

The Last Supper



MAIN TEACHING AND LEARNING POINTS

- Jesus gave the gift of himself at the Last Supper.

THE LAST SUPPER

On the night before he died, Jesus celebrated the traditional Jewish feast of the Passover with his disciples. The Passover is an important feast for the Jewish people, as it recalls how God freed the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt under the leadership of Moses [see Exodus 2:25-3:14]. Through this celebration, this event is made present and real to them the Jewish people today. During the Passover meal, the Jewish people give thanks and praise to God for freeing them from the Egyptians and making them God's chosen people [see Exodus 12:1-14].

Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before he died. This was the last meal Jesus had with his disciples and this is why it is called the Last Supper. Jesus wanted to give his disciples a special gift to remember him by, so that they would remember all he had given to them throughout his time with them. During the meal he shared with them the gift of himself, his body and blood in the form of bread and wine. His words, 'Do this in Memory of Me' [Luke 22:19] [GNT], help explain why we continue to celebrate the Mass today.

GOD'S WORD

Mark 14:22-24 | *The Lord's Supper*

Parent: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Child responds: *Glory to you, O Lord.* (While saying the words, trace a small cross with the thumb on the forehead, lips and heart.)

While they were eating, Jesus took a piece of bread, gave a prayer of thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples. 'Take it,' he said, 'this is my body.'

Then he took a cup, gave thanks to God, and handed it to them; and they all drank from it. Jesus said, 'This is my blood which is poured out for many... [GNT]

The Gospel of the Lord.

Child responds: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

FOCUS QUESTIONS

Ask your child the following questions to help them reflect on the Scripture.

- Who was present at the Last Supper?
- During the meal, what did Jesus do with the bread?
- What special words did he say when he shared the bread?
- During the meal, what did Jesus do with the cup of wine?
- What special words did he say when he shared the cup of wine?
- What do you think this story tells us about Jesus?

EUCCHARIST PRAYER

Begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Parent	<i>(Refrain)</i> <i>Take this and eat; this is my Body.</i> <i>Take this and drink; this is my Blood.</i> <i>This is my life, given for you.</i> <i>Do this in memory of me.</i>
Child	<i>Repeats refrain above</i>
Child	Gather in my name and remember me.
All	<i>(Refrain)</i>
Child	Share this meal together, and united we will be.
All	<i>(Refrain)</i>
Child	Nourished by my Body, nourished by my Blood,
All	<i>(Refrain)</i>
Child	I am with you always. I come that you may live!
All	<i>(Refrain)</i>
All	Amen.

The child writes on the worksheet their own journal entry, pretending that they are one of the disciples of Jesus who was present at the Last Supper. They write down what they saw and felt as they sat down and shared the meal with Jesus. The children then draw an image in the space provided.



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Dear Diary,

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the child to draw a picture of the Last Supper.