



## School and Religious Education Program Invitation

Lesson Plan

Pre –K

### Preparation


**Personal Reflection:** So that you have a better understanding of the need for and purpose of this lesson, read Archbishop Perez’s pastoral letter regarding the *Nothing Compares to Being There Initiative*. It can be found at <https://archphila.org/nothingcompares/> Explore the information and links found on the web site.

Children at this level are at the beginning stages of learning what a church is and why we go to Church. They are learning that prayer is a way of talking to God. This lesson will help them to gain greater understanding of these concepts.

### Learning Objectives/Goals

- The students will come to realize that when you love someone, it is important to visit them.
- The students will gain a better understanding of the church as a place to visit a special friend, Jesus,

## Activities

1. Ask the children to tell you about the special people in their lives. If the people they mention do not live with them, ask if they like to visit them and spend some time with them. Let them share their stories of what they do when they visit someone special.
2. Show them a picture of Jesus with small children or pictures from a child's book about Jesus such as **The Story of Jesus (Little Golden Book)** by Jane Werner Watson . Tell them you are going to tell them about a very special friend to children.
3. Tell them that very soon we will be celebrating the birthday of this special friend—Jesus-- and that we need to take the time while we are waiting to get ready for the celebration.
4. Give them a copy of the picture of a Church. Tell them that this is a special place where they can visit Jesus with their family and talk to Him. Tell them how important it is to visit Jesus often and to ask their family to take them to "God's house."
5. Encourage them to draw  inside the church showing them with their family visiting the church. Have them take the picture home and put it somewhere that will remind their family to go to church to visit Jesus. As an alternative give them some mini smile stickers to place in the windows and doors of the church.
6. Follow-up: Remind them each week to ask someone in their family to take them to church so they can "visit" and talk to God.

