

LESSON PLAN: BISHOP
Grade Level: K-2

Lesson Title	What is a Bishop?
Time	30 minutes
Lesson Objectives	Students will understand what a bishop is. 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.
Materials Needed	Picture of Bishop Joensen in full vestments
Lesson Procedures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss with children the name of their parish priest. 2. Discuss with children how their parish is a part of the Diocese of Des Moines. 3. Show students the picture of Bishop Joensen and share with children that he is the Bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines. 4. Share with students the definition of Bishop. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <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> 5. Discuss with students what the definition means: 6. Show students the picture of Bishop Joensen again and point out the Ring, Crosier, Mitre, and Pectoral Cross. Explain to students these are outward symbols of a bishop. 7. Share with students the meaning behind each of these symbols: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ring: a sign of the bishop's marriage and total commitment to the Church • 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 • Mitre: symbolizing the governing role of the bishop. He is called to be the leader and is responsible for the people. • 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.
Lesson Wrap-Up	<p>Review the following concepts with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines • As our bishop, he is the leader of the Catholic church in the Diocese of Des Moines • As the Pastor he guides our spiritual growth and our Catholic faith • Four of the outward symbols of a bishop are the Ring, Crosier, Miter, and Pectoral Cross that symbolize the role of bishop (pastoral, teaching, governing, and sanctifying). • Have students name each of the symbols as you point them out on the picture of Bishop Joensen

LESSON PLAN: DIOCESE
Grade Level: K-2

Lesson Title	What is a Diocese?
Time	30 minutes
Lesson Objectives	Students will understand the definition of diocese Students will learn there are four dioceses in Iowa Students will learn they are a part of the Diocese of Des Moines Students will know where the Diocese of Des Moines is in the state of Iowa
Materials Needed	Map of Iowa; split into four dioceses
Lesson Procedures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss with students the name of their parish. 2. Share with students that each Catholic parish is a part of a diocese. 3. Explain to students the definition of a diocese: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <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> 4. Show students the map of Iowa that is divided into the four dioceses and explain that in Iowa there are four different dioceses. 5. Explain to students they are a part of the Diocese of Des Moines and point out where the diocese is on the map. 6. Talk with students about how the Diocese of Des Moines covers the Southwest part of the state of Iowa. 7. Use the map and find the hometown of each parish. Show the distance between the parish town and Des Moines.
Lesson Wrap-Up	Review the following concepts with students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The name of their parish • Each Catholic parish is a part of a diocese • The definition of a diocese • Their parish is a part of the Diocese of Des Moines • The location of the Diocese of Des Moines on the Iowa map • The definition of a bishop • Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines • Review the four outward symbols of a bishop (ring, crozier, mitre, and pectoral cross)

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 Levels: K-2

Lesson Title	What is a Cathedral?
Time	30 minutes
Lesson Objectives	Students will understand what a Cathedral is Students will understand that each diocese has a Cathedral and the Cathedral is the Bishop's parish Students will understand that St. Ambrose is the Cathedral in the Diocese of Des Moines
Materials Needed	Picture of St. Ambrose Cathedral Picture of cathedra from St. Ambrose
Lesson Procedures	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review with students the definition of bishop and diocese2. Review with students that Bishop Joensen is the bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines3. Explain to students that each diocese has a special church called a Cathedral. Share the definition of cathedral.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <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 where the bishop gathers the ecclesial community for its principal events.</i>4. Explain to students that the Cathedral in the Diocese of Des Moines is St. Ambrose. Show the picture of St. Ambrose to the students.5. Discuss with students that the Cathedral is the bishop's Church, so St. Ambrose is the Church for Bishop Joensen.6. Share with students that each cathedral has a special chair in it for the bishop when he is there for Mass. That chair is called a cathedra. It symbolizes the teaching, pastoral, sanctifying, and governing role of the Bishop.7. Show students that picture of the cathedra from St. Ambrose.8. Explain to students that this is a special chair for Bishop Joensen and that this chair is a symbol of his leadership, teaching, and governance in the Diocese of Des Moines.9. Remind students they will see the Cathedral of St. Ambrose and the cathedra when they come to visit the Cathedral.
Lesson Wrap-Up	Review the following concepts with students: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The definition of a cathedral.• St. Ambrose Cathedral is the cathedral for the Diocese of Des Moines.• St. Ambrose Cathedral is the Church of Bishop Joensen.• The special chair in St. Ambrose Cathedral is called a cathedra.• This chair is for Bishop Joensen and symbolizes his leadership in the Diocese of Des Moines.• The definition of bishop and diocese.

“What is a Bishop?”



“What is a Cathedral?”



“What is a Diocese?”

