

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION : SACRAMENT – EUCHARIST – MEMORIAL SACRIFICE – YEAR 5

*Note to teachers/parents and carers.

This work comes from the Come and See Religious Education programme which is taught in all Catholic primary schools in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. We have given a general guide to the learning opportunities that children may have come across under normal timetabling in school. We have suggested and selected a small amount of the programme. The activities aim to keep Religious Education practical and fun. They are in Year groups however, there is no harm in completing other year group work as this will help children to remember and strengthen their learning.

The first part of learning is called – **EXPLORE**. This shares your child's everyday experiences and helps them to see how the Catholic faith is lived in their everyday lives. The second part, called – **REVEAL** shares bible stories and Church tradition that links to their everyday life.

This theme is a **SACRAMENTAL** theme, and the children will be studying the sacrament of Holy Eucharist – Holy Communion. For Christians, communion has a significant meaning. To receive communion means being in union with Jesus Christ and with one another. It means breaking and sharing the consecrated Bread which Catholics believe is the Body of Christ. To celebrate Eucharist means community. It challenges believers to ask, 'Can I share this Eucharist if I do nothing to help my brother or sister who is hungry?' 'Can I partake of this communion if I refuse to forgive a wrong?'

Different names include:

Eucharist, (Thanksgiving) because it is an action of thanksgiving to God.

The Lord's Supper, because of its connection with the supper which the Lord took with his disciples on the eve of his Passion.

The Breaking of Bread, because Jesus used this Rite, part of a Jewish meal, when as master of the table he blessed and distributed the bread, above all at the Last Supper. It is by this action that his disciples recognised him after his Resurrection.

The **memorial** of the Lord's Passion and Resurrection.

The **Holy Sacrifice**, because it makes present the one sacrifice of Christ the Saviour and includes the Church's offering.

Holy Communion, because by this sacrament we unite ourselves to Christ who makes us sharers in his Body and Blood to form a single body.

Holy Mass, (Missa) because the liturgy concludes with the sending forth (missio) of the faithful, so that they may fulfil God's will in their daily lives. (cf 1328-1332)

In Year 5, the children will be studying the topic of MEMORIAL SACRIFICE and how the Eucharist is a memorial of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross, through which Christ gives us his body and blood to save us and give us hope for the future.

There are extra notes on the Sacrament of Eucharist for your reference.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – YEAR 5 – SACRAMENT – MEMORIAL SACRIFICE

EXPLORE – How memories are kept alive.

At the end of EXPLORE:

Children may be able to **understand** what makes a particular memory significant and why words, symbols or actions might help them to remember it.

Children may be able to **make links** to show how feelings and beliefs about memories affect their own and other people's behaviour.

Ask the question: *What is a memory?* and talk about the responses. Share some of your special memories and what things brings them to mind - it might be an object, a sound, a song, a smell, a photo etc. Discuss why these things trigger memories and how important they are.

Share some photos of events that have happened in the life of your child. What are their memories of these times and how do you all keep those memories alive?

To look at how we can keep memories alive, you might like to read the book, '*William Gordon McDonald Partridge*' or watch a clip of it on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usnOEnTXabw>



- Q Why was Miss Nancy, Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge's favourite person?
- Q What kind of memories did the people in the home have? What helped them to remember?
- Q What did the memory basket do for Miss Nancy?
- Q Why do you think it was important?



Activities to choose:

- At the moment, we are living with the effects of the COVID19 pandemic and we have been doing things a bit differently from our normal way! How will you remember these times? Make a list of good things and bad things to remember in the future. You could make a 'time capsule', a collage or a video about COVID days to help you to remember what you did and how you felt at this time.
- Perhaps you might like to recall a special memory you have and to write a letter or an email to a friend telling them all about it and about what helps you to remember how you felt and what you did at that special event. You could ask your friend to write back to you telling you all about their special memory, too!

REVEAL – The Eucharist keeps the memory of Jesus’ sacrifice alive and present in a special way.

At the end of REVEAL:

Children may be able to **make links** between and **describe** the Passover in the book of Exodus, the Last Supper and the Eucharist. They may also be able to show they **understand** scripture and **give reasons** for actions, symbols, beliefs, ideas, feelings and experiences about the Jewish Passover, the Last Supper and the celebration of Eucharist today.

Children may be able to **give reasons** for why believers follow the example of Jesus in his life of sacrifice and may begin to **show they understand** how belief in the sacrifice of Jesus shapes the lives of Christians.

The Story of the Passover:

Passover is a celebration of the story of Exodus. During Passover, Jews remember how their ancestors left slavery behind them when they were led out of Egypt by Moses. Passover is celebrated with a series of rituals. Each ritual symbolises a different part of the story.

Watch the story together:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znwhfg8/articles/zn22382> and

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zx7tfg8>

The Israelites had been enslaved in Egypt for many years their treatment at the hands of slave drivers got worse and worse, their boy babies were killed by Pharaoh and they were beaten. God saw their plight and had pity on them. He called Moses to be their leader and told him to ask Pharaoh to let the Israelites go. Pharaoh refused for a long time, then God sent some plagues on the Egyptians, the final one was the death of first-born children. God told the Israelites to smear the blood of a lamb they had sacrificed on the door posts of their houses. That way death would ‘pass over’ them. Finally, Pharaoh let the people go.

