

Telling the Story of the Life of Jesus

Project-Based Lesson Overview

Topic:
Life Events of Jesus

Driving Question(s)

What truths do the life events of Jesus reveal about his message?
How can we retell these truths to help make them come alive in our world today?

Objectives

- Explain and analyze the meaning of the life events of Jesus using Scripture and Church teaching.
- Reflect on how the life events of Jesus are relevant to the world today.
- Create and present a group retelling of a life event of Jesus, using Scripture and Church teaching, to communicate the message of Jesus to others.

Materials

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*
 - Pp. 422-570; 571-682; 1066-1209
- *A Journey Through the Catechism*
 - Chapter 3 (pgs. 43-58)
 - Chapter 4 (pgs. 59-71)
 - Chapter 9 (pgs. 132-133)
- *Computer (for research & creation)*
- *WordDoc (for writing and/or skit)*
- *Canva-Free (for storybook)*
- *Video recording device or Canva-Free (for videos)*
- *Telling the Story of the Life of Jesus Overview and Directions Sheets*
- *Rubric/Presentation Evaluation Form*
- *Pen/Pencil*

Important Info to Know

Vocabulary

Annunciation:

The visit by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to announce that she would be the mother of the Savior. After giving her consent, Mary became Mother of Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Feast of the Annunciation is on March 25.

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.

Christ:

A title for Jesus meaning “the anointed one”. In Greek, the word *Christo* translated the Hebrew *Messiah*.

Gospel:

A term meaning "Good News". The term refers to Jesus' own preaching, the preaching about Jesus the Savior, and the four Spirit-inspired written versions of the Good News the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Messiah:

From the Hebrew for "the Chosen One" or "the Anointed One"; the role that Jesus fulfilled.

Passion of Christ:

The suffering of Jesus leading to his death.

YHWH:

The sacred Hebrew name for God that means "I am who am", "I am", or "I am who I am". This name reveals God as noncontingent existence, the one on whose existence all creatures depend for their existence.

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: Understand Life Events

- Lecture on life events of Jesus.
- Discuss and analyze the importance of the life events of Jesus.

Day 2: Create a Timeline

- Analyze life events (people, places, messages, etc...) in small groups.
- Create a timeline of the life events.

Day 3: Introduce the Project

- Introduce guidelines, expectations, and rubric for retelling assignment.
- Choose life event of Jesus to retell.
- Decide medium to convey life event (skit, storyboard, or video).
- Draft modern retelling.

Day 4: Connect the Dots

- Connect the Paschal Mystery and Sacred Liturgy to life events.
- Create connections to these on the timeline from Day 2.

Days 5, 6, & 7: Create & Develop

- Create skit, storyboard and/or film the video.
- Refine and revise with teacher for accuracy.
- Practice skit, edit the video, finalize illustrations/narrations.

Day 8: Rehearse, Revise, & Finalize

- Practice skit, edit the video, finalize illustrations/narrations.
- Meet with another small group to share preview of retelling.
- Revise and rehearse as needed.

Days 9 & 10: Showcase and Reflect

- Present medium to the class.
- Peer evaluation of presentations.
- Offer personal and group reflections.

Telling the Story of the Life of Jesus

Project Instructions

In this project, you will be in a small group creating a modern retelling of an event in the life of Jesus. Your goal is to convey the message of Jesus in a modern and creative format that could be shared with others.

You will choose **one** major life event of Jesus to **retell** as a group. Once your group decides on a life event of Jesus to retell, all the members of your group will decide on **one** medium to present it: either a skit, video, or illustrated storybook. You and your team members will collaborate on the visuals, format, editing, narration, and style of your retelling, but your team will check-in with your teacher and other peer groups for feedback. Once your retelling is created, you will then present it to the class and share your personal/ group reflections.

