

Religion Curriculum Inquiry Unit



School:

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| YEAR LEVEL: 7 | Term: 4 | Year: |
| Inquiry / Wondering Question: I wonder about the Sacraments of the Catholic Church | | |
| Strands: <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Beliefs</p> <p style="background-color: #00728f; color: white; padding: 2px;">Sacraments</p> <p>Morality</p> <p>Prayer</p> </div> | Cross-curricular priorities: | |
| Class context/Learners: To be added by class teacher | | |
| Key Inquiry Questions: What are the seven Catholic sacraments? What are the signs, symbols, words and actions important to each sacrament? How do the sacraments celebrate Jesus Christ? | I Wonder: I wonder about the seven sacraments. I wonder about the symbols associated with the seven sacraments. I wonder how the sacraments have been drawn from the life of Jesus. | |
| Knowledge & Understanding... The Church recognises seven sacraments as drawn from the life of Jesus and continuing his ministry: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage, Holy Orders. For each of the seven sacraments, the Church specifies the rituals, ministers and norms for celebrating each sacrament. All sacraments, as celebrations of the worshipping community, express and support the journey of faith. CCC1210 The Church recognises and celebrates the sacramental presence of God through ritual, sign, symbol and word. Sacraments are a way of exploring the unfathomable mystery of | Skills... Explain the relationship between the Sacraments and the important moments of a Christian life. Illustrate how life experiences are expressed and celebrated through each of the sacraments (e.g. Baptism –welcoming, belonging). Describe how the symbols and rituals of each of the seven sacraments of the Church points to the risen Christ. Investigate how the Sacraments have developed over 200 years. Illustrate how each ritual Sacrament enables us to change. | |



God.
 Sacraments are visible but limited signs of God's active presence.
 Christ is a celebration of humanity and divinity
 Sacraments are centred on the mission of Jesus.
 They bring the action of the past into the present experience and reality.

Assessment Plan

Year Level Achievement Standards:

By the end of Year Seven students will explain the relationship between God and humankind and describe a way of life faithful to God's Love. By the end of year seven students will describe the structure and identify some of the genres of the Bible. They examine some of the social and cultural practices of Judaism in the time of Jesus and express personal interpretations of Jesus as teacher and healer. Students describe the role Saint Paul played in the establishment of the Church.

By the end of Year Seven *students analyse different qualities, features and conventions of the symbols and rituals of each of the seven Sacraments to identify how they celebrate the risen Christ.*

By the end of Year Seven students in the context of the Exodus story, investigate the Ten Commandments. They make connections between the Commandments and ways of living justly as a community.

By the end of Year Seven students identify people who live in the Holy Spirit. They communicate the ways they are signs of life, hope, service, and justice. Students identify the specific spirituality of the school and how it reflects the wider mission of the Church.

| Type of Assessment | Description | Possible Sources of Evidence | When assessment takes place |
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| Formative Assessment for Learning | Describing Symbols and Rituals chart - questions to prompt thinking and wondering | Discussion | Beginning of the unit |
| | What is a Sacrament? Try to come up with an explanation of what a sacrament is. | Response – can be written or creative response | During the Finding out stage. |



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| <p>Summative Assessment <i>of</i> Learning</p> | <p>This unit lends itself to the development of an ongoing portfolio of work that combines elements of self, peer and teacher assessment.</p> <p>Complete the following activity: Identifying Symbols and Rituals</p> <p>In groups students research the ritual structure of the seven sacraments. Use the Five W's to guide the students through this task. Who? What? Where? Why? When?</p> <p>Complete a Matrix Sacraments Seven ways of Experiencing Christ</p> | <p>It is important that each student has a copy of the unit dimensions. Students can be involved in developing a set of criteria for assessing each stage of the unit. This will improve their understanding of the dimensions.</p> <p>Complete the task – chart</p> <p>Research task</p> <p>Complete Matrix with missing parts</p> | <p>During the Tuning in stage</p> <p>During the sorting out phase.</p> <p>At the end of the unit</p> |
| <p>Affective Assessment <i>as</i> Learning</p> | <p>Describing Symbols and Rituals chart - questions to prompt thinking and wondering</p> <p>Engage in reflective activities to focus on the importance of Sacraments in living a Christian life.</p> | <p>Discussion</p> <p>Reflective thinking Journaling</p> | <p>Beginning of the unit</p> <p>At the end of the unit</p> |



Learning and Teaching Sequence

| WK | Inquiry Phase | Activity/Experience/Differentiation | Resources/ICLTs | Assessment |
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| | <p>Tuning In</p> | <p>Activity: What do I know about the Sacraments? See end of the unit for quiz questions and answers. Teachers print out the questions and answers on a separate sheet and the students need to find the matching questions answers. This can be completed in pairs or individually.</p> <p>Use individual KWL charts to record what the students already know and want to know, about the sacraments. (The K and the W).</p> <p>Symbols and Rituals give us ways of understanding abstract and often complex ideas.</p> <p>Describing Symbols and Rituals reading (see end of Unit) Read the article "Describing Symbols and Rituals" and answer the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe a symbol in your own words. • Describe a ritual in your own words. • Why do we need concrete objects or actions to communicate abstract meanings and values that are important to us? • Why are symbols important in storytelling? • Describe and object or ritual that is used in a Sacrament other than Baptism • Do you possess any special object that has symbolic meaning to you? • How is this different from widely known symbols like water, fire, a journey and so on? <p>Invite students to ask any further questions they may have.</p> <p>Advertising experts have determined that the McDonald's "golden arches" is one of the most recognised signs in the world. Explain why this may be the case List the things you think of when you see the McDonald's sign.</p> | <p>What do I know about the Sacraments information sheet.</p> <p>KWL chart</p> <p>Describing Symbols and Rituals chart</p> | <p>Students choose the piece of work which best illustrates their understanding of the nature of ritual and its role in human experience for inclusion in their portfolio. Students complete a reflection: What did I learn about ritual? Why did I choose this item to include in my portfolio?</p> <p>Teacher Assessment Observation of student discussion of the video clip/ experience and the subsequent response to the specific areas relating to the unit outcomes.</p> <p>Assessment for/as learning</p> |



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| | | <p>Complete the following activity: Identifying Symbols and Rituals Print out copies of the activity and have the students work on it individually allowing 5 to 20 minutes to complete the task. Choose various students to read their answers aloud. Invite students to read the examples of symbols they added, along with their explanations of what they mean. Students draw, paint or create symbols meaningful to them and share in groups.</p> <p>Discuss the meaning of ritual in students' families, community and school. Students analyse elements of a ritual they have viewed or experienced, E.g. Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, sorting hat scene from Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQZFWA2KDbw School Mass, Bishop Michael's ordination Mass or Vigil prayer , football grand finale, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwyiYXluLic http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jeks72zWK8</p> <p>Identify significant signs, symbols and words that were used/might be used to celebrate these events.</p> | <p>Identifying Symbols and Rituals Found in resources a the end of the unit.</p> <p>Olympic games opening or closing ceremony video or YouTube. Harry Potter YouTube clip http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQZFWA2KDbw Bishop Michael's ordination or Vigil Prayer http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jeks72zWK8 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwyiYXluLic</p> | <p>Assessment for /of learning</p> |
| | <p>Finding Out</p> | <p><i>Sacraments</i> <i>The Latin word sacramentum meant a holy oath made in the presence of the gods. The early Christians began to use the word to describe the holy moments that Jesus Christ had chosen to be with them.</i> (KWL yr 8 p 144) <i>All the sacraments involve visible actions and are also associated with rituals that have developed over time. Each sacrament has an essential sign and action. When the sacraments are celebrated, the essential sign and action must be carried out. Other symbols rich in meaning and history are also associated with the sacraments. These help give meaning to the celebration and to explain the importance of the sacraments.</i> (KWL yr 8 p147)</p> <p>What is a Sacrament? Ask the students write a short recount of their recollection of receiving or witnessing one of the sacraments of the Church.</p> <p>Watch this short YouTube clip explaining the seven sacraments:</p> | <p><i>To Know Worship and Love yr. 8</i> Richard Rymarz . James Goold House Publishing.2003</p> <p>http://www.youtube.com/</p> | <p>Assessment for learning</p> |



