

Year 1 Material

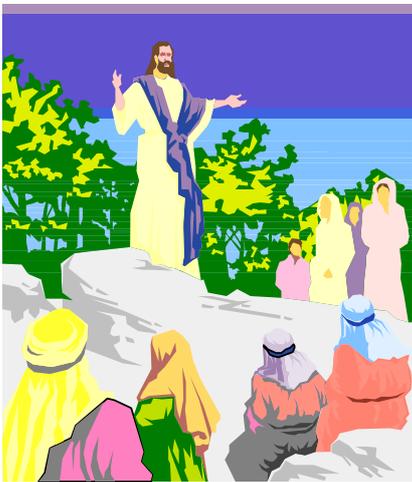
Learning Strand - JESUS CHRIST - HEHU KARAITI

Focus: Jesus - My Friend

Catholic belief is that Jesus of Nazareth, called Christ, is both human and divine. As a human being Jesus was born into a particular society and culture, and lived in a certain geographical location, at a precise time in history. To properly appreciate his message we need some understanding of these realities of Jesus' life. In learning of Jesus' friendship with his disciples we can come to appreciate his calling us into friendship with him today.

Make a place in your children's bedrooms for:

- pictures of Jesus and his life
- pictures from magazines of people from Middle Eastern countries
- a picture of Jesus that reminds them that Jesus is their special friend



Year 2 Material

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Focus: Jesus Showed His Love in Different Ways

Jesus showed his respect and love for the tapu of people in many different ways; talking, listening, sharing meals, touching, healing and, eventually, dying for them. We are called to follow Jesus' example. Our best resource for this is the stories in the Bible.

Remind each other that:

- showing respect for others is one of your family values
- listening for feelings as well as facts when people are speaking is important

Play together:

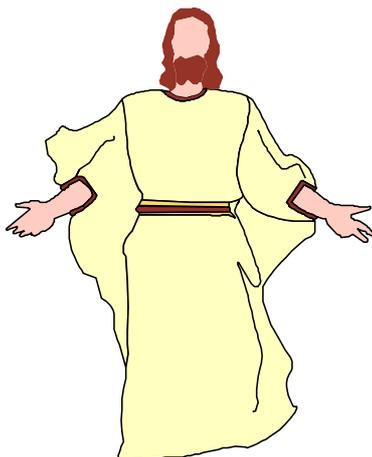
- a Bible search and find Game to help children become more familiar with different parts of the Bible e.g. Mark's Gospel, Old Testament stories
- 20 question games about Bible characters with yes/no answers only e.g. Noah was swallowed by a whale.

Take time to:

- invite a family member or friend to share a meal or an outing
- place your family Bible in a special, prominent place at home and use it for stories regularly.

Talk about:

- ways our family shows love and respect for tapu of people
- what makes a good listener and how people feel when they have been listened to





Year 3 Material
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Focus: Jesus Gives Himself in the Eucharist

The best way of giving thanks to God is joining with Christ's gift of himself in the Eucharist. The Eucharist helps people to grow in holiness and grace - tapu and mana as they recognise Christ's presence in the gathering of his people and his minister and in the proclamation of the Word. Above all they recognise Christ's presence in the transformed bread and wine, which have become, "in a way surpassing understanding" his Body and Blood.

Take time to:

- go as a family to Sunday *Eucharist*
- remind your family at meals together, about how sharing food is part of *Eucharist*
- share ideas about how food reminds you of special people and special events
- make bread, break it and eat it together
- prepare a family *Liturgy of the Word* and read a gospel story you enjoy
- arrange to have a home *Eucharist* and invite people in your neighbourhood to come and share it.



Year 4 Material

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Focus: Jesus Came to Show People How to Live and Lead them to God

Jesus invites people to grow closer to God - grow in Holiness - tapu and mana by sharing in his life through the gift of God's grace. By accepting this invitation Christians share in Jesus' mission of worshipping God and bringing about the Kingdom or Reign of God - te Rangatiratanga, "on earth as it is in heaven".

