

## LESSON PLAN: BISHOP

**Grade Level: 9-12**

<b>Lesson Title</b>	What is a Bishop?
<b>Time</b>	2 classes: 25 -30 minutes
<b>Lesson Objectives</b>	<p>Students will know the definition of bishop.</p> <p>Students will know Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines.</p> <p>Students will know about outward symbols of a bishop (ring, crozier, mitre, and pectoral cross).</p> <p>Students will understand that bishops are direct successors of the Apostles and what that means.</p> <p>Students will use the Catechism of the Catholic Church to learn the roles of a bishop.</p>
<b>Materials Needed</b>	<p>Picture of Bishop Joensen</p> <p>Bible</p> <p>Copy of Catechism of the Catholic Church</p>
<b>Lesson Procedures</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Share with students the definition of bishop. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Taken from the ranks of priests, a bishop is chosen by the Pope and ordained as a Successor of the Apostles to lead a diocesan community in the ways of the faith.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Share picture of Bishop Joensen with students and point out four outward symbols of a bishop (ring, crozier, mitre, and pectoral cross).</li> <li>3. Share with students the symbolism behind each of these symbols. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ring: a sign of the bishop's marriage and total commitment to the Church</li> <li>• Crozier: symbolizes the pastoral role of the Bishop in the diocese; think of it as a shepherd's staff and just as a shepherd leads and guides the sheep, a bishop leads and guides the people of the diocese. He wants to keep them close.</li> <li>• Mitre: symbolizing the governing role of the bishop. He is called to be the leader and is responsible for the people.</li> <li>• Pectoral Cross: worn by the bishop over his heart to show the bishop's appreciation to God and love for Jesus for dying on the cross.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Ask students what is meant when we say bishops are direct successors of the Apostles. Using the Bible, have students read Acts 1:13-26, 4:5-37, 6:1-7 and discuss what activities the apostles were involved in during the early times of the Church. (Leadership, teaching, sanctifying) How does this mirror the actions of a bishop, in particular of Bishop Joensen in the Diocese of Des Moines? (Leading and teaching through his witness. Guiding people in their decision making. Working for unity among the Catholic churches in the diocese.)</li> <li>5. Show students how to use the Catechism of the Catholic Church.</li> <li>6. Use the Catechism of the Catholic Church to find the roles of the bishop. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1554, 1555-1558</li> </ul> </li> <li>7. Compare these roles to discuss from the previous class after reading Acts.</li> <li>8. Discuss with students how Bishop Joensen lives these roles in his ministry.</li> </ol>
<b>Lesson Wrap-Up</b>	<p>Review the following concepts with the students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The definition of bishop</li> <li>• Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines</li> <li>• Understanding the symbolism of the outward signs of a bishop.</li> <li>• Role of the bishop according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church.</li> </ul>

**LESSON PLAN: DIOCESE**  
**Grade Level: 9-12**

<b>Lesson Title</b>	What is a Diocese?
<b>Time</b>	1-2 30 minute classes
<b>Lesson Objectives</b>	<p>Students will know the definition of diocese.</p> <p>Students will know the difference between an archdiocese and diocese.</p> <p>Students will know the Diocese of Des Moines is split into regions and understand why the diocese is split into regions.</p> <p>Students will understand the roles of the parish priest and deacon.</p>
<b>Materials Needed</b>	<p>State of Iowa map, divided into dioceses</p> <p>Map of Diocese of Des Moines</p> <p>Catechism of the Catholic Church</p>
<b>Lesson Procedures</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review with students the definition of bishop and the role of the bishop.</li> <li>2. Share with students the definition of diocese. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A specific territory established by the Pope, the Bishop of Rome, and is under the leadership and authority of a bishop. It is the most authentic expression of the Church.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Discuss with students there are four dioceses in the state of Iowa. Show students the state map labeled with the dioceses.</li> <li>4. Explain the difference between archdiocese and diocese. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>An archdiocese is often older in its time of being a diocese. An archdiocese is led by an archbishop who gathers the other bishops for matters of mutual interest. In terms of responsibility each Bishop is responsible directly to the Pope.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>5. In large group discussion, have students discuss the role of the parish priest and deacon. Using the Catechism of the Catholic Church, read to find out the role of the parish priest and deacon. (This may be done in small groups.) Have students create a Venn diagram or other graphic organizer to compare and contrast these two roles. As a large group, compare the brainstormed list of roles to the list found in the Catechism. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1536, 1544-1553, 1562, 1569-1571</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Lesson Wrap-Up</b>	<p>Review the following concepts with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of bishop</li> <li>• Definition of diocese</li> <li>• The division of the four dioceses in Iowa and the names and locations of each diocese.</li> <li>• The role of the parish priests and deacons according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church.</li> </ul>

**LESSON PLAN: CATHEDRAL**  
**Grade Level: 9-12**

<b>Lesson Title</b>	Cathedral, Cathedra, and St. Ambrose Cathedral
<b>Time</b>	30 minutes, time to complete research and share information
<b>Lesson Objectives</b>	<p>Students will know the definition of a cathedral and cathedra.</p> <p>Students will research understand the importance and connection between a cathedral and cathedra.</p> <p>Students will know about different aspects of St. Ambrose Cathedral including architecture, furniture, windows, and other symbols.</p>
<b>Materials Needed</b>	Pictures of St. Ambrose Cathedral and Cathedra
<b>Lesson Procedures</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain the definition of a cathedral and cathedra to students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The word is derived from the Latin word, cathedra, meaning seat or chair and refers to the presence of the bishop's chair in the "cathedral." The cathedral is the principal church of a diocese and where the bishop gathers the ecclesial community for its principal events.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Assist students in making the connection between the cathedral and cathedra. (The Cathedral is the parish of the bishop. Each cathedral contains a cathedra, or chair, that is the bishop's chair. This chair symbolizes the bishop's teaching and authority in the diocese.)</li> <li>3. Share the picture of St. Ambrose Cathedral and the cathedra. The cathedra in St. Ambrose is only used by Bishop Joensen.</li> <li>4. Through research, field trips, or interviews students are going to learn more about St. Ambrose Cathedral, the cathedral of the Diocese of Des Moines. (This work may be done individually or in small groups.) Students are to find information on the topics listed below (some may be combined) and will share the information with one another in another class period. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic facts (built, when named Cathedral and by whom)</li> <li>• Architecture</li> <li>• Altar furniture (include relic of St. Ambrose)</li> <li>• The Lady Chapel (furniture, prayer, window)</li> <li>• Side windows (split east and west – 3 on each side)</li> <li>• Windows above the cathedra and altar</li> <li>• Mary and Joseph shrines</li> <li>• Cross, Relic of the True Cross</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Lesson Wrap-Up</b>	<p>Review the following concepts with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of cathedral and cathedra</li> <li>• Importance and connection of the cathedral and cathedra</li> <li>• Information learned about St. Ambrose Cathedral as the cathedral of the Diocese of Des Moines</li> </ul>

“What is a Bishop?”





“What is a Cathedral?”



“What is a Diocese?”

