

LESSON PLAN: DIOCESE

revised by N. Heberlie, Jan. 2018

Grade Level: K-2

Lesson Title What is a Diocese?

Time 30 minutes

Lesson Objectives Students will understand the definition of diocese
Students will learn there are four dioceses in Iowa
Students will learn they are a part of the Diocese of Jefferson City.
Students will know where the Diocese of Jefferson City is in the state of Missouri.

Materials Needed Map of Missouri; split into four dioceses; index card that has parish name printed on it.

Lesson Procedures

1. Discuss with students the name of their parish. Use an index card with the name of your parish.
2. Share with students that each Catholic parish is a part of a diocese.
3. Explain to students the definition of a diocese:
 - a. *A specific territory established by the Pope, the Bishop of Rome.*
 - b. *It is under the leadership and authority of a bishop.*
 - c. *It is the most authentic expression of the Church.*
4. Show students the map of Missouri that is divided into the four dioceses and explain that in Missouri there are four different dioceses.
5. Explain to students they are a part of the Diocese of Jefferson City and point out where the diocese is on the map. Place the parish index card inside the diocese.
6. Talk with students about how the Diocese of Jefferson City covers the part of the state of Missouri.
7. Use the map and find the hometown. Show the distance between the parish town and Jefferson City.

Lesson Wrap-Up Review the following concepts with students:

- The name of their parish
- Each Catholic parish is a part of a diocese
- The definition of a diocese
- Their parish is a part of the Diocese of Jefferson City.
- The location of the Diocese of Jefferson City on the Missouri map
- The definition of a bishop
- Bishop Gaydos is the bishop of the Diocese of Jefferson City. Fr. Shawn McKnight will be the next bishop.
- Review the four outward symbols of a bishop (ring, crosier, mitre, and pectoral cross)

LESSON PLAN: BISHOP

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Grade Level: K-2

Lesson Title: What is a Bishop?

Time: 30 minutes

Lesson Objectives Students will understand what a bishop is.
Students will know the bishop of the Diocese of Jefferson City.
Students will understand the primary symbols of a bishop: Ring, Crosier, Mitre, and Pectoral Cross.

Materials Needed Picture of Bishop Gaydos in full vestments
Images of the sacred symbols of the bishop

Lesson Procedures

1. Discuss with children the name of their parish priest.
2. Discuss with children how their parish is a part of the Diocese of Jefferson City.
3. Show students the picture of Bishop Gaydos and share with children that he is the Bishop of the Diocese of Jefferson City. Fr. Shawn McKnight will be the next bishop after he is ordained.
4. Share with students the definition of Bishop.
 - a. *Taken from the ranks of priests, a bishop is chosen by the Pope and ordained as a Successor of the Apostles to lead a diocesan community in the ways of the faith.*
5. Discuss with students what the definition means:
6. Show students the picture of Bishop Gaydos again and point out the Ring, Crosier, Mitre, and Pectoral Cross. Explain to students these are outward symbols of a bishop.
7. Share with students the meaning behind each of these symbols:
 - a. Ring: a sign of the bishop's total commitment to the Church
 - b. Crosier: symbolizes the pastoral role of the Bishop in the diocese; think of it as a shepherd's staff and just as a shepherd leads and guides the sheep, a bishop leads and guides the people of the diocese.
 - c. Mitre: symbolizing the governing role of the bishop. He is called to be the leader and is responsible for the people.
 - d. Pectoral Cross: worn by the bishop over his heart to show the bishop's appreciation to God and love for Jesus for dying on the cross.

Lesson Wrap-Up Review the following concepts with students:

- Bishop Gaydos is the bishop of the Diocese of Jefferson City. Fr. McKnight will be the new bishop.
- As our bishop, he is the leader of the Catholic church in the Diocese of Jefferson City.
- As the Pastor he guides our spiritual growth and our Catholic faith
- Four of the outward symbols of a bishop are the Ring, Crosier, Miter, and Pectoral Cross that symbolize the role of bishop (pastoral, teaching, governing, and sanctifying).
- Have students name each of the symbols as you point them out on the picture of the bishop.
- Have students use an outline to make each of the symbols. (See color sheets and directions for making items on Google docs.)

LESSON PLAN: CATHEDRAL

revised by N. Heberlie, Jan. 2018

Grade Levels: K-2

Lesson Title What is a Cathedral?

Time 30 minutes

Lesson Objectives

- Students will understand what a Cathedral is
- Students will understand that each diocese has a Cathedral and the Cathedral is the Bishop's parish
- Students will understand that St. Joseph Cathedral is the bishop's parish.

Materials Needed Picture of St. Joseph Cathedral

Picture of cathedra from St. Joseph

Lesson Procedures

1. Review with students the definition of bishop and diocese
2. Review with students that Bishop Gaydos is the bishop of the Diocese of Jefferson City. Fr. Shawn McKnight will be the new bishop.
3. Explain to students that each diocese has a special church called a Cathedral. Share the definition of cathedral.
 - a. *The word is derived from the Latin word, cathedra, meaning seat or chair and refers to the presence of the bishop's chair in the "cathedral." The cathedral is the principal church of a diocese where the bishop gathers the ecclesial community for its principal events.*
4. Explain to students that the Cathedral in the Diocese of Jefferson City is St. Joseph. Show the picture of St. Joseph to the students.
5. Discuss with students that the Cathedral is the bishop's Church, so St. Joseph is the Church for Bishop Gaydos and the new bishop.
6. Share with students that each cathedral has a special chair in it for the bishop when he is there for Mass. That chair is called a cathedra. It symbolizes the teaching, pastoral, sanctifying, and governing role of the Bishop.
7. Show students that picture of the cathedra from St. Joseph.
8. Explain to students that this is a special chair for Bishop Gaydos and that this chair is a symbol of his leadership, teaching, and governance in the Diocese of Jefferson City.
9. Remind students they will see the Cathedral of St. Joseph and the cathedra when they come to visit the Cathedral.

Lesson Wrap-Up Review the following concepts with students:

- The definition of a cathedral.
- St. Joseph Cathedral is the cathedral for the Diocese of Jefferson City.
- St. Joseph Cathedral is the Church of Bishop Gaydos and the new bishop.
- The special chair in St. Joseph Cathedral is called a cathedra.
- This chair is for the bishop and symbolizes his leadership in the Diocese of Jefferson City..
- The definition of bishop and diocese.