FIRE GROUND PLAN

AUDIENCE: Grade 2 (private, exclusive school for boys, predominantly well-off)
TOPIC: JESUS WELCOMES US INTO THE CHURCH
PROBLEM: How did we become members of the Church?
LEVEL: Grade 2
MATERIAL: Classroom Lesson
LENGTH: 45 mins.

CHRISTIAN MESSAGE

Worship:
- Faithful to the instructions of Jesus, the Church uses the Sacrament of Baptism to welcome new members.

Doctrine:
- Jesus instructed His apostles to make disciples by baptizing them and teaching them everything He has taught the apostles. This work of the apostles is continued in the Church.

Moral:
- As welcomed members, we are called to fulfill our responsibilities as part of the Church. One of these is to also make other members of the Church feel that they are welcome.

SOURCES/MEANS

Sacred Scripture:
Mt. 28:16-20 - Commissioning of the Apostles

Church Teachings:
Baptism's second effect is to unite us with others as members of Christ's Body, the Church... Our personal relationship with Christ is... always a loving friendship that originates, develops and grows in union with fellow-members of Christ's body, the Church... (CFC 1605)

Baptism makes us members of the Body of Christ: "Therefore... we are members one of another." Baptism incorporates us into the Church. (CCC 1267)

Just as Baptism is the source of responsibilities and duties, the baptized person also enjoys rights within the Church. (CCC 1269)

Resources:
We Belong to God's Family
We Believe 2: Jesus Shares God's Life by Sadlier

Means:
- Think-Pair-Share
- Story-telling - Scripture
- Class discussion

OBJECTIVES

At the end of the lesson, the students should be able to...

Worship:
1. State that through Baptism, we are welcomed into the Church.
2. Explain the importance of Baptism in the Church.

Doctrine:
3. Recall that they belong to the Church -- a community of Christ's friends and followers.
4. Explain how the Church continues the mission of the apostles.

Moral:
5. Identify ways to welcome others and to make others feel welcomed into the Church.

HUMAN EXPERIENCE (Before)

Students may have witnessed infant baptisms and they know what goes on in such an event. In the previous quarter, they discussed about the Church as God's family and the Community of Christ's followers. They know that we belong to this Church. The word sacrament has been taught during the previous lesson.

These students have a limited experience of community -- highly centered on their family. Anyone outside their family and friends are not necessarily considered as part of their community.

HUMAN EXPERIENCE (During)

PRELECTION

REVIEW: Students will review the following...
- The Church is the community of Christ’s followers and friends. All of us are members of this community. When did this membership begin? How did we become a member?
- The Sacraments are powerful signs that the Church uses to show that Jesus is present with us today.

THINK-PAIR-SHARE - Students will be presented with situations and they will discuss how they are going to respond to them.
- During the first day of class, you realize that there is a new student in your classroom. What are you going to do?
- Your mom gave birth to a baby sister. What are you going to do for your new baby sister?

In these acts, we welcome new members of our communities.

LINK: It is important to be welcomed in a community. It is a first step for every member to feel that they
really belong. The Church uses a sacrament as a sign of welcoming new members into the community and that is Baptism.

LESSON PROPER

EXPOSITION
Students will be shown the text of Matthew 28:16-20 and they will be asked to discuss the answers to the following questions:
1. Where did Jesus ask His apostles to go?
2. What did Jesus command His apostles to do?
3. What did He promise to them after giving His commands?
4. Why did He ask them to baptize?

CHRISTIAN MESSAGE
Students will discuss the following Christian message:
• Jesus gathered His friends to give them a special work to do. He told them to welcome people of all nations into the Christian community by baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus also asked them to teach people to obey what God wants. He even left them a promise: He will always be with them until the end, because their work was not easy.
• The apostles remained faithful to these instructions of Jesus. We can see the continuation of the apostles’ work in the Church today.
• The Church uses Baptism as a way and symbol of welcoming new members into the Church.
• Baptism is the first sacrament that a person receives. It is the sacrament that welcomes us into the Church. At Baptism, we become members of the Christian community.
• As members of the Church we are able to deepen our friendship with Christ. We also enjoy the rights of a member of the Church – to receive the sacraments, listen to the Word of God and be sustained by other helps that the Church can give. All these help us deepen our friendship with Jesus.
• We do not only enjoy the benefits of being members of the Church. We also share responsibilities. We are then asked to obey what God wants, just as Jesus told His disciples to do - to make more friends, welcome and teach.
• As His friends, we hold on to His promise that He will be with us forever.

HUMAN EXPERIENCE (After)

RESPONSE
Students will discuss the answer to the following questions:
In the same way Jesus welcomes us in the Church through Baptism, how can we welcome others into the Church? How can we make them feel that, indeed, Jesus welcomes them?

Students will accomplish an activity sheet answering the question above towards these people: 1) helper, 2) classmate, 3) street child, and 4) sick relative.

CLOSURE

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Students will discuss the following reflection questions after the discussion:
1. Why is it important to be welcomed into a community?
2. What does it mean to be baptized?

REVIEW/SUMMARY
Students will review what they have learned in the lesson.

ASSIGNMENT
Students will be asked to make a welcome card for children in the parish who will soon be baptized. They will be asked to give the cards to the priests of the parishes. They will ask their parish priests to give these cards to the families of the children who are going to be baptized.

PRAYER
Students will be asked to join the teacher in saying a thanksgiving prayer to Jesus for welcoming us in the Church through Baptism.

ASSESSMENT
Students will take a pen and paper quiz on the lesson.