

THOUGH MANY, WE ARE ONE

UNIT 6

CHRIST IS RISEN

Lesson 4

DYI Paschal Candles

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Christ Is Risen

DIY Paschal Candles

**Do It Yourself*

Lesson Overview

Students will create their own Paschal Candles that they may display to celebrate the Easter season.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Religious Education:

Grade 4:

CL3.3: Distinguish between ‘sacramentals’ and ‘sacraments’ and use symbols, words, gesture, prayer and music as sacramentals in the creation of a sacred space and ritual celebrations that focus on the seasons of the liturgical year. [CCC nos. 1167-1179; 1168-1171]

Grade 5:

CL3.1: Identify and examine a selection of the scripture passages in the New Testament which reveal the divinity of Jesus (e.g. Epiphany, miracles, transfiguration, resurrection) and explain using examples, how images, signs and symbols in the Liturgical year convey this important truth of faith for Christians. [CCC nos. 1153-1162]

Grade 6:

CL3.2: Describe various ways Christ’s death and Resurrection are expressed in both the sacraments of Initiation and the liturgical rites and symbols of the Easter Triduum (e.g. through symbols - Darkness / Light, Fire, the Paschal Candle, empty tabernacle; through word and song - Exultat, Scripture Readings; through sacramentals - incense, water, oils, cross). [CCC nos. 1127-1130]

ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS & CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS

The Catholic Social Teachings evident in this lesson include:

Call to Family, Community, and Participation

The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations evident in this lesson include:

CGE2a: Listens actively and critically to understand and learn in light of gospel values

CGE3c: Thinks reflectively and creatively to evaluate situations and solve problems

CGE5g: Achieves excellence, originality, and integrity in one’s own work and supports these qualities in the work of others

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Visual Arts Connection: D1: Creating and Presenting: apply the creative process to produce a variety of two- and three-dimensional art works, using elements, principles, and techniques of visual arts to communicate feelings, ideas, and understandings.	
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GUIDING QUESTIONS (coming out of the Big Idea)	
	Big Idea: The Liturgical seasons are marked by specific rituals, prayers, signs, images and colours which have developed throughout the Tradition of the Church and which have become part of our experience of faith in Christ as expressed in the yearly life of the Church. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When is the Paschal Candle used throughout the year? • Why is the Paschal Candle significant to the Easter Vigil?

LEARNING GOALS	
	At the end of this lesson, students will know, understand and/or be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create their own version of a Paschal Candle • Recognize key symbols found on the Paschal Candle and their meanings <p>Success Criteria, based on the Learning Goals, can be co-constructed as a class in language meaningful to students. The success criteria help students understand what to look for during the learning and what it looks like once they have learned. They identify the significant aspects of student performance that are assessed and/or evaluated (i.e., the “look-fors”) in relation to curriculum expectations.</p>

INSTRUCTIONAL COMPONENTS AND CONTEXT	
Terminology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Paschal Candle – Alpha – Omega 	Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Paper towel rolls (or white wax candles) – White paper (8.5 x 11) – Glue sticks – Markers (or paint & glitter paint) – Alpha & Omega symbols – Cross (can be drawn, made from red duct tape, or printed) – Jewel stickers (the wounds of Christ) – Adhesive glitter tape (banners) – Tea light (optional for paper towel candles) Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pictures of Examples (<i>see Appendix 1</i>) – Alpha & Omega symbols (<i>see Appendix 2</i>)

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MINDS ON

- Establishing a positive learning environment
- Connecting to prior learning and/or experiences
- Setting the context for learning

Review with students the common symbols that are found on a Paschal Candle and their meaning: the cross, the current year, Alpha & Omega, & the wounds of Christ.

ACTION

- Introducing new learning or extending/reinforcing prior learning
- Providing opportunities for practice and application of learning (guided → independent)

Note: It would be helpful to have a model of the Paschal Candle ready prior to this lesson for the students to see as a model.

Instructions using paper towel rolls:

1. Ensure that each student has a paper towel roll and a sheet of 8.5 x 11 paper.
2. Instruct students to spread glue on their sheet of paper, and to wrap it around the paper towel roll, tucking the excess paper into the top of the roll (which will help support the tea light).
3. Instruct students to decorate their candles from the inside out, beginning with the cross. The cross will be drawn, glued, or stuck on, depending on the material chosen.
4. Instruct students to write the current year around the cross. Markers would best suit this design, and students can choose the colour of their choice.
5. Students can stick (or glue) the 5 jewels that represent the wounds of Christ onto the cross – 1 on each edge and 1 directly in the centre.
6. The Alpha symbol should be glued right above the cross and the Omega right below.
7. The 2 glitter banners can be stuck near the top and the bottom of the candle.
8. The tea light can be placed in the top of the candle.
9. Candles can be placed in a safe place to dry, although they will only require a minimal amount of time to dry.

Instructions using wax candles:

1. Ensure that each student has a candle, paint brush, & paint.
2. Encourage the students to decorate their candles from the inside out, to prevent the accidental smearing of paint.
3. Students should decorate their candles with each of the common symbols: The Cross, the 5 wounds of Christ (preferably in a different colour), the current year, the Alpha and Omega, and a decorative banner around the top and bottom of the candle. Glitter paint would best suit the banners.
4. Once the candles have been decorated, they should remain in a safe place in the classroom to dry overnight.

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CONSOLIDATION

- Providing opportunities for consolidation and reflection
- Helping students demonstrate what they have learned

The Paschal Candles should remain at school for the class celebration of the Easter Vigil liturgy (*next lesson*).

After the Vigil, students may take their candles home to display in a prominent place throughout the Easter season (i.e., they may be lit during meals).

CONTINUED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Further extensions to this lesson might include:

- Consider playing the “light” songs from lesson 3 while the students are creating their candles.
- Give the candles as gifts to family or community members.
- Help a younger class of students to make their own Paschal candles.

APPENDIX 1

Pictures of Examples

Paper Towel Roll



Wax Candle



APPENDIX 2

Alpha & Omega Symbols

