

PRESENTER'S GUIDE

Sacraments for Children

An Introduction to the Seven Sacraments for Middle-Grade Children

SUGGESTED USES

This DVD can be used in a variety of ways:

- This program was designed to supplement and offer visual reinforcement to any text you may be using with your middle-grade children about the seven sacraments. This DVD offers an “experience” of the sacraments that can fill out whatever textbook definitions and contents you are using.
- You can show it to middle-grade children in its entirety and then discuss it. Or you can show each sacrament individually and then pause the DVD to discuss it with them.
- You can teach the children the names of the sacraments, their principal groupings, and identify their major actions (matter and form).
- You can encourage “view at home” assignments for children and their parents to involve the whole family in learning about the sacraments.

PROGRAM NOTE

This DVD was designed to be used in whole or in part. It is recommended that the viewers have a chance to watch the opening episode, “Sacraments: Signs of God’s Presence,” before viewing the episodes on each particular sacrament. The opening episode, which includes a scene of boys roughhousing on the ground, is also tied into the presentation on the sacrament of Penance that appears at the conclusion.

Order of Appearance and Times

- **The Sacraments:** Signs of God’s Presence (7:35)
- **The Sacraments of Initiation:** Baptism (7:20); Confirmation (8:15); Eucharist (7:52)
- **The Sacraments of Commitment:** Marriage (6:33); Holy Orders (4:17)
- **The Sacraments of Healing:** Anointing of the Sick (5:12); Penance (6:45)

At the conclusion of each vignette, a graphic shows the central action of that sacrament along with the key words used.

SUMMARY

In this video, Father Ray Hain expertly conveys the signs, symbols, and meaning of the seven sacraments to a group of middle-grade children.

The video is divided into eight vignettes, all of which take place at “Camp Sacrament.” The first vignette addresses the concept of “sacrament”—the next seven cover each sacrament individually. In each, Father Ray’s down-to-earth explanations and examples from real life are highlighted by scenes from the actual rites of the sacraments. During the discussions, members of the group openly ask questions and clarify important points. Through the candid exchange and simple explanations, the children—and the viewer—are moved to a greater knowledge and appreciation of what the seven sacraments mean in their lives.

GOALS OF THIS PROGRAM

- To help middle-grade children understand and appreciate why the sacraments are important in their lives
- To learn what the seven sacraments are and do
- To value the reception and action of the sacraments in one’s life
- To help instructors begin discussions on the sacraments in their religious-education classes

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Sacraments in General

1. What is a sacrament?
2. How many sacraments are there?
3. Can you name them?

Baptism

1. Why is baptism called a sacrament of initiation?
2. What is the major symbol of baptism? What are some other symbols used in the rite of baptism?
3. What are the words spoken with the pouring of water or immersion?

Confirmation

1. What person of the Trinity—Father, Son, or Holy Spirit—comes to us in a special way in confirmation?
2. Who ordinarily administers the sacrament of Confirmation and why?
3. When is a person ready to be confirmed?

Eucharist

1. When did Jesus give us the sacrament of the Eucharist?
2. When in the Mass does Jesus become present to us under the appearance of bread and wine?
3. Besides Mass, what are the other ways we celebrate Jesus' presence to us in the Eucharist?

Marriage

1. Who administers the sacrament of Marriage and how?
2. How does the sacrament of Marriage reflect God's love for his people?
3. Does receiving the sacrament of Marriage mean a man and a woman will live happily ever after?

Holy Orders

1. What does Holy Orders empower a priest to do? a deacon? a bishop?
2. How does Holy Orders differ from religious life?
3. At what moment during the rite of ordination does a person receive Holy Orders from the bishop?

Anointing of the Sick

1. When should a person ask for the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?
2. What is the difference between "curing" and "healing"?
3. What are our obligations toward the sick?

Penance

1. Explain the confusing terminology surrounding Penance. It is the "sacrament of Penance" when speaking of the sacrament proper. It is the "rite of reconciliation" when speaking of the act of participating in the sacrament of Penance. Many times these terms are interchanged improperly. "Confession" is still a colloquial term used by many to refer to both the sacrament of Penance and the rite of reconciliation.
2. Review the steps of participating in the rite.
3. Who are we reconciled with in the sacrament of Penance?
4. What is the meaning of the penance that the priest asks you to do after going to confession?

Resources

For other helpful information, the following materials are recommended:

Good News Weekly. These weekly gospel-based bulletins are an interesting and fun way to help middle-grade children explore Scripture.

Prayer Is for Children. Uses hands-on learning activities to teach children how to communicate with God.

365 Fun Facts for Catholic Kids. Includes fun facts, definitions, and saintly surprises for each day.

*For prices and ordering information,
call us toll free at 800-325-9521 or visit our Web site, www.liguori.org.*

