



# Theological Education

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**REFERENCE** *The Christian Story* (Page 53- 88)

## INTRODUCTION

Theology: what's that? Do children also do it? Theology is a fundamental activity, which we engage in from our earliest years. It simply means seeking to understand the things we believe about God, about ourselves, and about creation, so that we can discover what they have to do with our lives. It means forming an overall picture of life that makes sense in the light of our faith and of our own experience.

How do we teach theology? That will depend on our aim. In Theological Education we want to help learners achieve theological literacy, or, in other words, gain some command over the concepts the community uses to describe its faith. What do we mean when we speak of Trinity, saying that God is one, yet three? When we affirm that each human person is affected by original sin, how do we understand this? When we call God Creator of heaven and earth, how does this affect the way we treat others and the Earth on which we live? Or again, how do we understand the words of Jesus recalled in the Eucharist: "This is my body; this is my blood"? How do we answer the spaceman who, having gone to 'heaven', announces on his return that he now knows there is no God?

While there is one faith, there are many ways of understanding it and many different depths at which it is revealed. Mysteries of faith are like diamonds which reveal new beauty the more we work with them. In different times and places, theologians - ourselves among them - receive new light on the ancient mysteries of our faith. We might say that theology is the activity of polishing these mysteries in order to keep them sparkling, and able to reflect the light of truth.

## AIMS

- to help the students achieve theological literacy, whereby they learn to own their inheritance of the Church's developing vision and vocabulary
- to help them play their part in developing that vision and vocabulary further by learning to do theology creatively and from a sound base.
- to help them experience the flow of Revelation as it has come to God's People over the ages, where each development has prepared the way for the next.
- to help them form an overall picture that shows the connections between Jesus Christ and everything involved in following him.

## LESSON IDEAS

The ideas for lessons presented in the following pages are based on a reading of *The Christian Story* (Cluster Publications, Pietermaritzburg, 2007), a text designed with high school students in mind.<sup>1</sup> The Grade 9 lessons deal with Part II, 'I am with you always.' Starting out from the experience of the risen Christ, the text goes on to explore the Church as the Body of Christ and the symbol of God's reign, animated by the Holy Spirit. It looks at the liturgy, the source and

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<sup>1</sup> This text is available from the Catholic Institute of Education as well as from the publisher.

summit of the Church's life, and those specific actions, the sacraments, that point to the continuing work of God in the world.

There are ten lessons in Grade 9:

1. The Risen Christ
2. The Reign of God
3. The Body of Christ
4. Temples of the Spirit
5. The Pilgrim Church
6. Liturgy
7. Prayer
8. The Sacraments
9. Eucharist
10. Reconciliation and Healing

### **QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

At the end of some of the lessons, various topical questions are posed for discussion. They are not part of the suggested lesson but they might spark ideas for further activities. You may need to adapt the questions to suit the context, the experience, the thinking capacity and interests of your learners.

## The Risen Christ



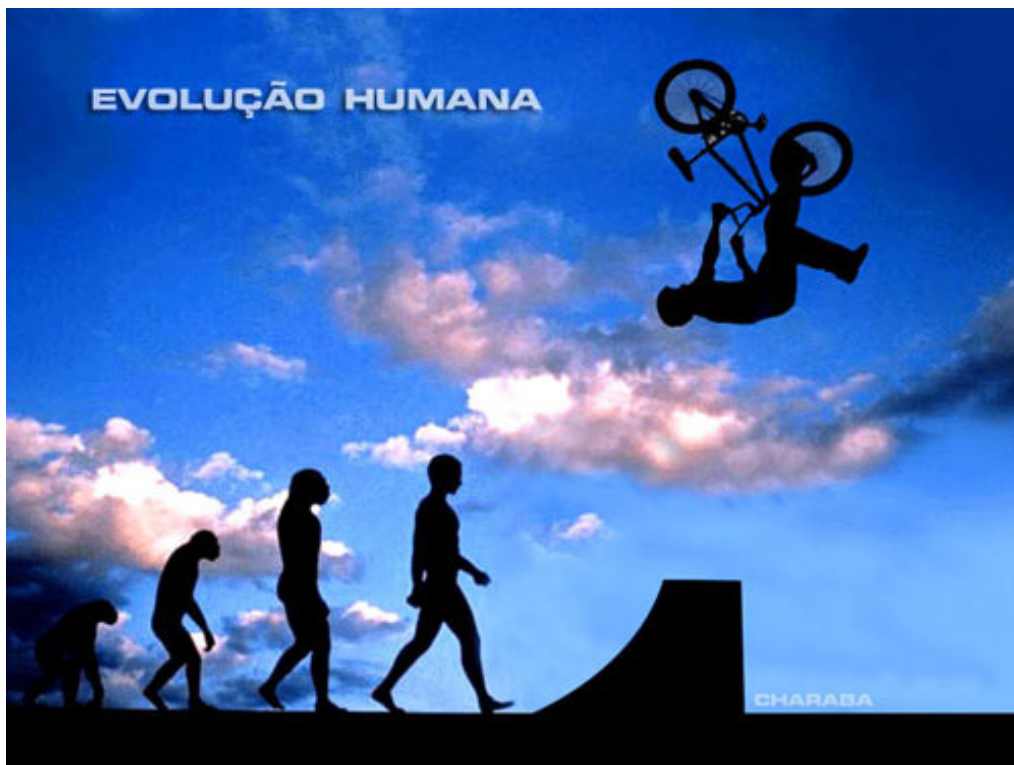
<b>REFERENCE</b>	<i>The Christian Story</i> (Chapter 11)
<b>FOCUS</b>	The Christ of Faith (Ascension)
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	Ascension, Pentecost, Assumption, Immaculate Conception, Second Coming

