



Overview of

Jesus the Christ Course



Christ stands at the center of salvation history, at the center of our parishes, and in the hearts of all believers. Throughout these sessions the participants will come to know the many faces of Jesus. They will meet the Jesus of the Gospels, finding the relationship between his story and their own. They will explore the other sources that connect us to Christ, including the Church, their parents, and their peers. Care will be taken to be sure they understand important Christological concepts such as Jesus' Incarnation, the Trinity, Jesus' miracles, and salvation.

Throughout these sessions the young people will be challenged to rely on Jesus as our Savior, a role model, a teacher, a caregiver, and a guide. The participants will have the opportunity to enter into a deeper understanding and relationship with our Lord, from Jesus' humble beginnings to his glorious Resurrection.

Course Themes

Core Session: 1. The Gospels

This session looks at Jesus as he is presented in the Gospels. The session recognizes the diversity in the Gospel stories, and underscores the spiritual truth of the Scriptures through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Core Session: 2. Jesus Christ, True God and True Man?

This session explores who Jesus is, how we find out more about him, and who we are in relationship to him.

Core Session: 3. The Birth of Jesus

This session explores Jesus' birth, especially the mystery of the Incarnation in which the Son of God became flesh and dwelt among us.

Core Session: 4. Jesus Teaches

This session looks at Jesus' role as teacher and guide. Some of Jesus' parables are studied to see what they teach us today.

Core Session: 5. Jesus Heals

This session presents Jesus as a true superhero who could truly work miracles and change the world. The participants are challenged about where Christ's healing still is needed today.

Core Session: 6. The Death of Jesus

This session looks at Jesus' death by praying the stations of the cross. The saving nature of Jesus' death is presented.

Core Session: 7. The Resurrection of Jesus

By role-playing a talk show, the participants look at the impact Jesus' Resurrection had on his followers. Christ's Resurrection is presented as the basis for our hope of salvation and eternal life.

Life Issue Session: 8. Friends in Jesus

This session looks at what we can learn from Jesus about being a good friend. The participants will practice bringing Jesus' values into their friendships.

Life Issue Session: 9. Times of Trouble

The participants consider the help Jesus brings us during times of trouble. They are encouraged to rely on prayer, parents, and peers; this is the way we experience Christ's love and support during difficult times.

Concluding Session: 10. One Body, Many Parts

This session focuses on having gratitude for the gifts God has given us and on the responsibility to follow Jesus' example in using those gifts in the service of others.

Optional Course Project: The Many Faces of Jesus

The participants gather images of Jesus and choose an artistic way to present them to the rest of the community.