

# Lesson 7 – The Incarnation

Grades 6-8

## Lesson Preparation:

Read Lesson 7 in the Baltimore Catechism. You will also need to have Bibles for this session.

## Opening Prayer:

Scripture: “The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.” Luke 1:35

Leader: Jesus, today we will contemplate the mystery of your Incarnation. Bless our minds so that we can understand it, and expand our hearts so we can love You better. Amen.

Together: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Opening:

Tell the students that in this session we will be studying the Incarnation, which is God becoming Man. We are talking, of course, about Jesus. Jesus became human in Mary’s womb and nine months later, at the first Christmas, He was born. This session will open with the Christmas passages in Luke’s Gospel. Ask students to listen carefully and imagine the scene. Then read aloud Luke 2:1-20.

## Watch the Lesson 7 Video on Catholic Brain

**Comprehension Questions:** *Note: These questions are asked after the video, just to check student comprehension. They are not discussion questions, but be sure students understand the answers to these questions before moving on*

1) What is the Incarnation?

*The Incarnation refers to God, the Son, the Second Person of the Trinity, becoming Man, Jesus Christ.*

2) What are the two natures of Jesus?

*Divine – Jesus has been God for all eternity; and Human – Jesus took on a human nature (became Man) at a point in time (in Mary’s womb nine months before the first Christmas)*

3) Who is the savior of the world?

*Jesus*

4) On what holiday do we celebrate the birth of Jesus?

*Christmas*

**Discussion Questions:** *Note: These questions are for student discussion. The students should consider these questions and comment on them. There are some key points included in this lesson, after each question, that you can use to help guide their discussion toward truth. It’s important that the students think about and discuss these things, but that they don’t leave the discussion with false impressions about what is true.*

1) Why did God become Man?

*The first reason is to save us through His Death and Resurrection. Also, to teach us about God; when we see Jesus, we are seeing God. To teach us how to live – Jesus is also the perfect human. To establish a Church.*

2) Why can Mary be called the Mother of God?

*God is eternal, and He created Mary. However, Mary truly is the mother of Jesus Christ, and Jesus truly is God. Therefore, we can call Mary the Mother of God.*

### **Go Deeper:**

Remind students that in a previous lesson they studied the Trinity, and learned the difference between a Person and a Nature. A nature refers to what something is and a person refers to who someone is. The Trinity is three Persons (Father, Son, Holy Spirit), with one nature (God).

The Second Person of the Trinity, although one person – the Son, has two natures: divine – He is God from all eternity, and human – He became Man at the Incarnation. This is why He is sometimes called the God-Man.

Read the following Scripture passages with the students: Matthew 1:1-16; Matthew 9:18-26; Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 6:31-32; Luke 5:17-26. You may do it together as a large group or split them into small groups, each with a Bible. If you work in small groups, discuss together in a large group at the end. Each passage refers either to Jesus's Divine Nature or His Human Nature. Have the students identify and discuss which nature is reflected in each passage.

### **Activity:**

Students will reread Luke 2:1-20 and imagine they are among the shepherds visiting the stable at the first Christmas. They will write an imagined dialogue between two of the shepherds about what they experience. They can do this individually or with a partner. Then, if there is time, they can act it out.

### **Closing Prayer:**

Leader: Jesus, we thank You for loving us so much that You took on our human nature. You show us the love of God, and how we should love God. Keep us always close to You. Amen.

Together: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.