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### LESSON SUGGESTIONS [⇒ 📖 ⇒ ⇒]

#### ⇒ Discussion

Present the picture below – or one that suggests the same message. It represents human evolution (evolução humana). Focus on the last figure on the right. What is happening? In some sense, what the person is doing expresses our desire to be able to transcend our limitations.



#### 📖 Text

Read the chapter.

**⇒ Response**

Learners search the following post-resurrection accounts from scripture to draw up a profile of the risen Jesus. In what ways is he like the Jesus who, before his death, walked and talked and ate with his disciples and others? In what ways is he different?

Matthew 28:9-10 28:16-20

Mark 16:9-20

Luke 24:13-35 24:36-43 24:50-53

John 20:11-18 20:19-29 21:1-14

**⇒ Discussion**

Perhaps after a second reading of the text, discuss: What is the meaning of Jesus' resurrection for the future of the individual person and for human society as a whole?

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## The Reign of God



**REFERENCE**            *The Christian Story* (Chapter 12)

**FOCUS**                The Kingdom of God

**GLOSSARY**            Disciples, Sacrament

### LESSON SUGGESTIONS [📖 ⇌ 📖 ⇌]

#### 📖 Text

Read “The Reign of God means all-things-as-God-desires-them.”

#### ⇌ Discussion

Does the idea of “all-things-as-God-desires-them” make God selfish in nature?

#### ⇌ Discussion

What difference does Jesus make to human history? Ask learners to identify the difference both looking back over the past 2000 years and forward to the future.

#### 📖 Text

Read “With Jesus, the Reign of God was made clearly manifest.”

#### ⇌ Research

Ask learners to read the following scripture text – Matthew 13:24-50 – which might be called Parables of the Kingdom. What do these stories tell us about the character of the Reign of God?

### QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- Where have you seen the Kingdom in action most recently?
- What kind of human government presently, do you think, is closest to the Kingdom of God? Why?
- Jesus said, “The time has come and the Kingdom of God is close at hand” (Mark 1:14-15). What do you think he meant by this?

## The Body of Christ



<b>REFERENCE</b>	<i>The Christian Story</i> (Chapter 13)
<b>FOCUS</b>	The Nature of the Church (Communion of saints, Four last things, Four marks of the Church, Models of Church)
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	Purgatory, Tradition, Communion of Saints, Indulgences, Judgement, Eschatology, Creed, Heaven, Hell, Catholic, Apostolic
<b>GRADE 9 LINKS</b>	Models

### NOTE

This chapter of the book contains a wealth of new concepts relating to the Church and to the traditional 'last things'. It would not be wise to try to cover it in a single session. Here, we divide it into two parts.

### LESSON SUGGESTIONS

#### PART ONE [⇒📖⇒]

##### ⇒ Organisation

The chapter has four sections. Divide the class into four groups, giving each group a number. Each will study a section.

