



## FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES

A FAMILY-FOCUSED APPROACH TO FAITH FORMATION

### LIFE OF CHRIST: THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

#### TOPIC: THE SECOND LUMINOUS MYSTERY, THE WEDDING AT CANA

#### GOALS

- Families will learn about the Wedding at Cana.
- Families will reflect on why we ask Mary to pray for us.
- Families will explore how the Holy Spirit led Jesus and Mary.
- Families will reflect on how the Holy Spirit leads them.



#### MATERIALS

- Bibles
- [Rosary Coloring Book Station](#): At any time during the lesson, younger children can color the Second Luminous Mystery, The Wedding at Cana, in the Rosary coloring book.
- Crayons or colored pencils, markers
- White paper plate
- Scissors
- Tape
- String or ribbon
- Yellow Paper
- Rosaries

#### OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,  
We entrust our family to You and ask for Your blessing and protection. We love You Lord Jesus with all our hearts and we ask that You help our family become more like the Holy Family. Help us to be kind, loving, and patient with one another. Give us all the grace we need to become saints and Your faithful disciples. Amen.

#### ICE BREAKER

##### *Thankful Game*

1. Gather everyone in your family around a table
2. Place each person's photo on the table where everyone can see.
3. Pass out one notecard to each person.
4. On separate notecards, write down each person's name, shuffle, and place in a bowl. Then have each person draw a name. Make sure that if they get themselves they redraw.
5. On the blank notecards, have everyone write three things they are grateful for about the person they drew.
6. Pick someone to read their card out loud. Then have the rest of the family guess who the card is about.
7. Smile and remember to focus on love, not only during Thanksgiving and Christmas but each and every day.



## REVIEW MAIN CONCEPT

Today we're going to learn about the Second Luminous Mystery, The Wedding at Cana.



## FAMILY SHARING

This month during Week 2 you reached out to a grandparent(s) or senior adult(s) in your family/ community and shared about how the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary are about Jesus' birth and childhood.

To whom did you reach out? Which Joyful Mystery is his/her favorite and why? Did he/she ever pray the Rosary or read the Bible either as a child or as an adult? What wisdom did your grandparent or senior share with you about living your faith?

