

Take Home



✚ Scripture Background

In the Time of Jesus

Bread Every morning women worked for hours to make bread for their families. They began by using a hand mill to grind the kernels of barley or wheat into flour. After mixing it with other ingredients, the women shaped the dough into round thin disks, about seven inches in diameter. They baked the bread on hot stones or in ovens located outside the home. Typically, a person ate three loaves of bread at every meal. Besides being a staple food, bread is also associated with religious rites.

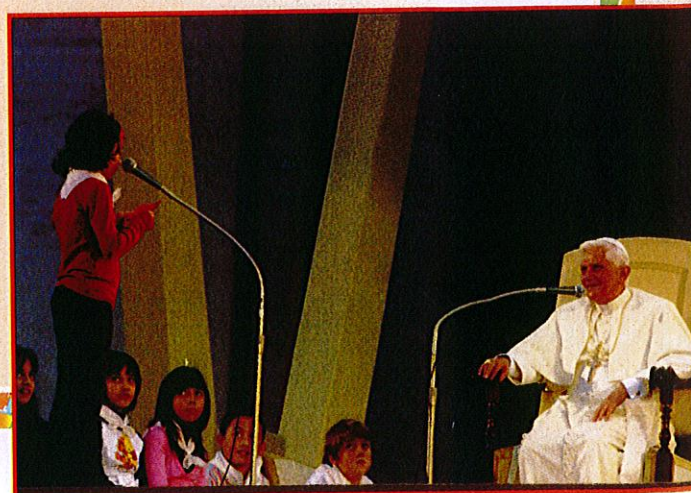
Read about the bread Jesus shared with his disciples in Mark 14:12–16; 22–26.



OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Church Teachings

The Year of the Eucharist In what turned out to be the final year of his pontificate, Pope John Paul II proclaimed 2005 as the Year of the Eucharist. In his encyclical on the Eucharist, the Holy Father wrote, “The Church draws her life from the Eucharist. This truth does not simply express a daily experience of faith, but recapitulates the heart of the mystery of the Church” (*Ecclesia de Eucharista*, 1). In October 2005, as this special year came to a close, newly elected Pope Benedict XVI was asked by a child how Jesus Christ can be truly present in the

Eucharist. He said, “We do not see him with our eyes, but we see that wherever Jesus is, people change—they improve... We do not see the Lord himself, but we see the effects of the Lord: so we can understand that Jesus is present.”



Hear & Believe

Worship Gathered as One in Christ

On Sunday, God's family gathers at Mass to celebrate the Eucharist. The Eucharist unites us with God and the Church. The Church includes all those living on earth and all those who have died as followers of Christ. Like Mary and all the saints, we are together in Christ. During the celebration of the Eucharist, the **assembly** honors the saints by praying the following prayer.