##### 📖 Text

Groups read their allocated section:

1. **As Christ's Body, the Church continues his role in the world**
2. The Church is a communion of saints
3. The final stage of God's Plan has already begun in Christ
4. The Church is a Sacrament of God's Reign

##### ⇒ Discussion

Groups discuss their section, referring to the glossary where suggested. After sufficient time, the groups formulate three questions that had emerged in the discussion as a response to the text. Help the groups in this formulation where necessary. They write these questions clearly on a piece of paper with their section heading.

#### PART TWO [⇒📖⇒]

##### ⇒ Organisation

The same groups are now renumbered so that each group has a different number to the one they had in Part 1. For example, 1 becomes 2, 2 becomes 3, 3 becomes 4, and 4 becomes 1. Each group will study a new section of the text corresponding to their new number.

 **Text**

Again, groups read their allocated section:

1. **As Christ's Body, the Church continues his role in the world**
2. The Church is a communion of saints
3. The final stage of God's Plan has already begun in Christ
4. The Church is a Sacrament of God's Reign

⇒ **Discussion**

Now, the questions from Part I, corresponding to the sections, are handed out. The groups now discuss the questions that have come from another group and formulate a response., either in writing, or orally, if time allows.

⇒ **Extension**

Allocate some of the ten questions below to different learners as a written home exercise.

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**QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

- How would you answer someone who says, "I don't need a Church. My faith is in the person of Jesus?"
- What practical effect should the image Body of Christ have on the life of Christians and on the activity of the Church?
- A young man or woman has just been killed in a motor accident. What would you say to the parents? Would your words or gestures be any different if the young person had died after a long illness?
- What do you say to a child who asks, "What is heaven like?"
- Do you believe in hell? What do you make of it?
- On what basis do you think God will judge you after your death? Does God judge you now?
- What questions do you have about the future? About death? Life after death?
- What emphasis does your church give to questions of hope and eschatology? In what ways are these teachings helpful or not helpful to you?
- How does African culture interpret death? The ancestors? Life after death? How do these insights influence your personal beliefs?
- What do you hope for?

## Temples of the Spirit



<b>REFERENCE</b>	<i>The Christian Story</i> (Chapter 14)
<b>FOCUS</b>	The Holy Spirit (Grace, Theological Virtues, The Body of Christ, People of God)
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	Grace, Body of Christ, Faith, Hope, Charity, People of God
<b>GRADE 9 LINKS</b>	Worship

### LESSON SUGGESTIONS [⇒⇒📖⇒]

#### ⇒ Reflection

Open the lesson with an exercise in slow, deep, rhythmic breathing. Help the learners connect with the idea of breath as life, and the experience of calm that conscious breathing produces.

Next, link the idea of breath with spirit, through words such as ‘inspiration’ and ‘expiration’, or through scripture passages, such as John 20:22 – He breathed on them and said: “Receive the Holy Spirit.”

Finally, consider the idea of the Holy Spirit as being the breath of God.

#### ⇒ Discussion

Invite discussion around the idea of a temple. Have some pictures of famous temples to stimulate the discussion.

- What is a temple?
- What do you expect of a temple – what it looks like, what you’d find inside it?
- What happens in a temple?

Consider then what Paul says: “You are God’s temple and the Spirit of God is living within you” (1 Cor 3:16).

#### 📖 Text

Read the chapter.

#### ⇒ Discussion

In the first discussion above, the focus was on God’s indwelling of the individual person. Now look at the communal aspect. Each person is animated by the breath of God (the Holy Spirit) but only as a member of a body. Jesus said: “I am the vine and you are the branches. Cut off from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). Similarly a cell or member of a body only has life when it is joined to the body. Invite learners to discuss this question: What does it mean to be a member of the Body of Christ?

**QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

- Do you think the term People of God adequately expresses the nature of the Church? What of the image Temple of the Spirit?

## The Pilgrim Church



<b>REFERENCE</b>	<i>The Christian Story</i> (Chapter 15)
<b>FOCUS</b>	The Institutional Church (Four marks of the Church)
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	Papacy, Magisterium, Infallibility, Dogmas

### LESSON SUGGESTIONS [📖 ⇒ ⇒ 📖 ⇒ 📖]

#### 📖 Text

Read “The Church is an invisible union”.

