

Living the Paschal Mystery

Its meaningfulness in our lives



TARGET AUDIENCE

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Overview

This Object seeks to make the connection between Christ's Life, Death and Resurrection and the breaking of the bread at Mass, with the everyday experiences of the faithful.

This multimedia element is a montage of words which express some of the key meanings and understandings of the Paschal Mystery in our lives.

Teacher Background

Teachers are encouraged to review the 'Exploring the Mass' section of the DVD Rom *Become One Body One Spirit in Christ* to deepen their understanding of the scriptural, historical and theological foundations of the Eucharist.

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 'Theological Reflections' watch the video 'Mystery'. The content of the video is developed further in the excerpts taken from the essay *Theological Reflections on the Mass and on The Roman Missal* by Msgr. Kevin Irwin. The excerpts can be accessed by clicking on the 'Read More' arrow, or else you can download the essay by clicking on the 'View Essay' button.

Where appropriate, use this material with the students.

Supporting Content

This text supports the focus of the multimedia element.

The Paschal Mystery is the Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Catholics, from their reading and living out of the messages within the scriptures and Church teaching, grow in their understanding of the Paschal Mystery and its meaningfulness in their lives.

The Paschal Mystery is lived out in the lives of believers when they are people of hope fully believing in new life and the Resurrection. They believe that hope and life can come from suffering and sacrifice; that by giving, you receive; that

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Supporting Content

great joy and satisfaction come from giving up what you want; or they think in terms 'for the good of everyone'.

The Eucharist is also a celebration of the Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Paschal Mystery. Christ's Life, Death and Resurrection are remembered through sacred scripture, communal prayers and responses sung and spoken, and in the breaking of the bread during Mass.

For Reflection and Discussion: Ideas for Use

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

- 1 **Screen the video clip 'Mystery' in the 'Theological Reflections' section of the 'Exploring the Mass' pathway of *Become One Body One Spirit in Christ* to assist students to reflect on this question.**
What does the Paschal Mystery have to do with the ordinary highs and lows, joys and sufferings of our own lives (i.e. our own experiences of 'dying' and 'rising')?
- 2 **Display the multimedia element for the class to enable them to complete this task.**
Choose six of the phrases from the multimedia element and explain its significance for understanding an aspect of Jesus' Paschal Mystery.
- 3 **Invite students to reflect on the following:**
 - When is Christ's Life a focus in the Mass?
 - How can Christ's Life help us to live?
 - When is Christ's Death a focus in the Mass?
 - What messages does Christ's Death have for us?
 - When is Christ's Resurrection a focus in the Mass?
 - Where do you see signs of new life after a disaster or sad event?
- 4 **Invite students to reflect on the following:**
Reflect on an experience of loss (e.g. a friend going interstate; a teacher leaving the school; or a neighbour moving house) that has touched your life and explain how you have become more able to accept it. How did this happen? Who or what helped you? Can you find any good that has come from the experience?

Teacher Professional Development Resources

Fr Murphy, Patrick, LC, ['The Eucharist and the Paschal Mystery of Christ'](#), 2010

Dr Coloe, Mary, PBVM, ['The Paschal Mystery: A Reflection'](#), *Compass: A Review of Topical Theology*, vol.26, 1992, pp5-8