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| | | <p>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmfSwi3ZKH4</p> <p>Try to come up with an explanation of what a sacrament is. Students response can be verbal, written, use of Voki (see Voki.com http://www.voki.com/create.php), visual art.</p> <p><i>Sacraments are specific signs of God's special action in the world. There are seven sacraments Receiving the sacraments helps build a relationship with God.</i></p> <p>The Catechism of the Catholic Church divides the seven sacraments as follows and emphasises that they touch all the stages and important moments of life: <u>Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.</u> <u>Sacraments of Healing: Penance and Anointing of the Sick.</u> <u>Sacraments of Service and Commitment: Marriage and Holy Orders,</u> (KWL yr. 8 p. 146.)</p> <p>Fieldwork - visiting local churches to view/identify different signs and symbols relating to their community's celebrations. If this is not possible – then use images from the internet or use http://www.togetheratonealtar.catholic.edu.au/craft/dsp-landing.cfm?loadref=3 to investigate the various symbols, gestures, sights, sounds in a Church during a Mass.</p> <p>Teachers' Notes: there are quite a few learning objects on this webpage to assist in understanding the symbols, words and actions associated with the Church. http://www.togetheratonealtar.catholic.edu.au/craft/dsp-notes.cfm?loadref=11</p> <p>Working in small groups try to name as many sacramental symbols as they can. Have students list them and then ask them to divide them into two groups – symbols they think have a strong connection to the sacrament and symbols that don't have a strong connection to the sacrament. Students have to justify their decisions.</p> | <p>watch?v=qmfSwi3ZKH4</p> <p>http://www.voki.com/create.php</p> <p>Creative response – various methods for responding.</p> <p>Catechism of the Catholic Church. <u>Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.</u> <u>Sacraments of Healing: Penance and Anointing of the Sick.</u> <u>Sacraments of Service and Commitment: Marriage and Holy Orders,</u></p> <p>http://www.togetheratonealtar.catholic.edu.au/craft/dsp-landing.cfm?loadref=3 http://www.togetheratonealtar.catholic.edu.au/craft/dsp-notes.cfm?loadref=11</p> | <p>Assessment of Learning</p> <p>Assessment for /as learning</p> |
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| | | Using the document " The essential signs and actions of each Sacrament " have students brainstorm some of the essential 'Words' that are also important parts of each sacrament and add it to the table. | The essential signs and actions of each Sacrament | Assessment of learning |
| | Sorting Out | <p>Invite adult speakers to share with the class their memory of Sacramental celebrations such as Marriage, Holy Orders, Anointing of the Sick, Adult Baptism etc. If you know someone who has been through the RCIA, ask them to share their experiences of celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation for the first time.</p> <p>In groups students research the ritual structure of the seven sacraments. Use the Five W's to guide the students through this task. Who? What? Where? Why? When?</p> <p>The following resources can be used to assist students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning and teaching experiences for these specific groups of sacraments may be found in the following resources: • Sacraments of Initiation. BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION and EUCHARIST. Expressions Book 3 • Sacraments of Healing. PENANCE and ANOINTING. Expressions Book 5 • Sacraments at the Service of Communion. HOLY ORDERS and MATRIMONY. Expressions Book 6 • Bustedhalo YouTube clips on each of the Sacraments (Sacraments 101) can be found on http://www.newreligioncurriculum.com/sacraments.html <p>Students in their groups present their understanding of the Sacraments to the whole class.</p> <p>Sacraments are centred on the mission of Jesus. They bring the action of the past into the present experience and reality. Identify aspects of Jesus' ministry which relate to the Sacramental rituals in the early Church. e.g. Healing miracles in the gospels Table fellowship events in the gospels</p> | <p>Expressions Books 3,5,6, written by Maurice Ryan</p> <p>Busted Halo YouTube clips on http://www.newreligioncurriculum.com/sacraments.html</p> <p>Bibles</p> | <p>Assessment of Learning</p> |