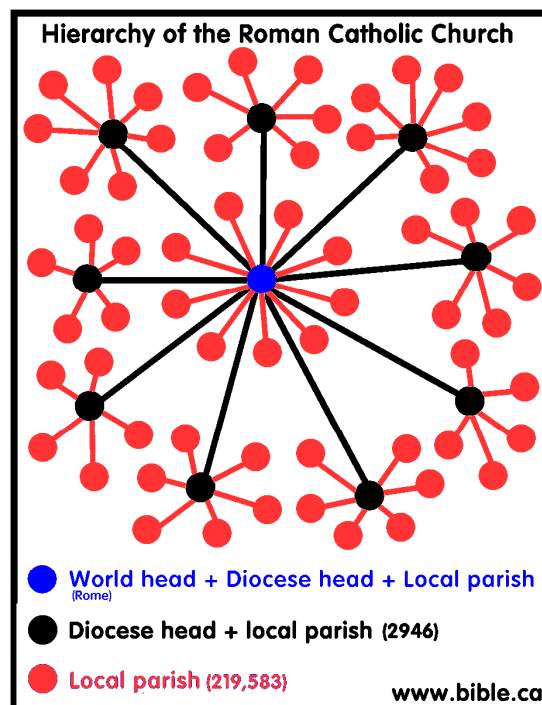
#### ⇒ Reflection/Discussion

Ask learners to name some people who are not Christian, or even religious in any visible way, but who, in their estimation, are lead by the Spirit. Recall that Jesus said:

- “By their fruits you will know them.” (Matthew 7:16)
- “It is not those who say to me, ‘Lord, Lord’ who will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the person who does the will of my Father in heaven.” (Matthew 7:21)

#### ⇒ Presentation

Present and discuss the illustration below.



Note that the dark circle in the centre of the diagram represents the Pope, the visible sign of the worldwide unity of the Church. He is the Bishop of Rome which, like any other diocese, has its parishes.

 **Text**

Read “The Church is also a visible historical community”.

 **Poster**

Learners in groups design a poster to illustrate their understanding of the Church in the light of their reading of the chapter. Before planning and creating the poster they read the remainder of the text.

 **Text**

Read “The Church’s history shows the constancy of God’s plan”.

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### QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- How do you explain the fact that, within a century or so, the Catholic Church officially condemned and then officially welcomed the modernisation of the world?
- If the doctrine of the Trinity were declared null and void by the Church tomorrow, would it really make any difference to you or to the Church?

# Liturgy



<b>REFERENCE</b>	<i>The Christian Story</i> (Chapter 16)
<b>FOCUS</b>	Liturgy (Worship, Liturgical Year)
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	Liturgy, Paschal Mystery, Liturgical Year, Eucharist

**LESSON SUGGESTIONS** [⇒📖⇒📖]

⇒ **Reflection**



Consider a magnifying glass. What does it enable one to do? Learners will identify two main ideas:

- It enables us to see the finer details of an object.
- It concentrates or focuses energy such as in the sun’s rays.

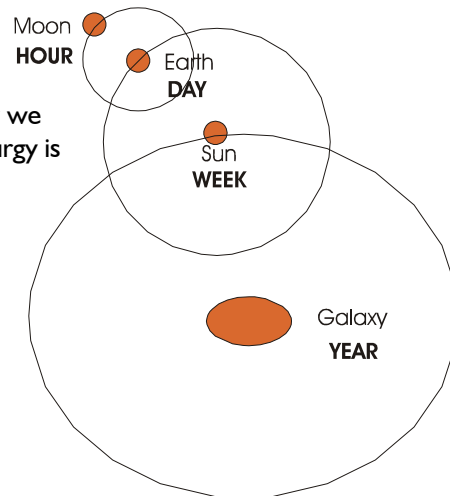
Direct learners to the middle of page 72: “Any real celebration does two things: it *expresses* something that’s already there; and it *deepens* this.” A celebration acts like a lens or a magnifying glass: it expresses the details clearly, and empowers what is being celebrated.

📖 **Text**

Read “The source and summit of Jesus’ life is worship”, “The source and summit of the Church’s life is liturgy” and “In liturgy, the Spirit forms, conforms, and transforms.”

⇒ **Reflection**

Present a diagram such as the one below which represents cycles within cycles: the moon cycles earth, earth the sun, and the sun the galaxy. Similarly we have yearly, weekly and daily rhythms in our life. Liturgy is like that too.



📖 **Text**

Read “The Church follows the rhythm of the Paschal mystery.”

**QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

- What happens when we do not believe what we act out in the liturgy? What happens when we do not act out what we believe?
- If you belong to a church or other faith community, how does community worship influence your images of God?

## Prayer



<b>REFERENCE</b>	<i>The Christian Story</i> (Chapter 17)
<b>FOCUS</b>	Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours, Paraliturg)
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	Paraliturg
<b>GRADE 9 LINKS</b>	Prayer

### NOTE

This lesson could be very closely linked with the lessons in the Prayer Education section.

### LESSON SUGGESTIONS [⇒📖⇒]

#### ⇒ Reflection/Discussion

Distribute a copy of the Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours given below. Invite learners to study the form and content. Allow time for their observations. You could also go to the website given at the end of the prayer for the current day's prayer.

OR

#### ⇒ Experience

You might prefer to give the class an actual experience of this form of prayer, though you will need to find a simplified version or adapt the given one.

#### 📖 Text

Read the chapter.

#### ⇒ Response

Invite groups to use the format of the liturgical prayer to create their own prayer service.

### QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- Is it possible to be a good Christian and not pray?
- When you pray, what names do you use for God? What names would you not use today? Why?

## MORNING PRAYER: FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER 2009

### Introduction

O God, come to my aid.  
*O Lord, make haste to help me.*  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
 world without end.  
 Amen. Alleluia.

*A suitable hymn may be inserted here.*

### Psalm 50 (51): 'God, have mercy on me'

*Lord, you will accept lawful sacrifice on your altar.*

Take pity on me, Lord, in your mercy; in your abundance of mercy wipe out my guilt.  
 Wash me ever more from my guilt  
 and cleanse me from my sin.  
 For I know how guilty I am:  
 my sin is always before me.  
 Against you, you alone have I sinned,  
 and I have done evil in your sight.  
 Know this, so that you may give just sentence  
 and an unbiased judgement.  
 See, I was conceived in guilt,  
 in sin my mother conceived me;  
 but you love truth in the heart,  
 and deep within me you have shown me  
 your wisdom.  
 You will sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be  
 made clean;  
 you will wash me, and I will be whiter than  
 snow.  
 You will make me hear the sound of joy and  
 gladness;  
 the bones you have crushed will rejoice.  
 Turn your face away from my sins  
 and wipe out all my transgressions;  
 create a pure heart in me, God,  
 put a steadfast spirit into me.  
 Do not send me away from your presence,  
 or withdraw your holy spirit from me;  
 give me again the joy of your salvation,  
 and be ready to strengthen me with your  
 spirit.

I will teach the unjust your ways,  
 and the impious will return to you.  
 Free me from the guilt of bloodshed, God,  
 God my saviour,  
 and my voice will glory in your justice.  
 Open my lips, Lord,  
 and my mouth will proclaim your praise;  
 for you do not delight in sacrifices:  
 if I offered you a burnt offering, it would not  
 please you.  
 The true sacrifice is a broken spirit:  
 a contrite and humble heart, O God, you will  
 not refuse.  
 Be pleased, Lord, to look kindly on Zion,  
 so that the walls of Jerusalem can be rebuilt,  
 Then indeed you will accept the proper  
 sacrifices, gifts and burnt offerings;  
 then indeed will bullocks be laid upon your  
 altar.  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
 the Holy Spirit,  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever  
 shall be, world without end.  
 Amen.

*Lord, you will accept lawful sacrifice on your altar.*

### Canticle - Isaiah 45: 'All peoples, turn to the Lord'

*In the Lord all descendants of Israel will receive justice and glory.*

In truth you are a hidden God,  
 the God and Saviour of Israel.  
 They were dismayed and ashamed, all the  
 makers of idols,  
 all of them fled in dismay.  
 Israel has been saved by the Lord, saved for  
 ever;  
 you will not be dismayed or ashamed,  
 to the end of time.  
 For thus says the Lord, the God  
 who made the heavens,  
 who made the earth, shaped it, set it firm –  
 he did not make it to be empty,  
 but to be full of life –  
 "I am the Lord, there is no other.