Ever since that time Jewish people have remembered the Passover when God saved them and lead them to freedom. In the Book of Exodus this is what Moses said to the people,

“Remember this day – the day on which you left Egypt, the place where you were slaves. This is the day the Lord brought you out by his great power. No leavened bread is to be eaten.”

Exodus 13: 3

For the Jewish people, remembering the events at Passover every year is very important. It makes those events present to them. In a certain way they become real to them and have the effect of changing their lives. (You might have studied this already in your work on Judaism.)



Some questions to think about and answer.....

- Q Why did the Israelites want to leave Egypt?
- Q What do you think is meant by 'the sacrifice of the lamb'?
- Q Why is the Jewish celebration of this event called Passover?
- Q What is special about the way Jewish people remember Passover?
- Q How do you think the events at Passover affects their lives?



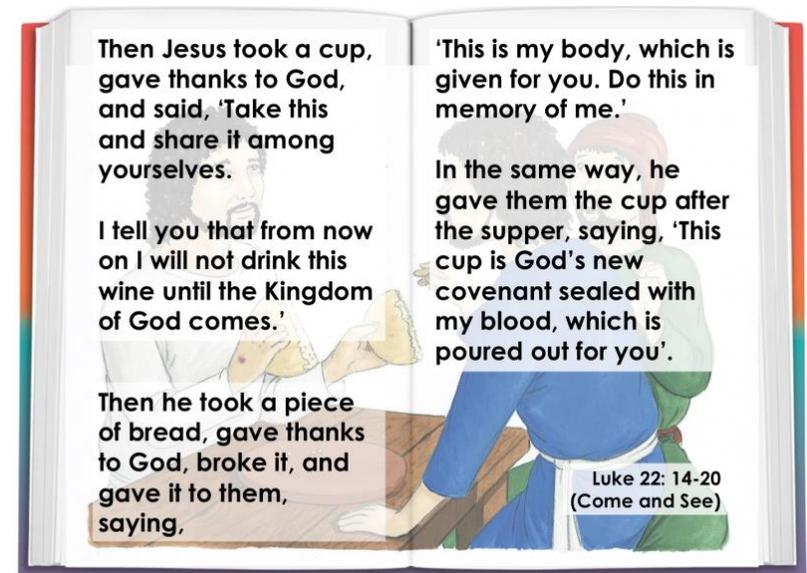
Activities to choose:

- Write an article for a newspaper about the events of the Passover. Explain what Passover is, what it represents and how Jewish people celebrate it today giving reasons and making links to the words, symbols and actions.
- Make links to and give reasons for some of the symbols used at the Passover meal e.g. salt water, lamb, bitter herbs, charoset, unleavened bread and what happened to Moses and the Israelites at the Exodus.

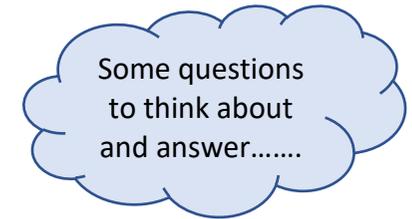
Mark's Gospel tells us how the disciples prepared the Passover for Jesus. If possible, Jewish people like to celebrate this occasion in Jerusalem. Jesus had entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey and being greeted by the people shouting 'Hosanna'. Now it was time for Jesus and his disciples to prepare for the feast of Passover. The disciples would have gathered the food, the lamb, bitter herbs, salt water, unleavened bread and wine.

Opposite is the account of the Last Supper from Luke's Gospel; 22: 14-20

During the Last Supper the events of the Exodus would have been present in the memories of Jesus and his friends; they would have recalled how God led his people to freedom. Jesus would have celebrated Passover every year of his life, but this time it was different. He introduced something quite new as he blessed, broke and passed the unleavened bread to everyone, telling them it was his body and then the cup of wine saying it was his blood and that it would be shed, be sacrificed, for everyone. He asked that they repeat his actions in memory of him.



- Q What was so different about the preparation for and the celebration of Passover this time?
- Q What do you think was the significance of Jesus breaking the bread?
- Q What do you think Jesus meant when he said his blood would be poured out for them?
- Q Why do you think Jesus wanted to leave this kind of memory with his disciples?



The Last Supper was the first Eucharist. Every time the Eucharist is celebrated, Christians are keeping the memory of Jesus alive. The Eucharist is a memorial of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross and makes that present and real, in a similar way to how for the Jewish people the events of their freedom from Egypt are made present to them each time they celebrate the Passover.

During the part of the Mass called the liturgy of the Eucharist, in the Eucharistic prayer, the priest holds the host and says the words:

"Take this, all of you, and eat of it: for this is my body which will be given up for you."

and when he holds the chalice he says:

"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."



