

## LESSON PLAN: BISHOP

Grade Levels: 3-5

<b>Lesson Title</b>	What is a Bishop?
<b>Time</b>	30 minutes
<b>Lesson Objectives</b>	Students will know the definition of a bishop. Students will know the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines. Students will understand the primary symbols of a bishop: Ring, Crosier, Mitre, and Pectoral Cross.
<b>Materials Needed</b>	Picture of Bishop Joensen in full vestments
<b>Lesson Procedures</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Discuss with students that Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines and share his picture with them.</li><li>2. Discuss with students what they think a bishop does. Share the definition of a 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>3. Share with students that Bishop Joensen is the direct Successor of the Apostles. Talk with students about what that means.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Just as the apostles were called to lead and teach in the early Church, a bishop is also called to do those same actions. A bishop follows in the steps and actions of the apostles. Through ordination the bishop has a direct link to one of the Apostles.</li></ul></li><li>4. Share with students that a bishop has a two-fold relationship: First, to guide the Catholic faith of the people in his diocese and second to work with other bishops all over the world in union with Pope Benedict to lead the worldwide Church.</li><li>5. Using the picture of Bishop Joensen, point out the four outward signs of a bishop: the Ring, Crosier, Mitre, and Pectoral Cross. Share with students the meaning behind each symbol:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ring: a sign of the bishop's marriage and total commitment to the Church</li><li>• Crosier: 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></ol>
<b>Lesson Wrap-Up</b>	Review the following concepts with students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines</li><li>• A bishop is the direct successor to the Apostles.</li><li>• Bishop Joensen has two relationships: First to the Diocese of Des Moines to lead, guide, and teach the Catholic faith. Second to work with the other bishops across the world to help Pope Francis lead the worldwide Church.</li><li>• Four of the outward symbols of a bishop are the Ring, Crosier, Miter, and Pectoral Cross and the symbolism behind each.</li></ul>

**LESSON PLAN: DIOCESE**  
**Grade Level: 3-5**

<b>Lesson Title</b>	Learning about the Diocese of Des Moines
<b>Time</b>	30 minutes
<b>Lesson Objectives</b>	Students will learn each Catholic parish belongs to a diocese. Students will know they belong to the Diocese of Des Moines. Students will learn where there are four dioceses in the state of Iowa. Students will learn where the Diocese of Des Moines is in the state of Iowa. Student will learn the Diocese of Des Moines is split into regions and why. Students will learn what region of the Diocese of Des Moines they are a part of.
<b>Materials Needed</b>	Map of Iowa, split into dioceses Map of Diocese of Des Moines
<b>Lesson Procedures</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review with students the definition of bishop and that Bishop Pates is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines.</li> <li>2. Explain to students that each Catholic parish is a part of a diocese and they belong to the Diocese of Des Moines.</li> <li>3. Share with students with definition of a 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>4. Show students the Iowa map divided into the four dioceses. Share the names of the dioceses with the students, focusing on where the Diocese of Des Moines is located.</li> <li>5. Find the parish town on the map to show where it is located within the Diocese of Des Moines.</li> <li>6. Share the Diocesan map that shows the regions of the diocese. Explain to students that the Diocese of Des Moines is split into regions.</li> <li>7. Find their parish on the diocesan map and determine what other parishes are in their region.</li> </ol>
<b>Lesson Wrap-Up</b>	Review the following concepts with students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines</li> <li>• Each Catholic parish is a part of a diocese</li> <li>• The definition of a diocese</li> <li>• There are four dioceses in the state of Iowa</li> <li>• Where the Diocese of Des Moines is located in the state</li> <li>• The Diocese of Des Moines is split into regions.</li> <li>• Their parish is a part of a region.</li> </ul>

After you have completed the above plan, you may choose to also use the information on the diocesan symbol used when Pope John Paul II visited Iowa.

**LESSON PLAN: CATHEDRAL**  
**Grade Level: 3-5**

<b>Lesson Title</b>	The Cathedral and Cathedra
<b>Time</b>	30 minutes
<b>Lesson Objectives</b>	<p>Students will learn the definition of a cathedral</p> <p>Students will learn that St. Ambrose Cathedral is the cathedral of the Diocese of Des Moines</p> <p>Students will learn that each cathedral has a special chair called a cathedra</p> <p>Students will learn the function of the cathedra in a cathedral</p>
<b>Materials Needed</b>	<p>Pictures of St. Ambrose Cathedral</p> <p>Pictures of the cathedra at St. Ambrose</p>
<b>Lesson Procedures</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review with students the definitions of bishop and diocese.</li> <li>2. Review with students that Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines.</li> <li>3. Explain to students that each diocese has a special church called a cathedra. Share the definition of a cathedral. <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 the diocese and where the bishop gathers the ecclesial community for its principal events.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Show students the picture of St. Ambrose and explain that St. Ambrose Cathedral is the cathedral in the Diocese of Des Moines.</li> <li>5. Discuss with students that St. Ambrose Cathedral is THE church of our Diocese.</li> <li>6. Show students the picture of the cathedra from St. Ambrose. Explain to students that in each cathedral there is a special chair on the altar that is the bishop's chair. This picture is of Bishop Joensen's cathedra or chair.</li> <li>7. Explain to students the cathedra is the chair of the bishop and it symbolizes his authority and teaching in the Diocese of Des Moines. Share with students that Bishop Joensen is the only one who uses this chair.</li> <li>8. Use the website <a href="http://www.saintambrosecathedral.org">www.saintambrosecathedral.org</a> to learn more about St. Ambrose and St. Ambrose Cathedral. There is a picture of the cathedra on this website.</li> </ol>
<b>Lesson Wrap-Up</b>	<p>Review the following concepts with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines</li> <li>• Each diocese has a cathedral.</li> <li>• The definition of a cathedral.</li> <li>• St. Ambrose Cathedral is the cathedral in the Diocese of Des Moines.</li> <li>• Each cathedral has a cathedra, which is the Bishop's Chair.</li> <li>• The cathedra symbolizes the bishop's teaching and authority in the diocese.</li> </ul>

“What is a Bishop?”





“What is a Cathedral?”



“What is a Diocese?”