I have not spoken secretly,  
 in some dark corner of the earth.  
 I have not said to the children of Jacob, 'seek  
 me in vain.'  
 I am the Lord who speaks justice, who  
 proclaims uprightness.  
 "Gather together, come, approach me  
 all you who have been rescued from the  
 Gentiles.  
 They were ignorant, who raised up wooden  
 idols  
 and begged favours of a god without power.  
 Announce it – come, ponder it together –  
 who was saying this from the beginning, who  
 foretold this from the start?  
 Am I not the Lord?  
 Is there any other God but me?  
 Do you seek a just God who will save you?  
 There is no other.  
 "Turn to me and you will be saved, all you  
 ends of the earth;  
 for I am God, there is no other.  
 "I have sworn by my own being,  
 I have decreed a judgement that will not be  
 revoked;  
 for every knee will bend to me,  
 every tongue swear by my name."  
 "Only in the Lord," they will say,  
 "are there justice and strength!"  
 All who resisted him will come to him, and be  
 dismayed;  
 but in the Lord all descendants of Israel  
 will receive justice and glory.  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
 the Holy Spirit,  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever  
 shall be,  
 world without end.  
 Amen.

*In the Lord all descendants of Israel will receive  
 justice and glory.*

**Psalm 99 (100): 'Enter the Temple with  
 joy'**

*Come in triumph before the face of the Lord.*

Rejoice in the Lord, all the earth,  
 and serve him with joy.

Exult as you enter his presence.  
 Know that the Lord is God.  
 He made us and we are his  
 – his people, the sheep of his flock.  
 Cry out his praises as you enter his gates,  
 fill his courtyards with songs.  
 Proclaim him and bless his name;  
 for the Lord is our delight.  
 His mercy lasts for ever,  
 his faithfulness through all the ages.  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
 the Holy Spirit,  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever  
 shall be,  
 world without end.  
 Amen.

*Come in triumph before the face of the Lord.*

**Short reading: Jeremiah 30:21,22**

The Lord says this: Their prince will come  
 from Jacob, their ruler come from their own  
 people. I will let him come freely into my  
 presence and he can come close to me. And  
 you shall be my people and I will be your God.

**Short Responsory**

Over you, Jerusalem, the Lord will dawn.  
 – *Over you, Jerusalem, the Lord will dawn.*  
 His glory will be seen in you.  
 – *Over you, Jerusalem, the Lord will dawn.*  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
 the Holy Spirit.  
 – *Over you, Jerusalem, the Lord will dawn.*

**Canticle – Benedictus: 'The Messiah and  
 his forerunner'**

*Behold, he will come, God and man, from the  
 house of David, to sit on his throne. Alleluia.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
 for he has come to his people and brought  
 about their redemption.  
 He has raised up the sign of salvation  
 in the house of his servant David,  
 as he promised through the mouth of the holy  
 ones,  
 his prophets through the ages:

to rescue us from our enemies  
and all who hate us,  
to take pity on our fathers,  
to remember his holy covenant  
and the oath he swore to Abraham our father,  
that he would give himself to us,  
that we could serve him without fear  
– freed from the hands of our enemies –  
in uprightness and holiness before him,  
for all of our days.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of  
the Most High:  
for you will go before the face of the Lord to  
prepare his path,

to let his people know their salvation,  
so that their sins may be forgiven.

Through the bottomless mercy of our God,  
one born on high will visit us  
to give light to those who walk in darkness,  
who live in the shadow of death;  
to lead our feet in the path of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever  
shall be,

world without end.

Amen.

*Behold, he will come, God and man, from the  
house of David, to sit on his throne. Alleluia.*

### **Prayers and Intercessions**

God the Father decreed that his Son should  
show his glory to man. Let us joyfully cry:

– *Glory to your name, O Lord.*

Let us learn, Lord, to support each other,

just as Christ, by supporting us, gave honour  
to God.

– *Glory to your name, O Lord.*

Let our belief in you fill us with joy and peace  
so that we may walk in the hope and the  
strength of the Holy Spirit.

– *Glory to your name, O Lord.*

Give help to all, Lord of infinite mercy:

when people seek you without knowing it,  
let them find you.

– *Glory to your name, O Lord.*

You call your chosen people and set them  
apart:

raise us sinners up, to be crowned with  
eternal happiness.

– *Glory to your name, O Lord.*

Our Father, who art in Heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

Show forth your power, O Lord, and come.

If you protect us, we will deserve to be

rescued from the danger of our sins;

if you free us, we shall be saved.

You live and reign with God the Father in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit,

God for ever and ever. Amen.