At that moment the memory of Jesus' actions at the Last Supper are called to mind and made present and real for Christians. These are called the words of consecration. (Consecration means made holy.)

Catholics believe that at this point in the Mass, through the power of the Holy Spirit the bread becomes truly the body of Christ and the wine the blood of Christ. The server will ring a bell as the priest holds up (elevates) the host and then the chalice. People will look up and make an act of faith and pray in their hearts something like 'My Lord and my God', affirming that they truly believe in the words of Jesus, when he said at the Last Supper 'this is my body, this is my blood.' This is the real presence of Christ.



- Q What is the Eucharist a memorial or memory of?
- Q Where do the words the priest says come from?
- Q What happens to the bread and wine?
- Q What do you think is meant by the real presence of Jesus?
- Q Why do you think this part of the Mass is important to Catholics?

The words of the consecration repeat the words that Jesus used at the Last Supper when he said his body was to be given up for us and his blood shed for us. The Eucharist is a memorial of the sacrifice of Jesus when he was crucified on the Cross and the memory of it becomes present to all believers in a special way.



There are several Eucharistic prayers that may be used at Mass on Sunday. In Eucharistic prayer II after everyone has joined in with proclaiming the Mystery of Faith, the priest continues the prayer, offering to God the Father the consecrated bread and wine which is Jesus Christ's own offering. It is a prayer which remembers Jesus. This is part of what the priest says,

"Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you. Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit."

- Q What is being remembered in this prayer?
- Q Why is thanks being offered?
- Q Why do you think that the host/bread is called the *bread of life*?
- Q What do you think it means to *be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit*?

Some questions to think about and answer.....



COME DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME

Based on:
Matt 26:26-29
Mark 14:22-25
Luke 22:14-20

Verse 1

This is my body that's broken for you
Come do this in memory of me
This is my blood that's been given for you
Come do this in memory of me

Chorus

To my table you will come
And share this meal that makes us one
This gift of love I leave always with you
In the blessing of this bread
In the blessing of this wine
Remember me, my life poured out for you

Verse 2

Listen to my Word and then you will hear
Come do this in memory of me
Gather as one and remember I'm near
Come do this in memory of me

Verse 3

Carry the Good News to all of the earth
Come do this in memory of me
Shine as my light so that others may see
Come do this in memory of me

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SHARE THIS MEAL WITH ME

Chorus

Take this bread and drink this wine
Share this meal with me I will nourish you
Take this bread and drink this wine
I give strength to you as we journey on

- 1. Just as You showed us long ago**
We remember You
Knowing that You are always close
As we gather at your feast
- 2. We come together to hear Your Word**
We remember You
To follow in the ways You lived
As we gather at Your feast
- 3. With this bread and the wine we share**
We remember You
So many parts they become one now
As we gather at Your feast
- 4. By your love that You showed for us**
We remember You
Bread of life and a cup for all
As we gather at Your feast

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Activities to choose:

- Over 2000 years after Jesus' Death and Resurrection, his words and the memory of his sacrifice are being kept alive through the celebration of the Eucharist. Explain what this means for Christians and give reasons why their lives may be shaped by this.
- Imagine you are writing a guide for people who want to become Catholics and are going to Mass for the first time. Describe what happens at the Eucharistic prayer and give reasons for the words, actions and symbols used.
- Look at the words of the two hymns opposite. They are written by John Burland and are intended to be sung at Communion. Can you compose a similar hymn that links the events of the Last Supper to the Eucharist? Decorate it with suitable symbols.

People make sacrifices in their ordinary lives. Think of all the sacrifices that people are making during this pandemic.

Life is full of give and take and we know it is important to get the balance right. Sometimes we realise that we can't take people for granted and we make sacrifices or give up things for others. On Mother's or Father's Day, we remember the sacrifices that our parents make for us. It is a kind of memorial sacrifice. You may do something for them or perhaps give up some pocket money for a present. It is living today, in a simple way, what Jesus did. Sometimes you may give up something so your friend can have a turn. Sacrifice always involves love.

Some questions
to think about
and answer.....

- Q What kind of sacrifices are we called to make in everyday life?
- Q What sacrifices have people made during the pandemic?
- Q In what way can sacrifices be memorial ones?
- Q What rewards do you think these sacrifices have?
- Q What does sacrifice always involve?



Activities to choose:

- Explore: 'How and why Christians today live out what Jesus asked of his disciples at the Last Supper?' Record this in any format you choose.
- Make a collage like the one in the picture opposite of people who we want to remember because they have made sacrifices for others during the COVID pandemic. Give reasons for your choices.
- Make a memory box or photo album of things that you will remember of your time during the last year. How did you do things differently? How did you celebrate birthdays etc.? Make some notes about each so you will remember them in the future.



At the end of all your work on **MEMORIAL SACRIFICE**, think about why some things evoke memories.

Why are memories important to us? Is there a way of keeping alive a special memory? How does the Eucharist keep the memory of Jesus' sacrifice alive and present in a special way?

Perhaps you could compose your own prayer of remembering and thanking Jesus and pray it together.