

Christ for Others

Living out the Christian call

**TARGET AUDIENCE**

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Overview

This Object encourages self-reflection on what it means to be a person of faith and the implications of this in the different spheres of our lives.

The multimedia element of this Object seeks to aid reflection and discussion on our responsibilities as Christians; on being Christ for others.

Teacher Background

Teachers are encouraged to review the 'Living a Eucharistic Life' section of the DVD Rom *Become One Body One Spirit in Christ* to deepen their understanding of: the call to 'go forth' and live the mission of the Gospel in our daily lives; how we are called to live our Catholic and Christian faith; and the meaning of the Eucharist in our lives.

In particular, the following aspects of *Become One Body One Spirit in Christ* provide entry points and context for this Learning Object:

- Within the pathway 'Dismissal for Mission', watch the videos 'What We Pray and Believe Shapes How We Live' and 'The Church in the World'.

Where appropriate, use this material with the students.

Supporting Content

This text supports the focus of the multimedia element.

Participating in the Eucharist and being nourished by the Body and Blood of the Lord makes a claim on us. As Christ offered Himself to God his Father, so we too are called to follow his example of self-offering to give life to others.

Christ Has No Body

By St Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)

Christ has no body but yours,
 No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
 Yours are the eyes with which he looks
 Compassion on this world,
 Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
 Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.

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Supporting Content

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

Born in Spain, Teresa entered a Carmelite convent when she was eighteen, and later earned a reputation as a mystic, reformer, and writer who experienced divine visions. She founded a convent, and wrote the book *The Way of Perfection* for her nuns. Other important books by her include her *Autobiography* and *The Interior Castle*.

St Teresa adequately sums up for us what it means to be “Christ for others...” in her well known poem. In a sense she also captures what Jesus expects of his followers in the Parable of the Last Judgment in St Matthew’s Gospel.

Mt 25: 34-40

‘... “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”’

For Reflection and Discussion: Ideas for Use

Select one or more of the following activities for students to complete.

- 1 **Discuss the following with the class. It may be useful to use some stimulus material, such as copies of the daily newspaper in print or online, to generate discussion.**
How do we know when people need help? How can we help them as Jesus did?
- 2 **Discuss the following with the class. It may be useful to refer to the school calendar, and mission and vision statements.**

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**For Reflection and Discussion: Ideas for Use**

When have you seen people doing any of the actions described in Matthew 25 and having the attitude of St Teresa? (Explain both).
When have you seen this at school?

- 3 **Invite students to respond to the following questions in light of both the poem of St Teresa and the demands set forth in Matthew 25.**

What must we do to act like Jesus today? What must I do in my life?
How can Jesus help me?

Teacher Professional Development Resources

Kerr, David, [‘Eucharist helps us live for Christ and others, Pope tells pilgrims’](#), *Catholic News Agency*, 2011