May the Lord bless us and keep us from all  
harm; and may he lead us to eternal life.

AMEN

<http://www.universalis.com/lauds.htm>

## The Sacraments



**REFERENCE**            *The Christian Story* (Chapter 18)

**FOCUS**                 Sacraments (Eucharist)

**GLOSSARY**            Sacramentals

### LESSON SUGGESTIONS [⇒⇒📖 ⇒⇒📖]

#### ⇒ **Reflection**

What personal events do people generally mark or celebrate in their lives? Note these on a timeline. Make a link with sacramental celebrations which may be called events in one's life in Christ.

#### ⇒ **Discussion**

Clarify the meaning of 'sacrament'. The glossary item on page 163 will help.

#### 📖 **Text**

Read "The liturgy celebrates seven key actions of Christ" and "The sacraments are symbols that effect Christ's giving and our acceptance of his gift."

#### ⇒ **Response**

Invite learners to identify the sacraments in the table on page 79.

#### ⇒ **Reflection**

Invite learners to reflect on the diagram below. What does it suggest about the Eucharist in relation to the other six sacraments?



PLEASE TURN OVER/...

**Text**

Read “The focal point of the seven sacraments is the Eucharist.”

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**QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

- Do you think that each of the seven sacraments was directly instituted by Christ?

## Eucharist



**REFERENCE**            *The Christian Story* (Chapter 19)

**FOCUS**                 Eucharist

**GLOSSARY**            Mass, Transubstantiation

### LESSON SUGGESTIONS [⇒ 📖 ⇒ 📖 ⇒]

#### ⇒ **Reflection**

Read the scripture passage describing the journey to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35) or listen to a song such as Carey Landry's *We Are Companions on the Journey*. The lyrics are given below.

#### 📖 **Text**

Read "In the Mass, the community's sacrifice is united to Christ's."

#### ⇒ **Discussion**

What does the Church mean by the teaching that the bread and wine is transformed into the body and blood of Christ? See the glossary entry for 'transubstantiation' on page 164.

#### 📖 **Text**

Now read "Through bread and wine, the Church is in communion with the risen Body of Christ."

#### ⇒ **Discussion**

As an extension to the lesson, arrange a debate around the question: Should those who are not Catholic be excluded from receiving Communion?

## WE ARE COMPANIONS ON THE JOURNEY

### **Chorus**

We are companions on the journey.  
 Breaking bread and sharing life;  
 And in the love we bear is the hope we share,  
 For we believe in the love of our God;  
 For we believe in the love of our God;

1.  
 No longer strangers to each other.  
 No longer strangers in God's house;  
 We are fed and we are nourished,  
 By the strength of those who care,  
 By the strength of those who care. **Chorus**

2.

We have been gifted with each other,  
And we are called by the Word of the Lord,  
To act with justice, to love tenderly,  
And to walk humbly with our God,  
To walk humbly with our God. **Chorus**

3.

We will seek and we shall find;  
We will knock and the door will be opened.  
We will ask and it shall be given,  
For we believe in the Love of our God,  
We believe in the Love of our God. **Chorus**

4.

We are made for the glory of our God,  
For service in the name of Jesus,  
To walk side by side with hope in our hearts,  
For we believe in the Love of our God,  
We believe in the Love of our God. **Chorus**

## Reconciliation and Healing



<b>REFERENCE</b>	<i>The Christian Story</i> (Chapter 20)
<b>FOCUS</b>	Reconciliation (Healing)
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	Reconciliation, Confession, Penance, Contrition, Absolution

### LESSON SUGGESTIONS [⇒ 📖 ⇒ 📖 ⇒]

#### ⇒ **Reflection**

Ask the learners to recall experiences of hurt – when they were hurt by someone, and when they hurt someone.

- What feelings were most evident in each case?
- What did you do about the experience?
- What does it take on the part of the hurter and the hurt to move beyond the experience?

#### 📖 **Text**

Read “Reconciliation is expressed with God and the community.”

#### ⇒ **Question & Discussion**

Pose the question: Is there a difference between the healing brought about by the two sacraments – Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick? Do not answer the question but allow discussion after the reading that follows.

#### 📖 **Text**

Read “Reconciliation brings about an inner healing.”

#### ⇒ **Response**

Provide learners with an appropriate experience of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, making it inclusive, and emphasising the communal as well as the personal dimension of the celebration.

