

Faith & Film: The Paschal Mystery

Project-Based Lesson Overview

Topic:
The Paschal Mystery

Driving Question(s)

How can film help you understand and explain Paschal Mystery better so you can live it out in your daily life?

Objectives

- Identify and explain elements of the Paschal Mystery, utilizing film as a tool.
- Analyze how film techniques can convey theological meaning.
- Create a video essay that analyzes a film clip and its parallel to the Paschal Mystery.
- Reflect on how the Paschal Mystery can be lived out in daily life.

Materials

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*
 - Pp. 571-682
- *A Journey Through the Catechism*
 - Chapter 4 (pg. 59-71)
- *Computer (for research, video camera, editing, and creation)*
- *WordDoc (for writing draft)*
- *Video recording software (computer software or Canva) (for video essay)*
- *Pre-selected film clips*
- *Youtube (for upload)*
- *Headphones for video recording (as needed)*
- *Rubric*
- *Faith & Film: The Paschal Mystery Overview and Directions Sheets*
- *Video Essay Feedback Sheet*

Important Info to Know

Vocabulary:

Blasphemy:

According to Mosaic Law, this was hateful, defiant, or disrespectful actions or words against God. The punishment under Mosaic Law for this was death.

Ascension:

The event that “marks the definitive entrance of Jesus’ humanity into God’s heavenly domain” (CCC, 665). It is from Heaven that Christ will come again.

Paschal Mystery:

Christ's work of redemption, accomplished principally by his Passion, Death, Resurrection, and glorious Ascension. The mystery is commemorated and made present through the sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

Passion of Christ:

The suffering of Jesus leading to His death.

Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist:

The liturgical action known as the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. It “constitutes the principal liturgical celebration of the Paschal Mystery of Christ”

Outline and Timeline

*****This is an in-class project. Only work on this at-home if you do not finish the project in the workdays allotted to you. *****

Day 1: Paschal Mystery Introduction

- Lecture and Discussion about the Paschal Mystery.

Day 2: Connection Points

- Discuss connection of the Mystery to Sacred Liturgy and the Sacraments.
- Liturgy Logic Investigation Activity.

Day 3: Review & Plan

- Introduce guidelines, expectations, and rubric for film assignment.
- Choose film clip.

Day 4: Film Basics

- Discuss features of film/art that can be used as a tool to express truth.
- Begin analysis of films.

Day 5: Drafting & Feedback

- Analyze film clip (people, places, message, etc.).
- Draft thesis and script/storyboard.
- Share and receive feedback from peers.

Day 6: Create & Refine

- Create script/storyboard and/or film the video.
- Refine and revise with teacher for accuracy.
- Share and receive feedback from peers.

Day 7: Finalize & Review

- Finalize script/storyboard and/or film the video.
- Edit video and content based on teacher/peer feedback.
- Review submission requirements and submit.

Days 8-10: Launch Party

- Submit final video essay *(if needed)*.
- Watch Party and/or Collect Submissions.

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Project Instructions

In this project, you will independently create a short video essay on how a film can be used as tool to better understand and explain the Paschal Mystery. The goal of this project is to inspire you to live the Paschal Mystery out in daily life. You will also collaborate with your peers for feedback and inspiration as you create your video essay.

You will choose **one** preselected video clip to analyze and argue where the Paschal Mystery is present in that clip. Once you decide on a video clip, you will decide which video software you would like to use to create your video essay. You may use Canva for free, the computer software, or any other free video creation/editing software. After you decide on your software you will research, analyze, and create a thesis/argument on a WordDoc as your script/storyboard. You will get constructive feedback from your teacher and peers on your draft/content throughout the assignment. Once your video is edited and polished with any changes from the feedback you received, you will submit your assignment to your teacher for a watch-party and/or community sharing of the videos.

GROUPS

- You will be creating your own video but will be getting feedback from your peers each day for feedback in small groups of 4-6.
- In your group you will work with a peer to share your video essay and receive feedback. You will then share with your whole group a brief summary of what you discussed with your peer and open the floor for feedback and inspiration from others.
- The feedback your peer writes to you will be given **back** to you to keep making adjustments and to turn-in.
- **Group Overview:**
 - o **Feedback:** Remember to critique the content, not the person! Constructive feedback should provide support and encouragement on what is being assessed. When working together, ensure your peers/groups advice and ideas are heard and acknowledged, whether or not you choose to fulfill them or not.
 - o **Collaborate:** Though each of you are creating your own video essay, it is important to work with your peers to get inspiration and to see how you are progressing. It is a way to challenge your goals and thinking and build off the ideas of others.
 - o **Develop:** Be creative! Let your artistic and creative ideas flow in this project. Also make sure you are meeting all the requirements! Let your group members feedback ensure you are on-track.

