the sacraments prepare us to live more fully as Catholics? How can we move from the one-day celebration to making the sacraments something we live every day?

Closing Prayer and Activity Read aloud the Second Reading for this Sunday, 1 Corinthians 12:4–11. Then give the young people a few minutes to list their talents. Then pray the prayer service together.

This service emphasizes that we all have valuable contributions to make to the People of God. Turn to the feature on World Youth Day 2019. Ask the young people to remember the pilgrims traveling to this worldwide event in their prayers. Point out the WYD logo. The five stars or dots stand for the five continents from which young pilgrims will travel to World Youth Day.

Lesson Wrap-Up



Visit gospelweeklies.com/assessments to download this week’s lesson review.

Use Activity #26 from the *Visions Activity Book* as a take-home activity or lesson wrap-up.