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| | <p>reflection and Evaluation</p> | <p>What was your least favourite experience and why? Do you usually find this type of learning experience challenging?</p> <p>How did your understanding of the unit's subject matter change throughout the unit?</p> <p>Was anything you learned particularly interesting? Why?</p> <p>Write any other observations you have.</p> <p>In evaluating the indicators of learning the teacher could consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •What indicators are there that students have grown in their appreciation of the signs, symbols and rituals which enrich their lives? •How well do students describe sign, symbol, ritual, the nature of the Sacraments and rituals associated with the Sacraments? •How effectively can students classify examples of sign, symbol, ritual and sacrament? •To what extent did students engage in the process of portfolio assessment? •What changes (if any) would you make if you were teaching this unit again? | |
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A preassessment of my knowledge of the Sacraments.

Taken from *The Sacraments: Encounters with Christ* Living in Christ Series. St Mary's Press, Terrace Heights, Winona 2012. P83-86

Instructions for teacher: Read aloud only the answers and have students match the questions with the answers.

1. I am similar to a symbol, but my focus is on meaningful, repeated actions. I take many forms. For example, I can be a birthday celebration, the opening ceremony of the Olympics, or Baptism.
What is a ritual?
2. My name comes from the same root as the word ritual. I am the visible symbols and rituals that formally make a Sacrament what it is.
What is a rite?
3. I am the gateway to the Church. I am Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.
What are the Sacraments of Christian Initiation?
4. I am Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick
What are the Sacraments of Healing?
5. I am a servant of the Church; my two names are Ordination and marriage.
What are the sacraments at the Service of Communion?
6. My name is Jesus Christ.
Who instituted the Sacraments?
7. My name comes from a Greek word that means "to throw together." I throw together the literal meaning of an object or action with other meanings that are suggested by me. For example, I can be "fire" but I can suggest "anger" or "passion."
What is a symbol?



Describing Symbols and Rituals

Symbols are objects or actions (such as rituals) that evoke meanings beyond themselves. The object or ritual itself is concrete, such as water or a dance, and the meaning is abstract. Water, for example, may symbolize life (drinking water) or death (flood) or cleansing (a bath). A ritual dance may be used by an indigenous culture as a rite of spring or a coming of age ceremony, to symbolize fertility or to represent the arrival of a young adult to full membership in the group. When words describing such objects or actions evoke other meanings, the words themselves become symbols. Though connecting us with the world of sense perceptions, symbols also add power and depth to our words and stories.

Symbols participate in the abstract meaning for which they stand. Therefore the symbols (including words) and rituals in sacramental celebrations communicate powerfully on many different levels. For example, in baptism the sacramental object of water can actually be used for cleansing and nourishing. Water can also cause death. Pouring water over the head or immersing the person to be baptized ritually evokes the meanings of cleansing, nourishing as dying to an old life. Those who receive Baptism are truly cleansed of original Sin and all human sin, and they truly die to an old life in order to be reborn to a new life on Christ.

Liturgical symbols are widely recognized symbols such as water, oil, bread and wine, and gestures. In contrast with all other symbols and rituals that evoke meanings beyond themselves, liturgical symbols and rituals evoke and mediate the real presence of Christ. By fully conscious and active participation in the celebrations of the Sacraments, we are truly united with Christ and the Body of Christ, The Church.



Identifying Symbols and Rituals

The following objects or actions can be understood as symbols. Some actions, but not all are rituals. As specifically as you can, identify the object or action as a symbol or a ritual. Explain the abstract meaning each communicates. Add your own examples at the end.

| Object or Action | Symbol or Ritual? Explain | Abstract meaning |
|---|--|--|
| An egg | Symbol: An object that evokes meanings beyond itself. | New life, hope, initial form of something bigger, Easter. |
| Blowing out birthday candles | Ritual; A meaningful repeated action | The end of one year and the beginning of a new adventure, making a wish. |
| The colour green | | |
| A wedding ring | | |
| A yearly pilgrimage to the shrine of Saint James of Compostela of Spain | | |



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| A river | | |
| A lion | | |
| Laying hands on a person | | |
| Wind | | |
| Walking | | |
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Sacraments of Initiation

Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist are the sacraments of Initiation. Baptism and Confirmation lay the foundation of Christian life. Both of these sacraments have a permanent effect and can never be repeated. In these sacraments God is present at the beginning of Christian life and when it reaches maturity. The central sacrament, and the one to which all other sacraments lead, is the Eucharist. The Eucharist is the heart of Catholic life. It recalls and celebrates the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the new covenant between God and his people.

