

ONEWITH

OneWith community, OneWith faith, OneWith Christ.

October 25, 2020

Reflection Break Outline Grade 10-11 ~ Session #2:



OneWith Session Goals/Resources

Catechetical Outcomes:

- Analyze the gospel reading – discern a value or lesson that is personally relevant.
- Reflect on/articulate one or more ways that a lesson/value found in one of the readings or in the homily, could be applied to contemporary life.
- Commit to one practice of discipleship that corresponds to the gospel message.

Catholicism Unpacked:

- The meal at which Jesus instituted the Eucharist (Last Supper) was a Passover feast.
- Both the Passover and the Eucharist are a sacrifice and a meal.

“Virtual” OneWith Session

The Catholic Mass is an inexhaustible Mystery! Not the kind of mystery that you don't know/cannot find the answer to – but a spiritual mystery that continues to open up new layer after new layer... the more carefully you look the more exquisite and profound its meaning. What layer of mystery did you uncover today?

Youth should use the notes from their “Virtual” OneWith Reflection Packet to help them participate in the following discussions...

Liturgical Reflection

This part of the reflection is designed to get youth familiar with the different “movements” of the Mass as well as the many “rites” of worship that it contains.

(Youth should have prepared a reflection of 2-3 sentences on this question)

What was the one element of the liturgy that stood out to you? How did it help focus or enrich your experience of Mass.

(See the “Virtual” OneWith Reflection Packet for full details about this reflection.)

- Introductory Rites Reflection:
- Liturgy of the Word:
- Liturgy of the Eucharist:
- Closing Rites:

Scripture Reflection

The ability to listen deeply to God's word and extract its wisdom and meaning for our lives today is vital to the life of a Christian disciple! This part of the reflection is designed to help youth develop the skill set to be able distill the meanings and wisdom that are found in the weekend scripture AND (with a little help from the priest or deacon – perhaps) apply these lessons/wisdom to our own life. This is not easy task! Be patient, but persistent – our youth are pretty sharp, and they should be able to borrow from their academic skill set of literature analysis, etc.

Scripture Readings of the week

- Reading #1: Exodus 22:20-26
- Responsorial Psalm: 18:2-4
- Reading #2: I Thessalonians 1:5-10
- Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

*[A full copy of the readings for the week can be found on the U.S. Bishop's website:
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/102520.cfm>]*

Choose one of the readings used at Mass this weekend...

- *Who is speaking in this passage?*
- *To whom are they speaking?*
- *What is the main “message” from this passage and how might that be applied in your own life? (3-4 sentences)*

What was the main point of the Priest/Deacon's homily (preaching)? How does this message connect to your lived experience? (2-3 sentences)

Theological Reflection: The Eucharist

As part of our year-long focus on Eucharist, we will unpack a different theological or communal aspects of this sacrament at each session. This week we will explore the Jewish roots of the Eucharist.

Eucharist is a celebration, it unifies the community of believers, it give strength to disciples and healing to the afflicted. Eucharist is sacrament that is bound in layer up layer of symbol, ritual and mystery – yet it is the most approachable of all sacraments. The Eucharist IS Christ and it is Christ that we all need.

~ Barry

You might remember from last time that the word “Eucharist” comes from the Greek word *eukharistia* - meaning "thanksgiving, gratitude" The earliest written account of a Christian eucharistia is found in the Apostle Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians (around AD 55). Paul makes it clear that "eating the bread and drinking the cup of the Lord" was not a social or informal meal but a celebration of a "Supper of the Lord" connected to the Last Supper of Jesus some 25 years earlier. Paul’s letters demonstrate that the Eucharistic meal was already an established practice of the community of believers.

Jewish Roots

When Jesus gave us this New Covenant, it was part of an ancient Jewish celebration know as Passover. In ancient Jewish tradition, the eating of the Passover lamb and unleavened bread was accompanied by the drinking of multiple cups of wine. As part of the celebration of the Passover meal, the father of the household would say the following blessings over the Passover bread and wine “*Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who brings forth bread from the earth.*” These ancient Jewish blessings are almost identical to what the priest says in Mass today. These same Jewish blessings are the ones that Jesus himself spoke at the Last Supper when he took the bread, “blessed” it, and gave it to the disciples.

The connection with Passover also explains the early Christian belief in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. *As any first-century Jew would have known, to complete the Passover ritual, you have to eat the flesh of the lamb. The new Passover, like the old, was not completed by the death of the lamb; it was completed by “eating the flesh” (Ex 12:8). Even today, just before Communion, the priest proclaims to the people of God, “Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb”.* In the new Supper of the Lamb, Christ is indeed the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (Jn 1:29).

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/catechesis/catechetical-sunday/eucharist/upload/catsun-2011-doc-pitre-roots.pdf>

[Group Share]

- Brainstorm with your group as many connections as you can think of between the Jewish Passover celebration, the Last Supper (Jesus and his disciples) and the sacrament of Eucharist.
- As a group, develop a “working definition” of the sacrament of the Eucharist. (something you might say to a non-Catholic friend) – we will continue to work on this definition as we move through the year...
- What questions do you have about the Sacrament of the Eucharist? (*Barry or Fr. Mike would like the opportunity to help “unpack” this complex theological mystery of our faith.*)

Intercessory Prayer

Take a few minutes to bless each other and pray for your needs (and those of the whole world).

Praying for each other, those who are suffering in this world, and for those who have passed from this world is one of the great Traditions of Catholicism. In a moment we will pray with a liturgical form that is called Intercessory Prayer. But first we need to add YOUR “intentions” to our list of prayers tonight...

What can we pray for in your life? (Grandparents/loved ones, general or specific health needs, other stressors, etc... Make a list and insert them as indicated below)

Each session one of you will be asked to lead our closing prayer – we will rotate so that everyone gets a chance to serve as prayer leader and to avoid the awkward “I’m not going to move or make eye contact” stand-off...

This is how it will work, the leader will end each prayer petition by saying “**We pray to the Lord...**”. Everyone else responds by saying “**Lord, hear our prayer**” following each intention. Is there someone who would like to a volunteer or should we start alphabetically?

Leader: For the Church, may always be instruments of peace - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For victims of war, refugees, widows and the orphans - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For victims of systematic injustice - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For profound peace in our world, nation and community - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all who are from the Covid-19 Virus and its effects - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all essential and health care workers - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the victims of natural disasters - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For our sister parish, St. Catherine’s in Bouzy, Haiti - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who have died - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For [Read your group’s intentions here...] - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the prayers we hold in silence, (pause) - “*We pray to the Lord.*”

Re: Lord, hear our prayer

Discipleship Challenge

*With your group brainstorm some concrete ideas for the following question. Ask each member of the group to write down one of the brainstorm ideas (or one of their own) on an index card, post-it note, or **on their phone** – somewhere that they will be able to see and be reminded of the challenge to connect and act.*

- *What is one thing you can commit to doing this week to learn more about your faith?*
- *What is one thing you can do to be an example of Christ's presence to others?*

OneWith Session Goals/Resources

Sunday Readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/102520.cfm>

Video/Resource Links:

- Passover and the Lord's Supper (Really nice comparison of the elements in the Passover meal and the biblical account of the Last Supper): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rw6MCQTVPBQ>
- Catholic Answers (Nerd alert): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skrbQGAyRII>

ETC...

Sophia SketchPad Video "The Eucharist": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcB7Uemoon4>

Liturgy Training Video – "The Eucharist": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoADf5rbmbY>