

St. Aloysius Religious Education 2017-2018
2nd Grade

- 4:00pm Welcome (Jesus the Lamb of God coloring page and *to ensure accuracy, class attendance must be accurately recorded by a catechist and not another student - class attendance is an official document retained by the parish and the diocese*)
- 4:05pm We Gather - in Prayer at the prayer table
(*use colored table covering for appropriate liturgical season*)
Use the Gospel Reading “Hearing the Word” from the previous Sunday in Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families book in the prayer box
- 4:10pm Review previous lesson using one of the pages from the Activity Book.
- 4:15pm **Chapter #25 “The Mass”**
Chapter #26 “What We Do at Mass”

Jesus at the Last Supper instituted the Mass when He instructed the Apostles to – “do this in memory of Me.” (Luke 22:19) **The Mass is a living Memorial of the Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ**, as well as holy banquet in which we receive Jesus and offer ourselves to the Father with Him. **The greatest sacrifice we can offer to God is Christ Himself in the Eucharist during Mass. A sacrifice is an offering to God our Creator to adore, thank and praise Him and to ask for His forgiveness and help!** Mass is the perfect prayer offered to God and Jesus makes our prayers perfect because they are united to His perfect sacrifice. **In the celebration of Mass, we raise our hearts, minds and voices to God.** We are called to actively participate in Mass; listen, pray, respond and sing! Discuss the four parts of the Mass; Introductory Rites, Liturgy of The Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist and the Concluding Rites. ***We go to Mass; to worship God, be nourished with God’s Word in the readings and in the Eucharist and to receive God’s grace!***

- *We Believe -*

Mass = the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross, offered by the priest in our church.

Sacrifice = giving up something dear to us completely to God. At Mass Jesus offers Himself to the Father as a sacrifice for our sins.

Praise = the kind of prayer or song that tells God how great and good He is.

The Catholic Mass is the transformation and completion of the Jewish Passover. The Passover celebrates a real, liberating event in the history of the Jewish people. The Catholic Mass celebrates *more* than a real, liberating event in the history of the Christian people ... it celebrates the *mystery* of the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus.

- *We Respond – watch DVD – “The Mass – A Life Giving Prayer” 25 min.*

Come with Brother Francis as he celebrates the life-changing power of the Mass.

- “The Celebration of the Mass” – an animated representation of what happens during the Mass and our encounter with Jesus as we celebrate this wonderful gift of God!
- “With a Heart of Praise” – a moving prayer-song that expresses our gratitude to God.
- “The Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican” – a moving, animated depiction of Jesus’ teaching on humility and forgiveness.

- *We Respond – practice receiving Holy Communion*

Have the children just practice lining up in a straight line, bowing before receiving the host and how to place their hands.

4:55pm Closing Prayer –

“When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.”

Ask the children to say a petition aloud for someone or something they would like to pray for.

“When can I visit with Jesus?”

Catechist background:

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/postures-and-gestures-at-mass.cfm>

<http://www.sundaymass4kids.com/aboutus.asp>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OtH8vW12i4>

As Catholics, we believe that the Church is the House of God, to which He invites all His children -- where they may give thanks, prayers and worship to their God and Creator. Like any house to which one is invited, there is always some sort of basic etiquette, and God's house is no different. Below are some basics to help you feel more comfortable, and to participate more fully in The Mass.