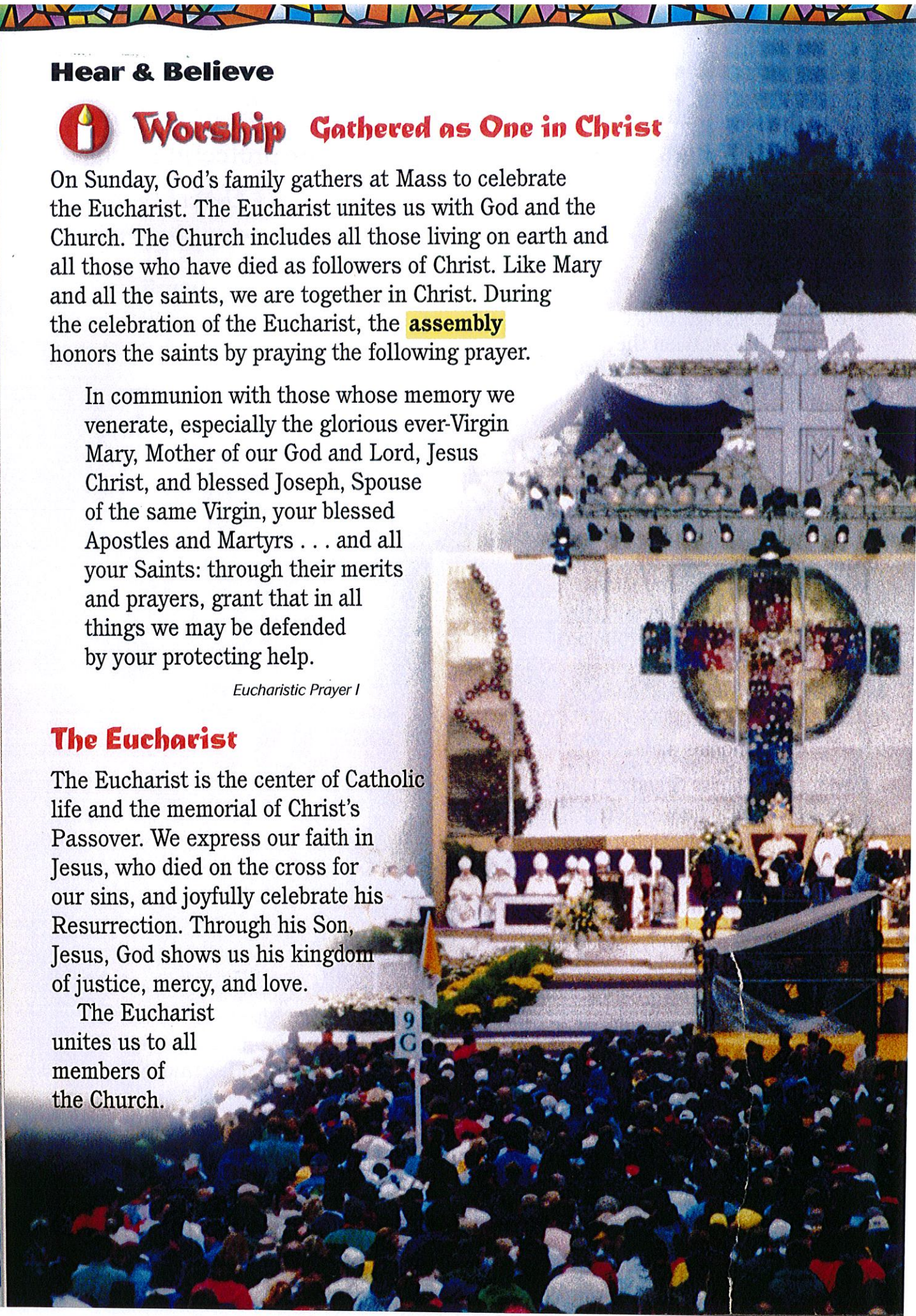
In communion with those whose memory we venerate, especially the glorious ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ, and blessed Joseph, Spouse of the same Virgin, your blessed Apostles and Martyrs . . . and all your Saints: through their merits and prayers, grant that in all things we may be defended by your protecting help.

Eucharistic Prayer I

The Eucharist

The Eucharist is the center of Catholic life and the memorial of Christ's Passover. We express our faith in Jesus, who died on the cross for our sins, and joyfully celebrate his Resurrection. Through his Son, Jesus, God shows us his kingdom of justice, mercy, and love.

The Eucharist unites us to all members of the Church.



The Role of the Priest

In the name of Christ, the priest celebrates the Eucharist with the assembly at Mass. He leads the assembly in the celebration of the sacrifice of our salvation—the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The priest brings Jesus' message of love each time he proclaims the **Gospel** and preaches the **homily**.

At Mass the priest leads the assembly in prayer. He asks the Holy Spirit to make Christ present for us. Through the Holy Spirit, the gifts of bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ.

The priest also presides over the other sacraments with the Catholic community. He guides members of a parish in their journey of faith. United with the priest through the Eucharist, together we help bring God's love and mercy to the world.

Our Church Teaches

The priest has the important role of leading the Church in the liturgy. At Mass we celebrate the Eucharist with the Communion of Saints.

Christ brings all Christians together—those who are living and those who have died.

Each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we grow stronger in our faith. In the Eucharist we are united with God and with one another.

