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|  **Strands** | Story of the Church; Meditation; Prayer and Worship; The Bible and Christian Belief |
| **Stage of Development** | Early Childhood (PP-2) | **Created** May 2021 | **Review** 2025 |
| **Aim** | This unit explores what is Baptism and Holy Communion, and some of the meaning behind the rituals.  |
| **Content Descriptions** | **Knowledge and Understanding*** The meaning behind Baptism and the procedure of Baptism within the Anglican church
* The meaning behind Holy Communion and the celebration of Holy Communion within the Anglican church
* The nature of the symbols used in Baptism and Holy Communion in the Anglican church
 | **Religious Studies Skills*** Concept cracking
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| **Resources** | The Jesus Storybook Bible, Sally Lloyd-Jones | This Bible has beautiful illustrations and considerable effort has been put into developing each story so Children can understand the meaning.  |
| The Beginner’s Bible, Candle Books | This is a very simple Bible great for younger students.  |
| A Prayer Book for Australia [APBA] or via e-pray | This contains Anglican liturgy. There are children’s versions too. |
| Bible Gateway [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) | This website allows you to look up Bible passages. It has different translations. You can change the translation to find translations that are more appropriate for Children and easier to understand e.g. Contemporary English Version.  |
| RE:Quest [www.request.org.uk/](http://www.request.org.uk/) | This website has been developed by an agency of the Anglican ?Church in the UK and has great videos of key Bible stories. |

| **Lesson** | **Key Questions** | **Lesson Activity Ideas** | **Resources** |
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| **1** | The nature of Christian rituals | What is a ritual?What Christian rituals do we celebrate in the Anglican Church? | 5min5min15min5min15min | Game: game of Simon Says (or similar)Discuss: everyday things we do over and over and then special things we do over and over (but maybe less often!). Talk about what we do and why we do it. For example, eat cake at birthdays, brush teeth each day, read stories before bed, play soccer on Saturdays.Activity: With a partner, students make up a short mime of something they do over and over. Class must guess what it is.Watch the ASC Christian Rituals video and discuss the things we do over and over in the Anglican church e.g. baptism, communion. Visit: the school chapel or worship space and discuss some of the rituals your school participates in during a Chapel service.  | ASC Christian Rituals video (available on the ASC website)School Chapel |
| 2 | Baptism | What happens during an Anglican baptism?Why do Anglican’s believe Baptism is important?What is a sacrament?  | 15min10min15min5min | Demonstration: show the students a baby doll and a baby bath. Give the baby doll a bath. Give students a go at bathing the baby. Discuss: Talk to the students about bathing babies – do they have a baby at home, what do they do etc. When the baby doll is clean and dry, dress it and wrap it up* Talk about how this reminds you of attending a Baptism
* Refer students back the video from lesson 1.

Explanation: Introduce Baptism – say it is a special time when people are welcomed to God’s family. When they become ‘children of God’* Discuss with students why water is used in a baptism? (eg what is water normally used for – to clean, to wash, to give life, to quench thirst)
* Suggest that the water is a **sign/symbol** of something that can’t be seen.
* For example: When I hug my kids, you see the hug, but you don’t see the love inside my heart. But it is there!
* When someone is baptised, you see the water, but you don’t see God’s love inside making a person’s heart new. But it is there! The water is a sign of God’s love, of a new life as a member of his family “We … welcome you as a member with us of the body of Christ, as a child of the one heavenly Father …”.
* Holy Oil may be used at Baptism, to mark the sign of the Cross on the person’s forehead “you are marked as Christ’s own forever”
* The person, or their parents / sponsors, may also be given a candle at Baptism, to “shine as a light in the world …”
* Tell the students Christians call Baptism a Sacrament. Explain the meaning of sacrament (an outward, visible symbol that reminds us/teaches us of an inward, invisible grace from God).

Share: Get the students to share stories of baptisms they have seen. Extension: Send note home asking students to bring in any photos or mementoes from their own baptism if they were Baptised and have some at home. | Baby doll, baby bath, waterResources: water, oil, candle APBA page 59APBA page 60APBA page 60APBA page 60 |
| 3 | Jesus’ Baptism | What happened at Jesus’ Baptism? Why was Jesus baptised with water and the spirit?  | 5min5min15min20min | Activity: place three cups or bowls out the front of the class. Place a ball under one of the bowls and move the bowls around. Ask the students where the ball is. Is the ball there, even though they can’t see it without lifting up the bowl?Discuss: Ask the students if they can think of anything that they know exists, but they can’t see e.g. gravity, radio waves/sound waves, atoms, air/oxygen, the entire universe (we can only see parts of it). The point of this question is to help students think about the Holy Spirit. Normally we can’t see the Holy Spirit but in this story we can. Just because we can’t normally see it does not mean it doesn’t exist. Read: Jesus’ baptism from a Children’s Bible (Matthew 3:13-17) Worksheet: Students to create a storyboard of the story. Extension: Students could visit the Chapel during a lesson and the Chaplain could complete a mock baptism if appropriate.  | Children’s BibleWorksheet: Storyboard Jesus’ Baptism |
| **4**  | The Story of the Last Supper | What happened at the Last Supper?Why is the Last Supper important to Christians? | 5min10min10min20min | Brainstorm: Food that helps us remember certain events e.g. hot cross buns, candy canes, birthday cake, Christmas cake.Read: Last Supper from a Children’s Bible (Matthew 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-26, Luke 22:7-28) What did Jesus want his disciples to remember when they ate bread and wine?Read: Thanksgiving 1 in APBA – bottom of page 128 / top of page 129“ Jesus took bread; and when he had given thanks ….. he took the cup and again giving you thanks ….”Discuss: What is Holy Communion? (a special time of worship in church / school chapel when people remember how much God loves them and say thank you) What happens during a Communion service?Talk about what happens: the special thank you prayers, the blessing prayers, people eat [a small piece of bread] and drink [a sip of wine]. Introduce students to the following terminology and explain what each item is used for: Chalice [cup] and Paten [plate] or Ciboria. Students make some damper/bread to share and eat together  | Children’s BibleAPBA pages 128-129Communion can also be called the Eucharist, Mass, Lord’s SupperChalice, paten / ciboriaDamper ingredients, oven, trays etc |
| **5** | Giving Thanks | Why does Communion remind Christians to be thankful?What can you give thanks for? | 10min15min5min15minAn extra lesson | Activity: Students write one thing they are thankful for on a sticky note. Put all the students’ sticky notes on a wall or poster.Read: The story of Jesus’ death from a Children’s Bible (Matthew 26-27, Mark 14-15, Luke 22-23, John 18-19). Ask for volunteers to re-tell the story from Jesus perspective, one of the women and the Roman solider.Explain: one of the things Christians do when they have Communion is to say thank you to Jesus for his love. They REMEMBER Jesus and his love and say THANKYOU.Craft: Use the door hanger templet. Students can hang the completed door hanger on their bedroom door to remind them to say thank you. They can draw a picture of themselves or the item they are thankful for on the template and cut it out. Extension: Students could visit the Chapel – or set up the classroom with an altar – during a lesson and the Chaplain could celebrate a Holy Communion / Eucharist, explaining to the students what is happening as he or she celebrates the service.  | Sticky notesChildren’s BibleWorksheet: door hanger template coloured pencils, scissors School Chapel; or in-class Eucharist |