

THOUGH MANY, WE ARE ONE

UNIT 6

CHRIST IS RISEN

Lesson 2

Easter Glory

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Christ Is Risen

Easter Glory

Lesson Overview

Students will participate in a church visit (if accessible) to determine the ways in which the church is decorated during the Easter season.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Religious Education:

Grade 4 - CL3.2: Identify within the church, sacred space that is dedicated to the celebration of the sacraments (e.g. sanctuary, tabernacle, pulpit/ambo, sacristy, high altar, side altars, baptistery, confessional, stations of the cross, choir loft) and explain how they are connected to the signs/symbols used for the celebration, the sacred images of our faith, the sacramentals, and used in the celebration of the Liturgical seasons. [CCC nos. 1159-1171; 1179-1186; 1667-1679]

Grade 5 - CL3: Understand that the Liturgical year celebrates both the mysteries of Christ's life and memorial celebrations for the saints who are examples to us of Christ. [CCC nos. 1145-1178]

Grade 6 - BL2: Demonstrate an understanding of the Church's teaching concerning the mysteries of the hidden and public life of Jesus Christ (incarnation, suffering and death, rising from the dead and ascending into heaven. [CCC nos. 50-73; 101-141; 422-682]

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:

CGE4f: applies effective communication, decision-making, problem-solving, time and resource management skills

CGE5a: works effectively as an interdependent team member

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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.

- How does the Church celebrate Easter?
- What changes (signs, images, colours) take place in the physical church during the Easter season?

LEARNING GOALS

At the end of this lesson, students will know, understand and/or be able to:

- describe ways in which Easter is celebrated
- recognize changes in their parish church during the Easter season.

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.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMPONENTS AND CONTEXT

Terminology:

- Paschal Candle
- Lily
- Hydrangea
- Chasuble
- Dalmatic
- Stole

Materials:

Resources:

- Photos of a Church During Easter (*see Appendix 1*)
- Parish contact information (to book a Church visit)

MINDS ON

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

Note: This lesson should take place after Easter Sunday, so that the church will be appropriately decorated for the liturgical season.

Review ways in which Easter is celebrated. Encourage students to share some traditions.

Review with students how the church looked during Lent (Lots of purple – altar cloth, banners, cross draped with purple, clergy vestments, etc.).

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What do they think the church looks like now, during Easter? Students may share their predictions, which will be confirmed during the church visit.

ACTION

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

Note: If it is not possible to visit a church, students may participate in this alternate activity: The teacher may share pictures of the church with students, who will be asked to recognize changes in the church (see Appendix 1: Photos of a church during Easter).

1. Easter church visit – Students will visit their school parish and will tour the church to recognize how it looks different from Lent & Ordinary Time. A discussion will take place for each of the symbols that are present during Easter.

Planning considerations:

- a) *Contact the parish to arrange a class visit to the church. The visit should take place after Easter Sunday, so that the church will be appropriately decorated for the liturgical season.*
 - b) *Teachers may consider an advance tour to familiarize themselves with the symbols in the church that the students will find.*
2. Prior to the visit, it is important to review appropriate church behaviour with the class. Students should be respectful and reverent, even during the activity.
 3. The students may tour, looking for symbols of the Easter season, in small groups or as a class, depending on the needs of the group.
 4. As a class, the teacher (or priest) may explain the significance of each symbol as the students find it. In small group format, the students can make a list of the symbols that they find and confirm their predictions, which will be discussed upon their return to class.
 5. The following symbols can be found in most Catholic churches during Easter: The Paschal Candle near the altar, White/Gold/Silver banners, altar cloths, chasuble – priest, dalmatic – deacon, stole, a cross draped with a white cloth, flowers such as Lilies and Hydrangeas, and possibly other items specific to your church.

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CONSOLIDATION

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

Review the symbols that were recognized in the church.

- Students may be asked if any of these symbols are present in their school (eg: Easter banners, flowers).
- Students are reminded to look for the symbols the next time that they visit their Church, or during a School Mass or celebration.

CONTINUED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Further extensions to this lesson might include:

- The students may conduct further research into the symbolism of the changes during the Easter season. (i.e. Why does the Church use white, gold, and silver to represent Easter? Why are Lilies and Hydrangeas the common flowers that are displayed? Why is the Paschal Candle displayed near the altar during Easter?)

APPENDIX 1 – page 1

Photos of a Church During Easter

(Alternate resource when a church is not accessible)

Many flowers present – Lilies, Hydrangeas, and other spring flowers



A cross draped with a white cloth



APPENDIX 1– page 2

White banners & altar cloth, Paschal Candle near the Altar



White Chasuble



White Dalmatic



APPENDIX 1– page 3

White Stole

