



SAINT CATHERINE CENTER FOR *Special Needs*

Learning About Faith: Suggestions for Catechists

This is an outline to assist catechists as they guide a child with special needs who is learning about our Catholic faith.

Getting to Know Jesus - Developing a Relationship with Jesus

Who is Jesus?

- Mary will have a baby, the one everyone is waiting for, Jesus the son of God.
- John points to Jesus, that he is special and will bring people together.
- The Baptism of Jesus

What did Jesus teach?

- Jesus taught that God loves everyone
- Jesus taught how to pray.
- Jesus teaches we should be kind to other people.

What did Jesus do? Jesus brought people together by:

- Feeding people; healing people; loving people
- The Lord's Supper - a way to remember and be with Jesus

Introduction to Sacraments

- **Baptism:** We become part of Church family
- **Reconciliation:** When we make unloving choices, we hurt our relationship with God and other people.
- **Eucharist:** Jesus is present in the Host. When we receive Communion, Jesus is with us in a special way. Jesus wants us to be nice to other people.
- **Confirmation:** We commit ourselves to follow Jesus in all the choices we make in our lives.

Introduction to Prayer

- We can pray in many places.
- We have many reasons to pray.
- Use adapted prayers of the Church (under construction).
- Signs and movements to use in prayer in place of expressive language (under construction).

Gospel Stories to Help with Faith Formation

- The Annunciation: the Angel Gabriel announcing Jesus' birth to Mary (Lk 1:26-38)
- John the Baptist introducing Jesus to his followers (John 1:35-42)
- Baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:10-11)
- Intro to what Jesus taught (Mark 1:21-28)
- Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-law and many others (Mark 1:20-39)
- Four friends carry their friend through the roof to get to Jesus (Mark 2:1-12)
- Feeding stories (Mk 6:30-44; 8:1-10)
- Jesus teaches us to pray (Mt 6:9-13)
- The Last Supper (Luke 22:19)
- The Early Church Gathers (Acts)