GROUPS:

- You will all be assigned a small group by your teacher that you will collaborate with. There will be 4-6 members in each group. Each group member will contribute, but as a group, you will all work together to provide feedback, collaborate, develop, and present your retelling.
- **Individual Contributions:**
 - *Please keep a notes sheet or draft of your contributions to turn in with the final project!*
 - ****NOTE: *Everyone* must orally share their personal reflections, as well as group reflections on how this life event of Jesus affects their life and the world in their presentation of the retelling (it can be before, during, or afterward).****
- **Group Overview:**
 - **Feedback:** Remember to critique the content, not the person! Constructive feedback should provide support and encouragement on accuracy, style, format, etc. When working together, ensure everyone's ideas are heard and acknowledged.
 - **Collaborate:** Though each of you have individual parts, take time to ensure all of you are on the same page and play a part. When it comes time to assemble the whole retelling, you want everything to flow together so you do not have to go back and revise and redesign bigger parts of your work.
 - **Develop:** The final retelling is a **joint effort**. You want to make sure all are on the same page with formatting and design (text size and font, visuals, colors, editing, etc.). Be creative! Let your artistic and creative ideas flow in this project. Also make sure you are meeting all the requirements!
 - **Presentation:** Ensure everyone's contribution is in the final project and presentation. You are required to share or act the part you created in the presentation. Do not forget to orally share your personal reflection as well as one to two people sharing the group's reflections in the final presentation.
- While others are presenting, you will also do a peer evaluation of the group. You will evaluate them based on the rubric provided for you and your group.

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:

- **ONE** whole group presentation (written skit to perform, video, or illustrated storyboard).
- **ONE** draft or notes sheet of your contribution to the project.
- **ONE** peer evaluation form per presenting group.

☐ **Your Contributions:**

o **If you do a Skit:**

- At least six lines of content/dialogue and at least one prop.
- Personal reflection.

o **If you do a Video:**

- At least 30secs of content and at least 30secs of editing.
- Personal reflection.

o **If you do a Storyboard:**

- At least one storyboard (illustrated or digitally illustrated) with narration.
- Personal reflection.

☐ **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, 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 influence your retelling.

☐ **Retelling requirements:**

o **If you do a Skit:**

■ **Format:**

- Finalized skit needs to be written in a WordDoc.
- Look at the template for reference on further setup.

■ **Presentation:**

- Introduce your skit with the name your team gave the skit and the life event you are retelling.
- There must be at least one prop used by each team member.
 - o Props include signs, small decorations for a basic scene, apparel, etc.
- If doing *ACTS* or Scenes, then make a sign to be used to designate the transition.
- The skit must be at least 3 minutes but no more than 8 minutes.

o **If you do a Video:**

■ **Format and Edit:**

- Outline and/ or script needs to be written in a WordDoc.
- Look at the template for reference on further setup.
- Editing can be done on a free Canva account using your school email and/ or a computer/ phone's editing services.
 - o Include:
 - A text title intro (the name of the title your team gave and the life event being retold).
 - A text credit scene if necessary.

■ **Presentation:**

- Final project must be an mp4 file and sent to the teacher.
- Can be recorded using a phone, tablet, or computer camera.
 - o Once you have recorded your video, download it and save it to your device to upload onto Canva or to edit it on the computer software.
- No more than 8 minutes in length, but no shorter than 3 minutes.

o **If you do a Storyboard:**

■ **Format:**

- You can use a free Canva account using your school email.

- Outline for your storyboard (individual contribution) needs to be written in a WordDoc.
 - You can **NOT** use AI to make your scenes, you may use **ONLY** the free clipart, icons, symbols, text, and design options offered on the software you choose to use.
 - You can also draw your own illustrations and upload them as well.
 - It can be a wordless story or a story with words.
 - You **MUST** include a title page, front cover, and back cover.
 - Look at the template for reference on further setup.
- **Presentation:**
- You and your group will narrate the story aloud.
 - No more than an 8-minute read, but no shorter than 5 minutes.