



## BACKGROUND

During preparation for First Communion, children become more familiar with the Mass including both the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. At Mass, Jesus is present in the Word and in the Eucharist and both 'feed' us in a special way.

## INTRODUCTION

This activity provides children (and parents) an opportunity to engage with scriptures that connect to the Eucharist. At the same time, they are able to consider the way scripture connects to the sacraments we celebrate today. They also get to brush up on their bible skills along the way!

## YOU WILL NEED:

- A print out of the scripture reference cards (print as many as you need for the size of your group)
- Bibles (if you do not have a set of bibles you could try asking the your parish school if they have a set you may loan, or ask families to bring them from home).

## INSTRUCTIONS

Prepare before the session:

- Print the scripture reference cards
- Stick them to the walls (alternatively, if you want to turn this into a game, you might like to 'hide' them and invite children to hunt for them).

At the session:

1. Explain the activity to the children and parents.
2. Have the children locate a scripture verse to look up (you may need to remind them how).
3. Together with their parents, find the scripture in the bible and read it together.

## DEBRIEF

- Invite the children to read their scripture aloud. Ask questions like:
  - Does anyone have another scripture that sounds similar? If so, have them read it too.
  - What does the author of the scripture want us to know about Jesus?
  - What does this scripture teach us about the Eucharist?
- Here are some supporting notes about the scriptures included in the activity.
  - Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 14:22-24, Luke 22:19-20 - The Gospel accounts of Jesus instituting the Eucharist.
  - John 6:35-36 - Here Jesus says he is the 'Bread of Life'. This points to the Eucharist as food that gives us strength in our Christian life.
  - Matthew 14:13-21 - The accounts of Jesus feeding the multitude are a scripture foretaste of the way Jesus feeds us in the Eucharist.
  - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 - In his letter to the Corinthians, St Paul is telling us about the institution of the Eucharist and of it being passed on to others.
  - Acts 2:42 - tells us how the early believers celebrated the Eucharist (breaking of bread) from the very early days of the Church.



- Here are some supporting notes about the scriptures included in the activity cont...
  - Acts 2:42 - tells us how the early believers celebrated the Eucharist (breaking of bread) from the very early days of the Church.
  - John 6:53-58 - This scripture is about the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.
  - John 13:4, 12-15 - Jesus washes his disciples feet and Jesus tells the disciples to 'do the same'. When we are 'living the Eucharist', we do what we can to serve others like Jesus did.
  - Luke 24:28-35 - After walking with Jesus on the road to Emmaus, the disciples recognised him in the breaking of the bread. This reading also connects with the Liturgy of the Word at Mass when we receive God's word that feeds our hearts.
  - Matthew 13:1-9 - This is the parable of the Sower and the Seeds. It connects with the Liturgy of the Word at Mass when we receive God's word that feeds our hearts. We want to make sure our hearts and minds are open and ready!



**Matthew 26:26-28**

**Mark 14:22-24**

**Luke 22:19-20**

**John 6:35-36**

**Matthew 14:13-21**

**Luke 24:28-35**

**Acts 2:42**

**John 6:53-58**

**John 6:48-51**

**John 13:4, 12-15**

**Matthew 13:1-9**

**1 Corinthians 11:23-26**