

Lesson 3

The Holy Trinity

I. Objective

- Students will recognize the Holy Trinity as the central mystery of our Faith. They will define the Trinity as the mystery of three divine Persons in one God. They will identify the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit as the Persons of the Trinity, and understand that they each fully possess the one divine nature, making them one God.

II. Materials

- Adventure Catechism text
- CatholicBrain website with ability to show video
- Student religion picture journals
- Copies of the Holy Trinity diagram
- Colored pencils or crayons

III. Procedure

- Open the lesson each day with prayer. You may choose the Come Holy Spirit prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide your lesson. Or, if you are learning a particular prayer as a class, this is an excellent time to practice and reinforce that. As the school year progresses, you may consider asking students to lead the prayer.
- Be sure to close each day in prayer, as well, and encourage students to share with their families what they are learning.

A. Day One

- Introduce students to the Big Ideas for this chapter (the In Brief section of the chapter preview). Write the chapter's vocabulary words on the board.
- Read the chapter in the text as a class. Stop frequently to answer student questions, and to check for comprehension. Highlight the vocabulary words when you read them, and be sure that students understand them.
- As you close in prayer today, begin by reading about this week's Saint, St. Thomas Aquinas, and discuss how his life relates to the topic of the lesson.

B. Day Two

- Begin by reviewing the Big Ideas from yesterday's lesson. Allow students to share what they remember, and ask any questions they may have thought of.
- Watch the Adventure Catechism video "Who is the Holy Spirit?"
 - ◇ <https://www.CatholicBrain.com/edu/videos/886174/1/lesson-04---who-is-the-holy-spirit?>
- Ask the students a few questions to check for understanding, such as:
 - ◇ What word means one God in three Persons? The Trinity
 - ◇ Who are the three Persons of the Holy Trinity? The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
 - ◇ Are all three Persons of the Trinity God? Yes
 - ◇ As time allows, do some of the activities on the CatholicBrain site, connected to the video, such as the Memory Match, Fill in the Blank, or the quiz

C. Day Three

- Today, write the "Question to consider" from the chapter on the board. Let students know that they should keep this question in mind as they re-read the chapter, and you will be discussing it later in the class.
- Guided Reading – Divide students into partners or small groups, and have them re-read the chapter. This would be a wonderful activity to invite parent volunteers to help with, to read with the students and facilitate small group discussions.
- When they finish reading, the students should discuss the "Question to consider" in their groups, and each student should write a short answer to the question on a slip of paper or note card, which you may choose to use as an exit ticket for the class.
- After students have had a chance to discuss in their small groups, invite students to share their ideas, and facilitate a large-group discussion about the question.

D. Day Four

- Today students will work in their religion picture journals. Begin the lesson, after prayer, by reviewing the Big Ideas, vocabulary, and "Question to consider." Then, as a class, create a one or two-sentence summary of the chapter. Write it on the board.
- Students should now draw a picture in their religion journals representing the chapter, using the class's summary as a caption.

E. Day Five

- Students should complete the chapter review page at the end of the chapter.

- When students have completed the chapter review, correct it as a class. Be sure to check for any questions students may still have.
- The students can fill in the classic diagram of the Trinity (attached). Discuss it – what it means, and what it says about the Trinity. When they finish, they can color it. As a challenge, ask them to go home and explain the diagram to a parent or sibling.

Note: To correctly complete the diagram, the word “is” should be written on the three lines connecting the Persons of the Trinity to the word “God.” The words “is not” should be written on the outer lines, connecting the three Persons of the Trinity to each other.

- Consider putting some of them up in the classroom as a visual reminder of this lesson’s theme, or encourage students to take them home and share them with their families, explaining what they learned this week.