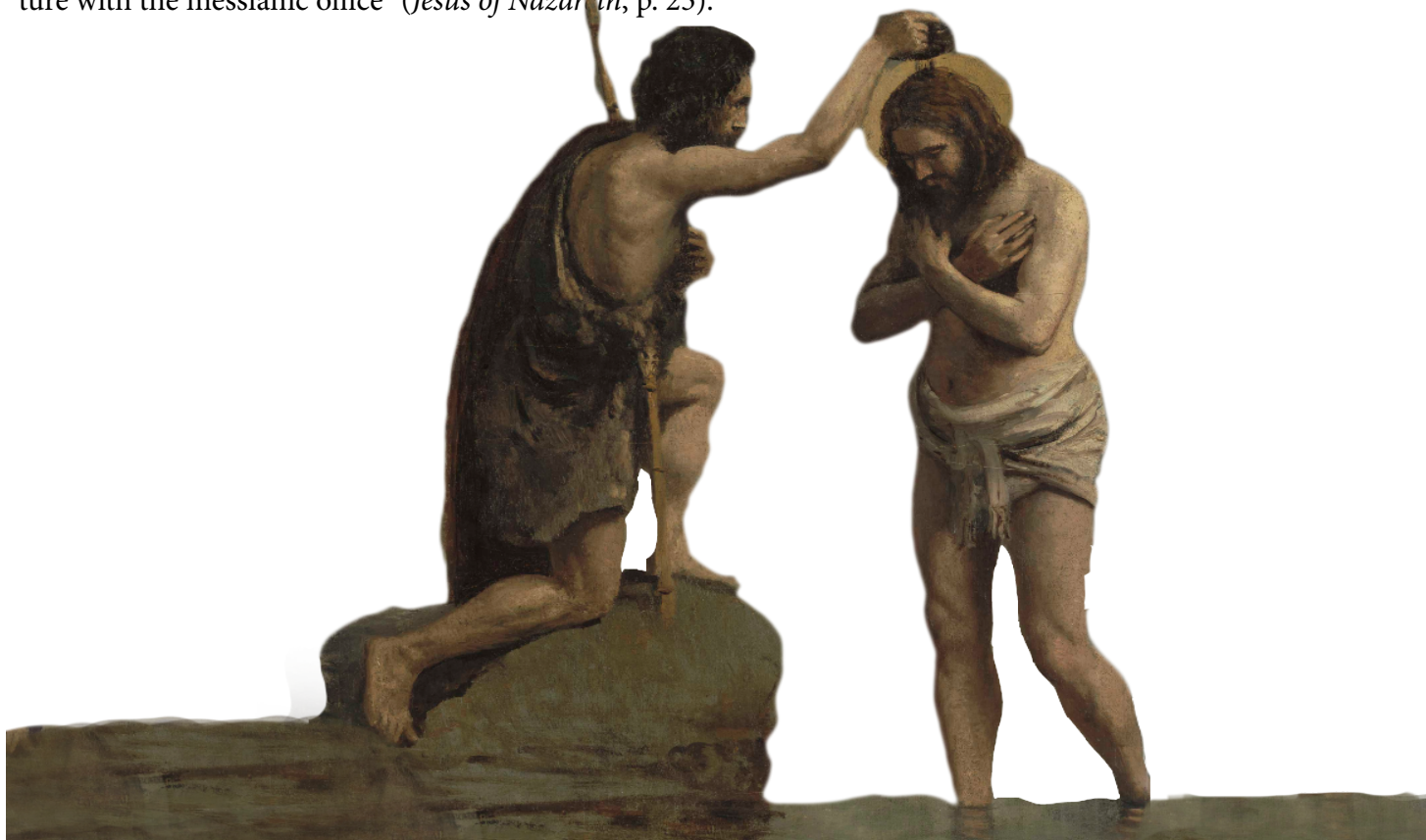
## CONTENT

**Explain:** At our last gathering we learned about the moment when Jesus' cousin, John, baptized Jesus in the Jordan River.

**Ask:** Do you remember what happened at Jesus' baptism?

**Explain:** Jesus was officially anointed as the Messiah, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. This was why the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove descended on Jesus and the voice of God the Father could be heard saying, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Pope Benedict XVI tells us in a book that he wrote about Jesus called *Jesus of Nazareth*, "The descent of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus, which concludes the baptismal scene, is to be understood as a kind of formal investiture with the messianic office" (*Jesus of Nazareth*, p. 25).



**Ask:** Does anyone know where the Holy Spirit led Jesus right after Jesus was baptized?

**Explain:** It says in the Bible that, “At once the Spirit drove him out into the desert and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.” (Mark 1:12-13).

Jesus’ time in the desert was a sort of spiritual boot camp or training to strengthen and prepare Jesus for his ministry.

After Jesus completed 40 days in the desert, he gathered his disciples and they all went to a wedding feast with his mother Mary! As we will learn, something very important happened there.

**Watch:** [Wedding at Cana](#) - First Miracle of Jesus - The Chosen

**Invite:** Please open your bibles to the [Gospel of John, chapter 2](#).

**Read:** [John 2:1-5](#)

**Ask:** Jesus, his disciples, and his mother, Mary, are at a wedding. Mary realizes that the groom’s family is in trouble because they have run out of wine. What did Mary say to Jesus?

**Answer:** “They have no wine.”

**Explain:** Mary is our mother too and she is concerned about everything that we are concerned about, even the smallest details. Very often when we have needs or worries, we can ask Mary to intercede or talk to Jesus for us about them. Of course, we can always ask Jesus directly ourselves, but sometimes it is comforting to be able share our troubles and our joys with our mother as well.

**Ask:** How did Jesus respond?

“Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come.”

**Explain:** Jesus had not performed a miracle in public yet. There were a lot of people at that wedding. Jesus knew that if he helped the groom’s family as his mother was asking, the miracle would not remain a secret for very long. Jesus did not think it was his hour\* or his time to start doing miracles. Once Jesus was known as a miracle worker, their lives would change and would never go back to the quiet life that he and his mother had lived. He would begin his public ministry, and everything would be different.

**Note for catechists:** “Hour” here has the deeper sense of the time of Jesus’ Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension [see Jn 13:1]—Jesus knew that this public miracle or sign would be a key starting point of his public ministry, leading to and culminating in His “hour.”

**Ask:** How did Mary respond in turn?

**Answer:** Mary didn’t even argue with Jesus, she just turned and told the servers, “Do whatever he tells you.” She was that confident that Jesus would answer her request.

**Explain:** This is what Mary still says to us today, “Do whatever he (Jesus) tells you (to do).” God the Father, with the Holy Spirit, confirmed at Jesus’ baptism that it was time for Jesus to be anointed as the Messiah and begin his public ministry. Now Mary his mother, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, is inspired by that same Spirit to prompt Jesus to do his first public miracle at the Wedding of Cana.



**Read:** [John 2: 6-11](#)

**Explain:** Not only did Jesus turn the water into wine, but Jesus gave the family and guests the best wine! This was the first public miracle or sign that Jesus did. (Turning the water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana is a foreshadowing or a clue about what Jesus will do at the Last Supper.)

As Catholics, when we “say a prayer to Mary,” we do not pray to Mary the same way we pray to God. We know that Mary is not God, and we do not worship her. However, she is very important to God and she is our spiritual mother, and therefore we honor her and can pray to her. When we say a prayer to Mary (whether the Hail Mary, the Rosary, other formal prayers, or just a conversation), we are simply asking Mary to pray to God for us, just as we would ask a friend or someone who loves us to pray for us. All of the saints are our family. Mary, as Queen of the Saints and our Mother, is a powerful intercessor for us who always points us to her Son, Jesus.

## FAMILY CONVERSATION

Have you ever asked Mary to pray for you for something important?  
How was your prayer answered?

Can you think back on a time when the Holy Spirit was leading you?  
When was it and what happened?

## FAMILY ACTIVITY

**Explain:** The Holy Spirit is active in every moment of our lives, just as He was in Jesus’ life. The Holy Spirit was at Jesus’ baptism. The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert and the Holy Spirit led Mary throughout her life.

Think about how the Holy Spirit is with you and your family as you create the [Holy Spirit Dove Craft](#) by Catholic Icing:



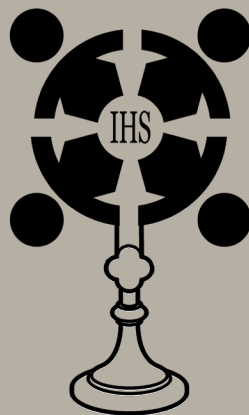
# CLOSING PRAYER

(Gather everyone around the home altar/prayer space.)

1. **Ask** families to look at their Rosary for Children pamphlets and open up to the Second Luminous Mystery of the Wedding at Cana.
2. **Explain:** In October we talked about how when we say one of the prayers on the rosary, we are giving Mary a spiritual rose and asking her to pray for whatever is on our hearts. At the end of the Rosary, we have given her an entire bouquet.
3. **Ask** for any special intentions for which they would like the group to pray.
4. **Explain:** When we say each prayer, we are also thinking about the life that Jesus and Mary lived together on earth. Those moments are called mysteries, and in our hearts we put ourselves there with Jesus and Mary in that mystery moment with them. Today, we will think about the story of the Wedding at Cana and put ourselves there with them in that moment while we pray.
5. **Pray:** Use the Rosary for Children pamphlets to lead families in one decade of the Rosary together.

## TIP

Create a prayer altar in your gathering space for everyone to gather around when you are praying to model for families how they can pray at home around their own home altars.



## REMIND

Remind families about the next meeting date and time.