We Believe

The Eucharist is central to our Catholic faith. We remember how Jesus freed us from sin by his death and Resurrection.

Faith Words

assembly

Catholics gathered to celebrate the Eucharist and other sacraments are called the assembly.

Gospel

The Gospel is a reading from the New Testament about the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Papal Mass, Central Park, New York, 1995

How can we describe the Eucharist?

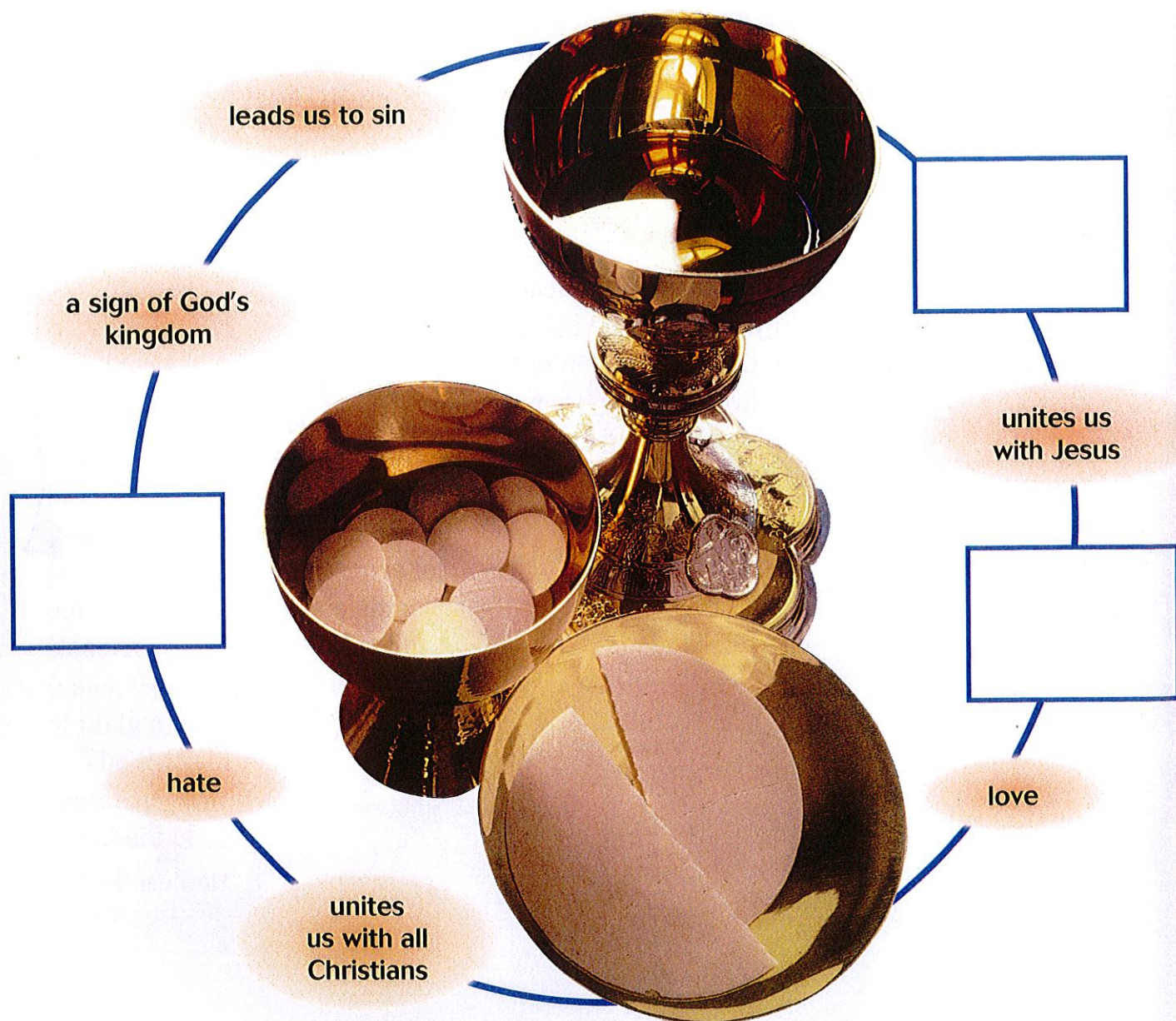
Respond

When we receive the Eucharist, we realize that we are one Body of Christ.

