

ARCHDIOCESE OF PALO
FAMILY CATECHESIS- CATECHETICAL MINISTRY
January 31 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time B
THEME: Jesus, the Son of God- Mark 1:21-28
Pro-Life Sunday

INTRODUCTION

Talk about famous people from showbiz, social media or anyone in the community.

What makes person famous?

Stress that some people become famous for various reasons. Some might have become popular because power and influence or something unique that they have done

In our Sunday’s Gospel, we hear that Jesus’ fame spread throughout all of Galilee. Let’s listen carefully to this Gospel to see what made Jesus famous.



OPENING PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.

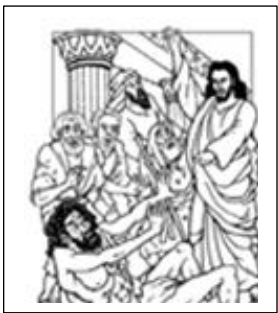
Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
In the same Spirit,
help us to relish what is right
and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



PHASE ONE
REMEMBER THE STORY OF JESUS

1.1 Proclamation of the Gospel (Mark 1:21-28)

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark



21 They went into the town of Capernaum and Jesus taught in the synagogue on the Sabbath day. 22 The people were astonished at the way he taught, for he spoke as

one having authority and not like the teachers of the Law. 23 It happened that a man with an evil spirit was in their

synagogue 24 and he shouted, “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: you are the Holy One of God.” 25 Then Jesus faced him and said with authority, “Be silent, and come out of this man!” 26 The evil spirit shook the man violently and, with a loud shriek, came out of him. 27 All the people were astonished, and they wondered, “What is this? With what authority he preaches! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him!” 28 And Jesus’ fame spread throughout all the country of Galilee.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord
Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

1.2 Brief Guided Silent Meditation / Personal Prayer
Let us spend a few moments of prayerful silence so that the Word of God may penetrate into our hearts

What part of the Gospel story did you like most?
What made people amaze at Jesus?

1.3 Text in Context

Mark gives us a picture of Jesus’ day in the Synagogue (a Jewish house of prayer) at the beginning of his work with the apostles, whom he had just called. In this particular story, Mark is more interested of the people’s reaction rather than on the content of what Jesus taught.


1. How did the people respond to Jesus’ teaching?
They were amazed at Jesus because he did not teach like the scribes or teachers of the law, instead he taught with authority.

2.What does it mean to say that Jesus spoke as one having authority?
What Jesus says is similar or consistent to what he does. His words and actions are the same. He is true to who he is.

3.What amazing thing did Jesus do?
He healed a man with an unclean spirit.

4.What made Jesus popular among the people
He showed authority over unclean spirits. In healing the man possessed with evil spirit, Jesus showed power and authority of God. The people who saw him were impressed.

PHASE II REFLECT the Story
of the Church
(Teachings of the Church)



Upon hearing Jesus teachings and healing, people were amazed and astonished; they recognized that he spoke and acted with authority.

What is this authority of Jesus?
The authority of religious leaders of the time like the scribes or teachers of the law come from their studying the scriptures and learnings from previous teachers. But

Jesus’ authority comes from God. As the Son of God, the power of God is in Jesus and in his word. For example, in this Gospel, people were amazed at his command to the evil spirit. When he said, *be silent, and come out of this man*, the evil spirit obeyed and freed the person.

The word of Jesus is so powerful that even the evil spirit followed him.

How do I see the authority of Jesus in my life?
Do I believe in Jesus just because of the wonders he is doing?
How will I grow in my relationship with Jesus from mere amazement of his works to giving up all of myself to him?

Jesus, the second person of the Blessed Trinity, is the Son of God. Jesus is both God and man. These two natures of Jesus are united in a way we will never fully understand—a mystery.

Jesus as a man is totally pure. All his being is holy – mind, heart, motives and ways are holy. This is the holiness that the unclean or evil spirit recognized; shouting these words:

What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: you are the Holy One of God.”

The unclean spirit knew that Jesus is not an ordinary man, but a supreme being of heaven and earth. *His glory sets him apart from sin. Sin and God cannot go together. God is everything that is beautiful...*

We recognize Jesus as equally holy with God the Father. As God, Jesus is above us, worthy of our worship and our adoration.

God sent us his Son, Jesus to make us experience saving love of God, the Father.

While forever remains in glory and power *God is not, as we are often tempted to think, distant, up in heaven, detached from human condition. No, he is in our midst. The time of his distance ended when in Jesus, he became man. Ever since then, God has been very close to us.* (Pope Francis, January 14, 2021).

Am I aware of Jesus’ presence in my experiences?
If God is among us, how do I experience him?
How do I see him in the lives of people around especially at this time of pandemic?

PHASE THREE RESPOND – with/ in my personal faith /community faith story

Jesus is truly the Son of God. He has power over all created things. All things are under him. We owe him worship and adoration.

While it is true that we confess him as our Lord and God in prayer, in our novenas and attending mass, we may examine ourselves how we give him reverence in actual situations:

- in treating one another at home and neighbors?
- at the conversations posted in social media like facebook?
- in the manner following modern way of living like dressing and speaking?



CLOSING PRAYER

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen

BACKGROUND FOR THE CATECHISTS

CCC 458 The Word became flesh so *that we might know God's love*: "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him."⁷² "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

CCC 461 Taking up St. John's expression, "The Word became flesh",⁸² the Church calls "Incarnation" the fact that the Son of God assumed a human nature in order to accomplish our salvation in it. In a hymn cited by St. Paul, the Church sings the mystery of the Incarnation: Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross

