

90 - 120 MINUTES
DEPENDING ON THE MASS PREP

session 4

explore

“Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord”



Aim

To identify and familiarise the young people with the key parts of the Mass

Overview

This session is to familiarise the young people with the different parts of the Mass, and to explore why we have them and what difference they make. For this session, the group will split into 4. If you have fewer than 8 young people in your group, split into 2 groups instead. They could either do two sections of the Mass each, or you could focus in on the Word and Eucharist.

Set-up

The sheet – Parts of the Mass will need to be cut up and placed in an envelope. You will need one set for each group along with large sheets of paper and glue. You may want to set out tables and chairs

YouCat Paragraphs:

Not to go ...

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“Not to go to communion is like a man dying of thirst lying beside a spring”

St John Vianney

equipment

Charity shops are a good place to find cheap jigsaws

you

will

need

1 each

Slips of paper each one with the name of one of 4 animals on it. Choose ones which make easily identifiable noises (eg cow, monkey etc), although if you know your group well, you could include a rogue animal eg chameleon!

1 /group

45-60 piece jigsaws, each one taken out of its box and put in a plastic bag

1 /group

Parts of the Mass cut up and placed in an envelope

1 /group

Sheets of A3 paper, Glue, Pens

1 /group

Question and answer sheet

1

Bible or text from 1Cor 11:23-27

1 each

Heart shapes big enough to write a name on

1 each

Challenge cards for week 4

Activity

Explanation

Welcome: 5 minutes
Introduce the evening, and explain that we are going to be delving into the Mass, and preparing for Christ the King.

Animal Game: 10 minutes
Explain that each person is going to get the name of an animal. There are four different kinds of animal, and the aim of the game is to find the other people with the same animal – but you can only do this by making the noise of the animal. The winning group is the first one to get together.

Jigsaw race: 5 minutes
Give each group a bag of jigsaw parts, and see which one can put the jigsaw together first.

What goes where?: 25 minutes
Doing a jigsaw with no picture is not easy! You can make the jigsaw in the end, but it is complicated and frustrating. Having the bigger picture makes the whole thing easier. Going to Mass can be a bit like this if you don't really know what's going on. Say that in the last session, we started to think about what goes on at Mass, and how we can get involved more. That was a bit like putting together all the edge pieces of the jigsaw. Today we are going to fill in some of the detail so that we can really see the bigger picture.

First of all we are going to do a jigsaw of the Mass!

Give out the envelopes and glue/paper. Tell the young people that there are 4 main parts to the Mass

- The Introductory Rites
- Liturgy of the Word
- Liturgy of the Eucharist
- The Concluding Rites

They have to identify which part of the Mass goes in each section. They then glue the parts in the correct order

If groups are struggling you may want to give them a missal or mass leaflet to help them out.

Question and answer: 25 minutes
Divide the sections up between the groups, and tell each group that they're going to explain to everyone else what happens at their part of the Mass e.g.

Group 1 – Introductory Rite
Group 2 – Liturgy of the Word etc.

Give each group the questions for their section and ask them to write down as many different (correct!) answers. Explain that we will be reading these questions and answers out at Mass.

Ask each group to feed back to the larger group.

Groups can add extra questions, and you can jot down any interesting points that the other young people make during the feedback session.

Activity

Explanation

Planning the Mass : 10 minutes

Ask each group to decide for each of their questions, which are the 2-3 most important answers. These are the ones which are going to be read out in church. Then decide who is going to read the questions, and who is giving the answers (you can have more than one person doing the answers). Write up the answers on the question and answer sheet.

Tell the group that they are going to be preparing the community Mass for Christ the King. They will be sharing with the congregation some of what they've been learning about over the past few weeks, by presenting their questions and answers at points through the Mass. They will also have their collage on the walls for everyone to see.

There are lots of other jobs that need to be done including:

- Welcoming
- Choosing/playing the music (depending on ability!)
- Reading the readings
- Doing the offertory
- Taking up the collection
- Hosting the tea and coffee afterwards
- Tidying up the church after Mass

Discuss with your group which of these they would like to do. You may even have some young people who are Eucharistic ministers. Remember that these jobs are done every week by other people, so remember that you will need to talk to them about your young people joining them/giving them a week off (see planning sheet for more info)

Depending on what your group want to get involved in will affect what happens next. If they want to be readers, welcomers, etc, then they need to turn up 30 mins before the Mass to practise what they're going to do. If they want to plan the music, you will need to work with them and your community's musicians to see the best way this will work. See <http://www.nationalyouthsunday.org.uk/National-Youth-Sunday/Liturgy-and-Music> for more info.

Activity

Explanation

Closing Prayer:
5 minutes

End with a short time of prayer.

Say to the group that the very last words spoken in the Mass have been newly written, and give us a wonderful challenge. "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord"

Read 1Cor 11:23-27, and ask your group to think about the very first Christians meeting together. Then mention some of the different kinds of people over the ages who have celebrated Mass: Romans, medieval peasants, kings and queens, people in prison camps, people in Brazil, Nigeria, the Philippines, India, Poland, Ireland, Great Britain. Explain how amazing it is that we have our faith handed down from the earliest apostles, and that now it is our turn to pass it on to others. Hand out the hearts and ask the young people to write on them someone they would like to come to know God more. (They can fold them in half if they like). Place the hearts around the candle and say:

Thank you Lord for the people that brought us to you: for our parents and grandparents, family and friends that encouraged us to love and know you. Help us to show you to others through our words and actions and the lives that we lead. We pray for the names on these hearts, that these people will come to know what a loving and merciful Father you are.

Through Christ our Lord,

Amen.

End by praying the Glory Be together. Hand out the final challenge cards to the group as they leave.