Mass Etiquette: 20 Things to Do and Not Do In Mass

1. **Fast before Mass.** It is Church law that one fasts for at least 1 hour before receiving Holy Communion. The only exceptions are medicine, water or unless someone is ill and needs to eat sooner.
2. **No Food and Drink in Church.** The only exceptions would be milk for infants, water for the priest or choir and those who are ill.
3. **Men take your hats off.** It is impolite to wear a hat into any church for a man.
4. **Don't chew gum in church.** It is just wrong to chew gum and then consume Our Lord.
5. **Cross yourself with Holy Water on entering and leaving the church.** This is a reminder of our Baptism, which made us members of Christ's Church.
6. **Dress modestly and appropriately.** Wear your Sunday best. As Catholics, we believe that God comes down to meet us at every Mass. Why would we not dress up?
7. **Show up at least a few minutes early.** If you can't be on time, then sit in the back so you don't disturb others.
8. **Cell phones should never be used in Mass for calls or texting.** The ONLY exceptions are emergencies (big ones) and if you are using the phone for readings or prayers.
9. **Don't sit on the edge of the pew if you sit down before others.** Rather, sit in the middle so others don't have to climb over you.
10. **When we enter and leave Church, genuflect toward the Tabernacle.** Christ is present for our sake. By allowing our right knee to hit the floor, we acknowledge He is our Lord and God. A bow is sufficient. During Mass, if you pass in front of the altar or tabernacle, bow reverently.
11. **Sit quietly while in church.** Once you enter the sanctuary - it is not the time or place to visit with those around you. If you must talk do so as quietly and briefly as possible. Remember that your conversation might be disturbing someone who is in prayer, which is much more important. Sssshhhhhhhhh.
12. **Respect Boundaries others may have.** You might want to hold hands to pray, they may not. They might be sick and not want to shake during the sign of peace. These are all OK. Do not make any unnecessary judgment because they worship differently.

13. **Bow before receiving Holy Communion.** If it is God, then show your respect with a bow of the head. *When the Eucharistic minister presents the Host, and says “The Body of Christ” or “The Blood of Christ” (for the Chalice), the proper response is a simple “Amen!” This indicates that you know and believe that what you are about to receive is Jesus Himself. Please make sure you have a firm hold on the Chalice (without grabbing it) from the Eucharistic minister. Please consume the Host immediately. If you do not, a Communion Minister may ask you to. This is to protect the Sacrament. Intinction (“dipping” the Host in the Precious Blood) is not allowed.*
14. **Do not receive from the chalice if you are sick.** This is an act of charity. *It is sufficient to receive under either Eucharistic species (the Body or Blood) to truly receive Communion. So, if you “forgot” one species or the Precious Blood ran out – you received Communion.*
15. **Pray after Communion.** It is a good custom, to offer a prayer of thanksgiving after receiving Holy Communion. *“Dear God, Your love for me is kind and merciful. Send me your Spirit, so that I may choose to be more kind and merciful. Amen.”*
16. **Do not leave early.** We should stay to the end of the Mass and sing the recessional hymn.
17. **Please wait until the priest has exited** before making your pilgrimage to the parish coffee.
18. **Leave quietly.** We encourage you to visit with others, but once you are outside of the main sanctuary of the church so you won't disturb others who want to stay and pray.

Order of the Mass – “postures, gestures, places and responses”

Each posture we assume, gesture we make or responses we say at Mass underlines and reinforces the meaning of the action in which we are taking part at that moment in our worship. The Church sees in these common postures, gestures, places and responses both a symbol of the unity of those who have come together to worship and a means of fostering that unity. The Church makes it clear that our unity of postures, gestures, places and responses both is an expression of our participation in the one Body formed by the baptized with Christ, our head. *When we stand, kneel, sit, bow and sign ourselves in common action, we given unambiguous witness worldwide that we are indeed the Body of Christ, united in heart, mind and spirit.* The Order of Celebration is attached for you to use in discussing the different part of the celebration of Mass.

Ask the children if they can tell you any of the different postures, gestures, places and responses that occur during Mass and when they occur.

Postures: standing (respect), sitting (listening and meditation), kneeling (contrition)
Gestures: sign of the cross (blessing), striking our breasts (acknowledgement of our sin), bowing (respect and gratitude), sign of peace (symbolic of love of neighbor)
Objects: pews, ambo, altar
Responses: silence, singing, spoken word or phrase

Introductory/Entrance Rites

Greeting	stand
Penitential Rite	stand
Gloria	stand
Opening Prayer	stand

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading	sit
New Testament Reading	sit
Gospel Reading	stand
Homily	sit
Profession of Faith – Creed	stand
Prayers of the Faithful – Intercessions	stand

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer	stand and kneel
Our Father	stand
Rite of Peace	stand
Lamb of God	kneel
Communion	kneel

Concluding Rite

Greeting and Blessing	stand
Dismissal	stand