The Last Supper



MATERIALS

➤ The Last Supper Art Print

► Children's Book page 253

TIME

10-30 minutes

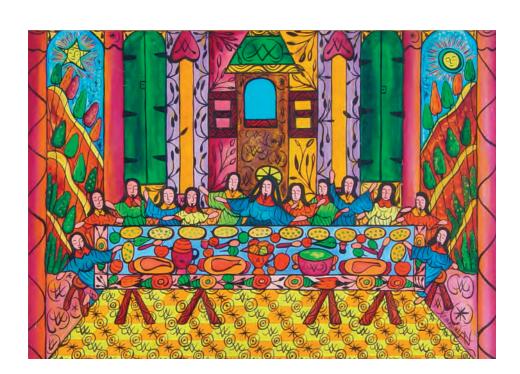
GRADE 2, UNIT 4, SESSION 19

Catechist Guide page 113

Faith Focus: Celebrating the Eucharist is essential to Christian life.

OUTCOMES

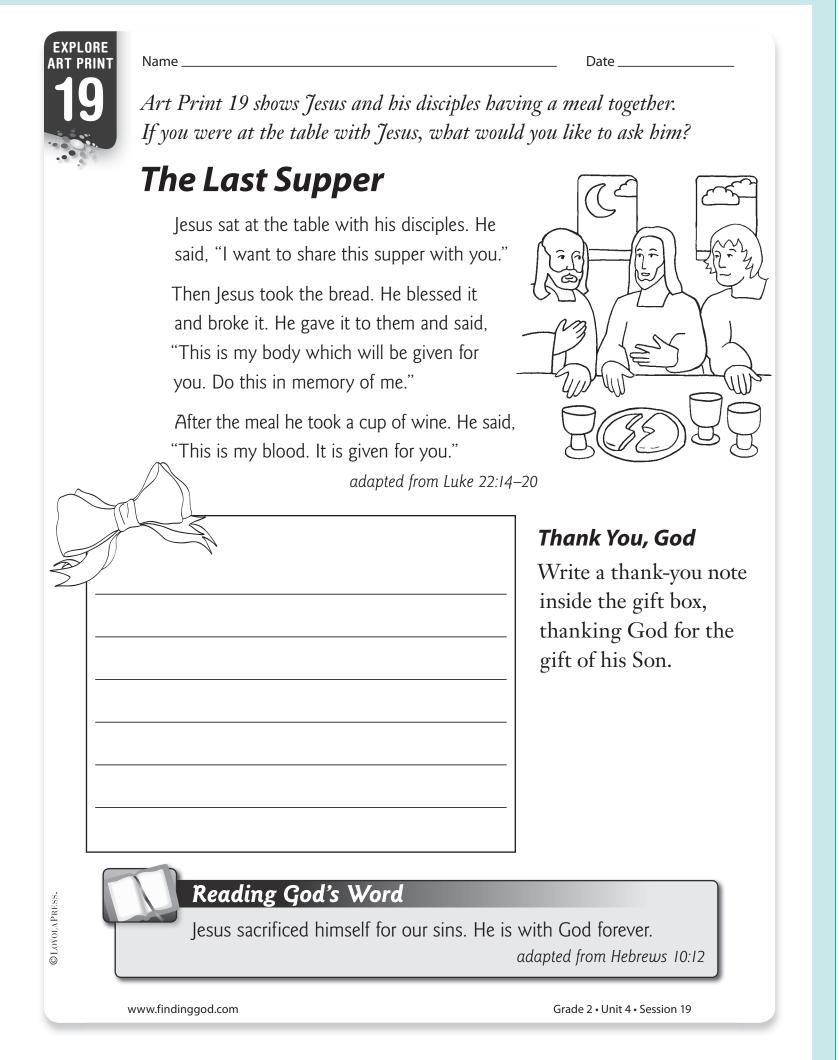
- Recall the story of the Last Supper.
- Explain the story of the Last Supper in relation to the Eucharist.
- Explain that by giving ourselves to help others we follow Jesus.



About the Artist Haitian artist Florence Martinez was born in 1942, in Jacmel, Haiti. He is known primarily for his religious motifs, often depicting biblical events such as in *The Last Supper*. He has an unusual, almost studied style, unlike other Haitian artists. His use of vivid colors brings the biblical story to life. Looking at other examples of Haitian art, it appears that Florence has no "copiers" of his unique style. This often happens among Haiti's better-known artists.

Art-i-facts The Last Supper is Martinez's interpretation of this event in Jesus' life. The story appears in all four Gospels. Jesus is seated in the center with a halo, which represents a holy person. Six disciples are seated on each side. Loaves and fishes are seen on the table. These appear in other stories of Jesus. Everyone's eyes are closed. Perhaps this signifies a reflective or spiritual experience.

For your convenience, the Children's Book page is reproduced below.

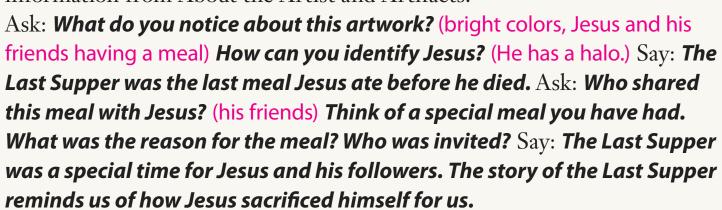


CATECHIST DIRECTIONS

1 Begin

After completing page 113 in the Children's Book, display the Art Print.

Briefly introduce and discuss the artwork, using information from About the Artist and Artifacts.



Invite children to reflect on the artwork and to pray a silent prayer asking for Jesus' help in sharing his love with others. Following the prayer say: Look for ways to give of yourself by serving others this week.

2 Connect

Have children turn to page 253 in their books. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.

Have volunteers read aloud The Last Supper. Say: Jesus told his disciples that he wanted to share that meal with them. Ask: How does Jesus share this meal with us? (when we go to Mass and receive Holy Communion) Ask: What did Jesus mean when he shared the Bread and Wine and said, "This is my Body" and "This is my Blood." (that the Bread and Wine became Jesus' Body and Blood, the Eucharist) Where have you heard these words before? (during Mass)

Say: The Last Supper has an important meaning for Catholics. It reminds us of Jesus' great love and the sacrifice he made. It shows how we can make sacrifices by doing things for others. Ask: What are some ways that you can give of yourself for others? (Possible answers: spend time with someone who is sick or lonely; read to a younger sibling)

Read aloud Thank You, God. Have children work independently to write a thank-you note to God for the gift of his Son, Jesus. Invite volunteers to share their work.

Reading God's Word

Read aloud this feature. Then do a choral reading with one group reading the first sentence and a second group reading the next sentence. Discuss how Jesus sacrificed himself and why he did this for us. Repeat the Scripture verse as a prayer.

IF TIME ALLOWS

If time allows, complete one or more of the activities below.

Expression: Music

We Come to Your Table Invite children to sing "We Come to Your Table" [Finding God Grade 2 CD 2, Track 17] or another appropriate song with a eucharistic theme. Talk about the meaning of the lyrics. Then sing the song again. Add simple gestures.

Time: 5 minutes

Materials: CD player, [Finding God Grade 2 CD 2, Track 17] "We Come to Your Table" or another appropriate song with a eucharistic theme.

Expression: Art Studio

Last Supper Place Mats Say: Meals are special times we share with our families and others we care about, just as Jesus shared the Last Supper with his followers. Have children make place mats they can use at home. Suggest that children draw pictures in the colorful style of the Art Print or use stickers to show favorite foods and people who are special to them. Encourage children to be creative.

Time: 25 minutes

Materials: construction paper, crayons or markers, stickers

The Last Supper



Florence Martinez, 20th century.

