

Chapter 4
The Sacrament of the Eucharist
[*The Last Supper* by Leonardo da Vinci]

This assignment challenges students to analyze Leonardo da Vinci's The Last Supper through both an artistic and a theological lens. They will explore how da Vinci used Renaissance painting techniques to capture a profound scriptural moment.

Display a high-resolution image of the fresco or have the students complete the assignment using the image in their books. Part 2 of the assignment should be completed on a separate sheet of paper or in a journal.

The Last Supper: Visual Analysis and Theological Reflection

Part 1: Visual Analysis (Short Answer)

Study a high-resolution image of the fresco and answer the following questions in two to three sentences each:

- **The Composition:** How does Da Vinci use linear perspective to draw your eyes directly to Jesus?
- **The Disciples:** Look closely at the groupings of the apostles. How do their facial expressions and hand gestures reflect their reactions to Jesus saying, "*One of you will betray me*"?
- **The Symbolism:** Christ's body forms a distinct geometric shape (a triangle). What theological concept do you think this shape represents?

Part 2: Theological Reflection (Mini-Essay)

Read **Matthew 26:20–25** and **John 13:21–30**, then write a 250-word reflection addressing one of following questions:

- How well does Da Vinci capture the human emotion, drama, and spiritual gravity described in these Gospel passages?
- Focus specifically on the depiction of **Judas Iscariot**. How does da Vinci visually separate him from the other disciples to show his guilt?