



Sunday Gospel Background

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells about a king who keeps inviting guests to his son's wedding feast until he fills the hall. Matthew dwells on the fate of the guests who refuse the king's invitation. *Good News* stresses instead the desire of the king to share his happiness with everyone around him.

Share Experiences

Check off the boxes as you complete each part of the lesson.

- Pray together** "Jesus, you invite us to be part of your family through our Baptism. Thank you for inviting us to your special feast—the Mass and Holy Communion. Help us to always say yes to your invitations. Amen."
- Cover Activity (page 1)** Have your child identify the three party pictures on the cover. **Ask:** What's your favorite thing to do at a party? Read aloud the directions and have your child complete the activity, imagining a party and what guests can do and eat. **Ask:** How does it feel to be invited? How does it feel to be left out?
- Story • Who Can Belong? (page 2)** Ask if your child recognizes the symbol next to the *Know* question. *It's the emblem for the Cub Scouts of America.* Read the story aloud to your child. When finished, help your child retell the story. **Ask:** Why do you think Brayden acts the way he does?
- Discuss the story using the *Know* question.** Affirm your child's answers. This discussion prepares us for the Gospel.

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • The Wedding Feast (page 3)** Explain that Sunday's Gospel is a story of a king who invites people to a party. Invite your child to listen to how people respond to the invitation. Divide up the roles of Jesus, King, Messengers, Shopkeeper, Farmer and Others between you and your child. Proclaim the Gospel together by reading aloud these speaking parts. After you are finished, take a moment to reflect silently together.
- Discuss the Gospel story using the *Know* questions.** Help your child understand that our loving God, like the king, will keep inviting us over and over. God wants us to be part of Jesus' feast—the Eucharist here on earth and at God's table in Heaven.
- Catholic Faith Word • Eucharist (page 4)** Read aloud the definition. Explain that *Eucharist* can mean both Holy Communion and the Mass. Emphasize that the bread and wine *really* become Jesus' Body and Blood.
- Connecting Gospel and Doctrine (page 4)** Read aloud the paragraph about God inviting his people. Emphasize that participating in Jesus' feast of the Eucharist helps us get to Heaven, where we will sit at God's table.



- Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 20. Read the page together. Ask your child to think of a family meal that was especially enjoyable recently. Talk about how your family meals can reflect the Mass—we gather together, remember and share stories, give thanks, share a meal, and leave the meal nourished in body and spirit. **Ask:** What is a special family meal we share in the fall? *Thanksgiving.* Explain that the word Eucharist means "thanksgiving." We gather to give thanks to God at every Mass. Read page 22 together to learn more about the Eucharist.

Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to Good News, page 4.



Live the Gospel

- **Activity • Third Commandment (page 4)** Ask: Why is Sunday called the Lord's Day? *Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday. Every Sunday is like a little Easter.*

Direct your child's attention to the activity on the top of page 4. Read aloud the title and the first paragraph. (You may wish to refer to page 31 in *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to read about the Ten Commandments, especially the Third Commandment.)

Read aloud the second paragraph. Then refer again to the activity title. Have your child finish the "My favorite thing about Sunday" writing prompt and share with you. Invite your child to complete the rest of the activity.

- **Activity • We Go to Mass Booklet (pages 1-4)** Have your child open *Good News* so that the front and back cover (pages 1 and 4) are facing up. If needed, help your child cut on the dashed slanted line. Then have your child turn over the cut piece so the title of the activity "We Go to Mass" is faceup.

Have your child make accordion folds on the solid fold lines. The small picture at the bottom of "Who Can Belong?" shows what this folding activity will look like.

When your child's booklet is finished, read through it together, page by page. Invite your child to describe what is happening in each picture. For each side, begin with the shortest page and read through to the tallest page. Encourage your child to bring the booklet to Sunday Mass to follow along with what is happening.

- **Closing Prayer** "God, thank you for inviting us to your feast. Help us to always accept your invitations. Amen."



Parent Resources

For weekly videos, assessments, and more, scan this code or go to pflaumweeklies.com/family
Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings to read this Sunday's Scripture