Activities

1. Draw a box around the words or phrases that refer to the celebration of the Eucharist. In the blank boxes, write your own words or phrases that describe the Eucharist. Use the word bank below to help you.

war leads us to peace a special gift separates people





Prayer Celebration

A Litany of Saints

Leader: The Eucharist unites us with all God's people, including the saints in heaven. The saints lived as true followers of Jesus. We ask them to help us grow in faith and love as we follow Jesus.

(Before you begin praying the litany, write on the line below the name of a saint that you know and admire. As the leader prays each line, pray the response.)

Leader:

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Saint Joseph,
Saint Monica,
Saint Augustine,
Saint Francis,
Saint Clare,
Saint John Vianney,
Saint Teresa,

All holy men and women,
Lord, be merciful,
From every sin,
By your death and rising to
new life,
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

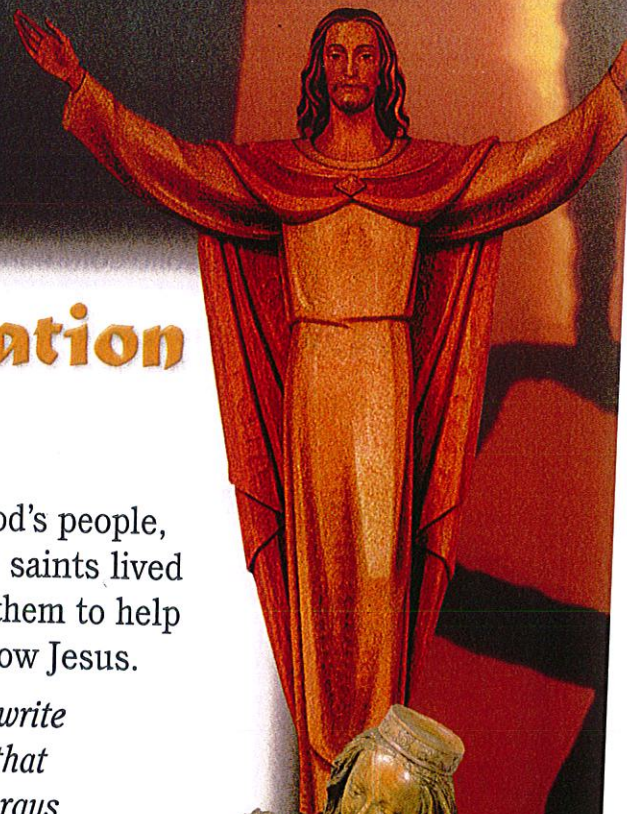
All:

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.

pray for us.
pray for us.
Lord, save your people.
Lord, save your people.

Lord, save your people.
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Based on the Litany of Saints from the Rite of Baptism



A Match column A with column B by writing the correct number in the space provided.

A

1. Litany of Saints
2. assembly
3. Gospel
4. homily
5. Eucharist
6. priest

B

- _____ Catholics gathered to celebrate the sacraments
- _____ special talk the priest gives after reading the Gospel
- _____ guides members of the parish in their journey of faith
- _____ special prayer to the saints
- _____ unites us with God and one another
- _____ a section of the New Testament about the life and teachings of Jesus Christ

B Circle the hidden words and complete the sentences about the Eucharist.

1. We celebrate the Eucharist at _____.
2. The Eucharist _____ us with God and the Church.
3. The Eucharist is the memorial of Christ's _____.
4. When we celebrate the Eucharist, we grow stronger in our _____.

P M T Q A M U N
 G A H M A S S O
 P A S B P K U F
 I L S S J N N S
 Q F A N O T I R
 W A V M U V T N
 Z F A I T H E U
 D E L V C X S R

