

Getting Ready for Chapter 10

Take Home



We Celebrate the Gift of Eucharist

In this chapter the children will come to recognize that the words of the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass describe the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples on the night before he died. They will learn that Jesus is present in the Eucharist as a sign of God's love for us. During the prayer celebration the children will genuflect and bow as signs of respect for the Blessed Sacrament.

ACTIVITY

A Family Celebration Check your calendar to see when your next family celebration will be. Plan together for the event. Who will be invited? How will you decorate? What special foods will you have? Will you need help from family and friends?

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

Before Mass, make a visit to the tabernacle. Demonstrate how we genuflect and bow to show respect for the Blessed Sacrament.

On the Web

www.blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of The Week



Saint Katharine Drexel
(1858–1955)

Katharine Drexel founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. Their mission includes spreading the Gospel and teaching about the Eucharist. Katharine used her wealth to establish missions and schools for Native and African Americans. She was canonized a saint in 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

Feast Day: March 3



Loving God, give us thankful hearts to celebrate the gift of your Son in the Eucharist. Help us share with others our belief that Jesus Christ is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. Amen.

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Scripture Background

In the Time of Jesus

Passover Meal The Jewish Passover meal commemorated the freeing of the Israelites from Egypt, and comes from the passage, “I will pass over you; ... no destructive blow will come upon you” (Exodus 12:13). Passover was and is the festival of freedom and redemption. Representative of God’s love and saving acts, it always gave the people hope in the face of oppression to attain freedom from social discrimination and enjoy religious liberty.

You can read accounts of Jesus’ last Passover meal, the Last Supper, in Matthew 26:17–30, Mark 14:12–26, and Luke 22:7–20.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Worship

Tabernacles The word *tabernacle* means “tent,” or “dwelling place.” The word is used in the Bible to describe the special tent in which the ark of the covenant with the tablets of the law was kept while the Hebrew people were in the desert. When Solomon built the Temple in Jerusalem, the ark was housed in the Holy of Holies. The place of the ark was considered God’s presence on earth.

In Catholic churches the tabernacle is the place where the Eucharist is reserved for those who cannot attend Mass. Catholics have the tradition of “visiting” the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle to pray and to remember that Jesus is present.