VIDEO CLIPS:

*** You will choose **ONE** clip from the list below to analyze and create a video essay for. ***

Risen (2016):

- 9-16 minutes in: crucifixion scene
- 24-25 minutes in: night at the tomb
- 25-30 minutes in: Jesus body is missing/resurrection

Les Misérables (2012):

- 2hr30min in: Death of Valjean (final scenes)

Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (2005):

- 1hr42min in: Aslan's sacrifice and death
- 1hr48min in: Aslan's resurrection

The Lion King (Disney, 1994):

- Scenes to search for:
 - o Mufasa's Death (beginning scenes)
 - o Rafiki Reminds Simba of His True Identity (mid-end scenes)
 - o Battle with Scar & Restoration of Pride Rock (ending scenes)
 - o Simba's Coronation Scene (ending scenes)
 - o The Circle of Life Renewed (very end scenes)

It's a Wonderful Life (1946):

- Scenes to search for:
 - o George Returns Home (ending scenes)
 - o Financial Ruin & Despair (beginning scenes)
 - o George's Sacrifices Throughout His Life (middle scenes of movie/do a recap of life events)
 - o The World Without George (middle scenes)
 - o "No man is a failure who has friends" (very end scenes)

TASK:

This is a step-by-step breakdown of what is expected of you for this project. Use it as a checklist as you work to ensure you are completing all requirements.

☐ **What is required to turn in:**

- o **ONE** WordDoc script/storyboard
- o **ONE** Video-Essay (on Youtube)
- o **MULTIPLE** peer feedback evaluations for yourself

☐ **Your Contributions:**

■ **Formats for Video Essay:**

- Video of you explaining with the use of props to enhance engagement (signs, posters, pictures, books, documents, etc.).
- Video of you explaining with the use of multimedia elements (animations, transitions, text, etc.).
- Animated/multimedia video with a voiceover of your voice explaining.

☐ **Research:**

- o Feel free to get ideas from things already created on the internet to get your creative juices flowing, but you may **NOT** copy and paste content, stories, analysis, narrations, etc., from other people's hard work.
- o All ideas must be **ORIGINAL** and created by you!
- o Please use Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and/or writings from Saints/Church Doctors/Church Documents to support your thesis/argument.
- o On your drafted script/storyboard you MUST include the following items:
 - At least **two to three** cinematic details you will be discussing from the clip.
 - **One** thesis/argument and details/ideas for supporting it.
 - At least **one** Scripture quote/passage for support.
 - At least **one** CCC, Church Document, and/or textbook quote for support.

☐ **Video-Essay requirements:**

o **Formatting & Research:**

- **2-5 minutes** in length.
- Must be an **.mp4 file**.
- Must have a title slide/opening credit:
 - Title should be: *""Name of Movie" and the Paschal Mystery"*.
 - Include your name, name of course, and your class period as well.
 - **Music is allowed** throughout the video essay as long as your audience can hear you speak!
- If you have a **source**, **cite** it as an end credit.
- Once you create your video, download it to your computer.
- **Turn in on YouTube:** **create** a free account, **upload** your video, **add** a title and a brief description. Please make your uploaded video **private**. **Attach** a link to your private video in your WordDoc.

o **Video Essay Discussion Points:**

- **Thesis/Argument:** What part(s) of the Paschal Mystery are present in this clip?
 - **Discuss any themes present in thesis:**
 - o Suffering, self-giving, death, grief, hope, and/or new life.
- Identify **two to three** cinematic details and explain how each detail points to the Paschal Mystery.
 - **Discuss any of the following to support your thesis:**
 - o Image, silence, music, facial close-up, lighting, animation, dialogue, arc, sound, camera movements, symbolism, and emotional beats/feel
- Which **Scripture passage(s)** best illuminates this clip?
 - Choose at least **one** scripture quote.
 - Choose at least **one** CCC, textbook, or another reliable source quote to enhance essay as well.
 - Please write this as text that is obvious to your audience.
 - o Either as a prop written out, text, animations, elements in the video.
- How does this film/ story help you live out the Paschal Mystery in your daily life?