Sacraments of Healing







Penance and Anointing of the Sick are the sacraments of healing that can be received more than once. The e sacraments are a sign that God is present and active in difficult times, such as when we need to be forgiven or are challenged by illness. Through these sacraments Jesus continues to forgive and heal us.

Sacraments of Service

Marriage and Holy orders are the sacraments of service. In these sacraments, God is present and active when couples devote themselves to serve each other in married life, and when men respond to the call to serve the people of God as Bishops, priests and deacons. Holy Orders has a permanent effect and can never be repeated.



The essential sign and action of each sacrament

| Sacrament | Essential sign and action |
|---|---|
| Baptism  | Washing with water, while saying, "I baptise you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit .' |
| Confirmation  | Anointing with Chrism and laying on of hands to receive the Holy Spirit |
| Eucharist  | Doing as Jesus did at the last Supper – using bread and wine and his words and actions. |
| Penance  | Confessing sins with true sorrow and receiving absolution and a penance. |
| Anointing of the Sick  | Anointing with holy oil during a prayer asking for forgiveness an healing |
| Marriage  | Mutual consent of a man a ns a woman to live together forever with the intention of raising a family |



Holy Orders



Laying on of Hands, with a prayer asking God to give the powers and ministry of a bishop, priest or deacon.



The Sacraments: Seven Ways of Experiencing Christ

The chart below contains a concise overview of each of the Seven Sacraments. Some information is missing. Succinctly complete the chart.

| <i>The Sacraments</i> | | |
|---|--|---|
| Name of Sacrament Repeatable or non-repeatable | Sacramental Signs | Brief explanation of the Sacrament. |
| <i>Sacraments of Initiation</i> | | |
| Baptism Non-repeatable | Pouring water or immersion three times in the name of the Trinity | Primary Sacrament of the Christian Initiation beginning new life in Christ; repeats what Jesus did as he began his public ministry. |
| | Anointing with Sacred Chrism (oil), laying on of hands | Completing Baptism; strengthens new life; signifies the gift of the Holy Spirit |
| The Eucharist Repeatable | Blessing, distributing, and eating, consecrated bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Christ | Final Sacrament of Christian Initiation that nourishes and sustains us in resurrected life in Christ; spiritual food for journey. |
| <i>Sacraments of Healing</i> | | |
| Reconciliation Repeatable | Confession of sins, and words of absolution (forgiveness) | |



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| Anointing of the Sick _____ | | Sacrament of healing for those who are seriously ill or for any life-threatening situation (e.g. serious surgery) |
| Sacraments of _____ | | |
| _____ Non-repeatable | The laying on of hands and the speaking of the prayer of consecration | A sacrament of service tot eh Church as a deacon, priest, or bishop; celebrates Sacraments according to their office (e.g. priest can celebrate the Eucharist but cannot ordain another priest) |
| Marriage Non-repeatable | | Planned by God to bring about two great goods: man and woman pledged in love and service to one another, and the procreation and education of children. |





Scripture Graffiti

Concept:

A creative approach of exploring the meaning of scripture passages in both word and symbol. Students are asked to read various scripture passages and express their understanding of the meaning in a visually interesting and colourful manner.

In pairs students read selected passages and discern a possible 'message' that may be interpreted from each reading. They briefly discuss a suitable **visual image and caption** to highlight the message of the story.

After developing suitable ideas each pair records them on a Graffiti poster in a 'Graffiti' fashion.

The posters are gathered in a common display area for a plenary session. Students are asked to comment on similarities and differences contained in the various interpretations. Unique and insightful contributions are especially affirmed.

Variation:

Using a table form, individual students could develop a personal 'graffiti poster' covering a range of scripture readings on the one page.

e.g

| Theme: | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------|---------|
| Scripture passage | Key message | Graphic Image | Caption |
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |

