

The Last Supper

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.

EXPLORE ART PRINT 19

Name _____ Date _____

Art Print 19 shows Jesus and his disciples having a meal together. If you were at the table with Jesus, what would you like to ask him?

The Last Supper

Jesus sat at the table with his disciples. He said, “I want to share this supper with you.”

Then Jesus took the bread. He blessed it and broke it. He gave it to them and said, “This is my body which will be given for you. Do this in memory of me.”

After the meal he took a cup of wine. He said, “This is my blood. It is given for you.”

adapted from Luke 22:14–20



Thank You, God

Write a thank-you note inside the gift box, thanking God for the gift of his Son.

Reading God’s Word

Jesus sacrificed himself for our sins. He is with God forever.

adapted from Hebrews 10:12

CATECHIST DIRECTIONS

- MATERIALS**
- The Last Supper Art Print
 - Children’s Book page 253

- TIME**
- 10–30 minutes

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.

Ask: **What do you notice about this artwork?** (bright colors, Jesus and his friends having a meal) **How can you identify Jesus?** (He has a halo.) Say: **The Last Supper was the last meal Jesus ate before he died.** Ask: **Who shared this meal with Jesus?** (his friends) **Think of a special meal you have had. What was the reason for the meal? Who was invited?** Say: **The Last Supper was a special time for Jesus and his followers. The story of the Last Supper reminds us of how Jesus sacrificed himself for us.**

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.

T 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 **I** 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.