

Beginnings



Overview

God's love and care for every family. Jesus was born and lived in a human family.

Scripture

God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased. Genesis 1:31

Questions

- Where do I come from?
- Why are some beginnings easy and some difficult?
- Will there be many beginnings in my life?

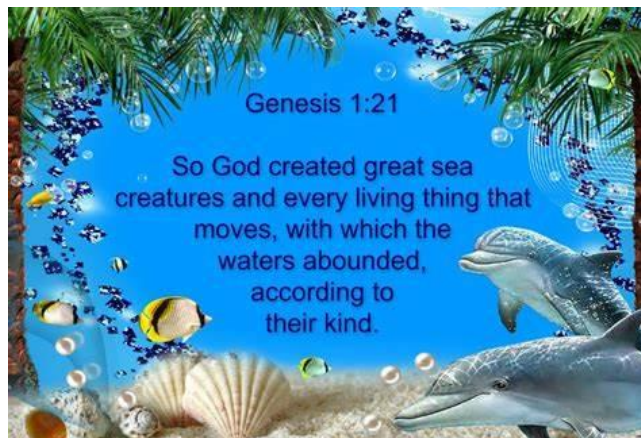
Key Vocabulary

beginning, new start, family, friend, creation, psalm, litany

Prayer and Reflection

Father, creator of all,
you 'ordered the earth' to bring forth life
and crowned its goodness by creating family life.

Teach us the beauty of human love,
show us the value of family life
and help us to live in peace with everyone.
Amen.



Genesis 1:21

So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind.

Baptism



Overview

For Christians, signs and symbols speak of God's mysterious presence in the world and in our lives. Special symbols are called 'sacraments' because they put us in touch in a powerful way with the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus and they point to his continued presence among us today.

Scripture

John 3:5 *'I am telling you the truth,' replied Jesus. 'No one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.'*

Questions

- How symbols have power to convey meaning?
- Why some symbols are important?

Key Vocabulary

garment, Easter candle, font, chrism, Good News sign, symbols

Prayer and Reflection

*Almighty and eternal God, you keep together those you have united.
Look kindly on all who follow Jesus your Son.
We are all consecrated to you by our common baptism;
make us one in the fullness of faith and keep us one in the fellowship of love. Amen.*

(Prayer for Various Occasions: for Unity of Christians)



Eucharist



Overview

The word Eucharist meaning 'thanksgiving'. The Eucharist is another name for the Mass. The parish family gathers to give thanks to God, most of all for the gift of Jesus, his Son.

Scripture

In the same way, Jesus took a cup of wine. He gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Take and drink. This is my blood shed for you."
Based on Luke 22:19-20

Questions

Why it is important to say thank you?
How it feels to say thank you?
How it feels to be thanked?

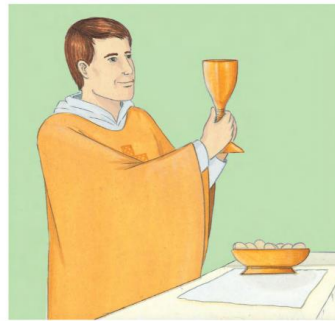
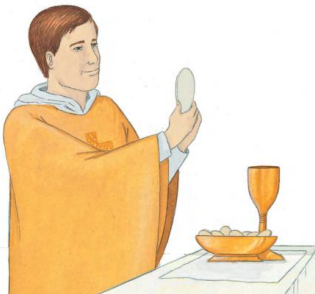
Key Vocabulary

thank you, thanksgiving, thoughtful, Eucharist, Eucharistic Prayer, liturgy

Prayer and Reflection

Lord Jesus Christ,
in you we know the love of God.
When we gather together in your name
we experience the marvel of your loving
presence
which challenges us to live for one another.
Help us to follow your example
so that we may never become complacent.
Help us to listen to your constant call to us
to continue the work you began,
you who lived and died for us.
Grant this through your Spirit of Love.
Amen.
(Prayer for Unity of Christians)

In the Eucharistic Prayer the priest
does what Jesus did at the Last Supper.
'Take this, all of you, and eat of it:
For this is my body.'



'This is the chalice of my blood.'
'Do this in memory of me.'

Pentecost



Overview

The gift of Holy Spirit, which is celebrated at Pentecost, strengthens Christians to share in the mission of the Church by spreading the Good News of the message of love of the risen Christ.

Scripture

Acts 2:32 (Peter speaking) God raised this very Jesus from the death and we are all witnesses to this fact.

Questions

What responsibilities are involved in passing on messages?
Which is the best way to pass on messages?

Key Vocabulary

Message, Risen, Resurrection, Holy Spirit, Ascension, Witnesses, Blessing, Pentecost, Promise, Good News, Holy Spirit

Gospel Reading

And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

Luke 24:48-52

