

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospels: John 21:1-14

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus appears to seven of his disciples at the seashore. They have been fishing without any luck. Jesus points out where to catch some fish, and they catch more than they can handle. When they arrive on shore, Jesus has prepared breakfast for them. Then they recognize Jesus and realize that he is truly alive.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Your child learned that Jesus came to visit his friends. They also learned about the importance of friends, neighbors, and family. Help your child see the people at Sunday Mass as their church family. If there is a coffee hour this Sunday after Mass, stay for a while to visit with other members of the parish family.

Promise (Grades K-1): Your child's class celebrated that Jesus is present. He shared a meal with his friends, and he also shares himself with us every time we go to Mass. Ask your child to tell the family the story, "Who has come to visit?" How does your family make others feel welcome?

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned how the early Church spread and grew. The class also learned about the symbol of the fish. Ask your child to tell the family about the fish and why it was and still is a sign for Christians. Spend some time making a fish symbol you can display at home. You might also make or purchase some fish symbols for the family members to carry with them.

Venture (Grades 4-6): Your child's class recognized that the Church is worldwide. The class also identified ways that people remember Jesus. Ask your child to share with the family why Jesus is called the Lamb of God. Ask your child to share with the family the map of the spread of the early Church, and talk about what it means to the family to belong to the Catholic Church.

Visions (Grades 7-8): One of the interesting discussions your young person had in class was identifying people who have died and who have had a lasting effect on society. Talk about people who have died who have greatly influenced your family. Much of the class was taken up with a play that dramatized the beginnings of the Church. Ask your teen to share what he or she learned about the Church's birth. Talk about why Jesus is called the "Lamb of God."

Pray Together

The Gospel about the great catch of fish can be a reminder that the Church has spread throughout the world. When you complete your conversation about the week's Gospel lesson, find some stories in the newspaper, online, or from the evening news that tell of Christians around the world who are suffering from poverty, war, or persecution. Share the stories and then pray together in your own words for those people, understanding that you are fellow members of the Body of Christ.