Take time to:

- recall and reflect on all the invitations you have had recently to become holy e.g.
 - * offers to come and share something enjoyable
 - * offers to be involved in helping others
 - * opportunities to learn and understand Jesus' message better
 - * times to spend in prayer and reflection with God
 - * opportunities to form deeper relationships with others
- talk about what grace - Mana Atua means e.g.
 - * God's life and activity in the World
 - * God's presence and action in people's lives
 - * God's gift to all people given freely so they can be friends with God
 - * God's way of letting people share in God's own life, God's Tapu and MANa
 - * God's favour for each person
- recognise moments and times of grace in your lives e.g.
 - * experience of all good things and events
 - * experiences of loving words and actions
 - * experiences of deeper understanding of life and the world
 - * times of strength and courage
 - * times of great joy and happiness



Plan to:

- arrange a way your family could work for what the Kingdom of God is about- justice - tika, peace- rangimarie and mercy - aroha
- make a poster or family table mat with each family member's face and name



Year 5 Material
Learning Strand -
JESUS CHRIST - HEHU KARAITI

Focus: The Life of Jesus

Catholic belief is that Jesus of Nazareth, called Christ, is both human and divine. As a human being Jesus was born into a particular society and culture, and lived in a certain geographical location, at a precise time in history. To appreciate properly Jesus' message we need some understanding of these realities of his life. We gain this understanding mainly through study of, and reflection on the Scriptures.

Take time to explore:

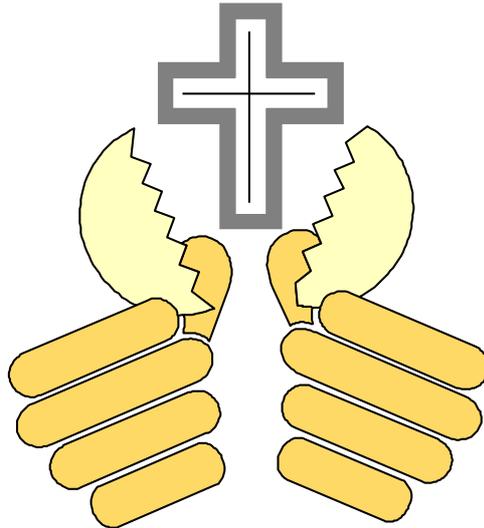
- by taking turns at finding various books in the Bible
- by inviting your child to show you how to find a Scripture reference in the Bible and encourage your child to explain to you what life was like in the times Jesus lived and to name some of the groups which Jesus had to deal with
- an atlas and find the places on a modern map which are mentioned in the New Testament writings e.g. Turkey called Asia Minor and Galatia, Israel included Judea, Samaria and Galilee, Jordan was near Syria, Greece was Dalmatia Achaia and Macedonia.

At Family Prayer:

- starting with the birth of Jesus tell or read a story each night of the major events in Jesus' life e.g. the presentation in the Temple, Jesus' *baptism*, his miracles, the healing stories, the stories of the week before his death, the stories of the resurrection and the events that followed, his *ascension to heaven*
- ask Jesus to help you accept the strengths and weaknesses of being human

Year 6 Material

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Focus: The Fullness of God's Revelation

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, revealed to the world that God is Abba - loving God or Matua. In his mission on earth Jesus called on people to repent, through the grace of the Holy Spirit - Mana Atua, and to live lives of faith, hope and love. Jesus' whole life was a response of love - aroha for God and for people.

Talk about:

- the important things your family believes in, e.g. right to be free, the importance of telling and living by the truth, the right of each person to be respected, the importance of thinking for yourself and accepting responsibility for your actions.
- relate the things you talked about to important things you believe as Christians, God created and loves all people, Jesus is God's only Son, Jesus made God known in the best way, Jesus lived on earth and showed people how to live, Christians live with faith, hope and love, Jesus' life was full of love for God and for people and that is why he died
- how what Christians believe, influences the way they live
- all the ways people can show love - aroha for each other at home e.g. doing little things for others cheerfully - like pegging out the washing, carrying the grocery from the car, ringing an elderly relative to say hello.

Take time to:

- pray as a family that each member of your family will have the strength to live by what they believe
- name people you know who live with *faith*, hope and love and identify the ways this can be seen in the way they live their lives, tell them about this conversion
- reflect on how you live your own life - what are your priorities? What do you think about first/most each day?
- imagine you had to write 5 rules for life that people could live by - what would you include?
- have a conversation with an older person about what is important to you and how you want to live your life.