

THE TABLET *jr.*

Celebrations Around the World

The Tablet Jr. is edited by CTN, the educational services department of DeSales Media Group.



Teaching Guide Vol. 4; Issue 2

Each month has a specific theme tied to Catholic social teaching. The themes of Catholic Social Teaching can be integrated into many subjects. This Instructional Guide is full of resources to help you connect the stories and features to your lesson plans.

This month's edition is created by the student journalists of St. Kevin Catholic Academy.



"LIVING RIGHTLY MEANS TO
LOVE ONE ANOTHER."
-ROMANS 13:8-10



The Celebration of Hanukkah



Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.

Essential Question: How much would our world change if everyone respected & acknowledged celebrations from across the world?

Discovery Education Video: [The History & Symbolism of Hanukkah](#)

Video Description: Discover the origins of Hanukkah. The segment explores the miracle of Hanukkah and how it inspired the symbolism of the menorah.

Activities

- [Sesame Street: Happy Hanukkah \(K-2\)](#)
 - ◆ Happy Hanukkah | [Mini-Lesson](#)
- [Celebrate Hanukkah: Holiday Lesson \(3-8\)](#)
 - ◆ Celebrate Hanukkah's origins, traditions, and symbols using this lesson presentation.
 - ◆ [Read Aloud: The Ninth Night of Hanukkah](#)
- [Freckle: Kwanzaa](#)
 - ◆ Compare & Contrast Kwanzaa & Hanukkah
 - ◆ [Venn Diagram](#)
 - ◆ [Kahoot!: Kwanzaa](#)
- [NEWSELA: Five Things You May Not Know About Kwanzaa](#)
 - ◆ [Favorite Holidays Project](#)
 - Examine favorite holidays and the elements that make those holidays unique.
 - [Kahoot!: Holidays Around the World](#)
 - [Weave a Mkeka](#)

Additional Resources Continued

Reflection Questions can be presented in different ways depending on grade level and ability. Platforms that can be used are Padlet and Jamboard.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) How can nations of the world respect all holidays?
- 2) In what ways can we be an example of respect for other holidays?
- 3) Why are the poor and needy often more generous?

Additional Resources

- [YouTube: As Cool As It Gets](#)
 - ◆ Writing Prompt
 - ◆ [Brother Francis: JoyToons!](#)
- Critical Thinking & the [Bible Activity](#)

The Celebration of Thanksgiving



Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.

Essential Question: What would happen if families across the world were open to other holidays?

[Discovery Education Video: American Holidays and Traditions](#)

Video Description: Provides context for some of the major holidays and traditions in the United States. The segment focuses on New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Valentine's Day, April Fool's Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and other holidays.

Activities

- [Discovery Education: The Beginnings of Christmas \(K-3\)](#)
 - ◆ [Roll a Christmas Story Activity](#)
 - ◆ [Christmas Debate](#)
 - ◆ ['Twas the Night Before Christmas"](#)
 - Have students write an updated version of the poem that describes Santa paying a visit to a modern home. Allow time for students to share with the class by acting them out.

- [Curiosity: Groundhog Day](#)
 - ◆ [Discover Data: Data During the Holidays](#)
 - ◆ [Groundhog Day News Article Activity](#)
 - ◆ [Groundhogs](#)

Additional Resources Continued

Reflection Questions can be presented in different ways depending on grade level and ability. Platforms that can be used are Padlet and Jamboard.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) Why are the origins of all holidays important?
- 2) How do holiday symbols spark our love of the holiday?
- 3) Why are some holidays centered around gifts?

Additional Resources

- [Discovery Education: From Macy's to NFL, Thanksgiving Traditions Explained](#)
- ◆ [Christmas Tree Forests...and protractors](#)
 - ◆ [Perimeter Trees](#)
 - ◆ [Tinkering Trees](#)

The Epiphany in Italy



Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.

Essential Question: How would a world celebration day help bring people together?

[Discovery Education Video](#): Asian and Australian Christmas Traditions

Video Description: Examines aspects of Asian and Australian Christmas celebrations. In Asian countries, the observation of Christmas ranges from solely religious to more secular celebrations with an emphasis on love and good fortune. In Australia, Christmas falls during summer and often includes family barbecues.

Activities

- History of [Diwali](#)
 - ◆ [Discovery Education](#): Diwali Song | Mini-Lesson (K-2)
 - ◆ Celebrate Diwali [Studio Board](#)
- India: [Holi Festival](#)
 - ◆ Compare & Contrast Holi & Diwali
 - ◆ [Venn Diagram](#)
- [Discovery Education Studio Board](#): Flag Day
 - ◆ [American Flag](#)
- [Read Aloud](#): Three Kings Day
 - ◆ [DIY Three Kings' Day Baskets](#)
 - ◆ Stained Glass Star [Suncatcher](#)
 - ◆ Letter to Three Kings Day [App](#)
 - Write a message for the Three Wise Men to let them know you have been a good person this year!

Additional Resources Continued

Reflection Questions can be presented in different ways depending on grade level and ability. Platforms that can be used are Padlet and Jamboard.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) How do folktales connect to holidays or holiday traditions?
- 2) Why does society create commercials centered around buying instead of charity?
- 3) How can God remind us of the importance of all holidays?

Additional Resources

→ Commercial of Charity

- ◆ Analyze how commercials target certain groups and then create your own commercial
- ◆ Our Mother Earth video: view this video as an example of producing a clear message that will inspire viewers.

Sister Elizabeth

Together as a class, read the questions and answers from Sr. Elizabeth.



Questions from kids like you!

- How people celebrate Christmas in China?-
Matthew Lopez, 3rd grade
- ◆ [Youtube](#): How to Celebrate Christmas in China
 - ◆ Create [flashcards](#) of Christmas sayings in other languages
- How do they celebrate birthdays in other countries? Logan Vaquiz- Kindergarten
- ◆ [Brother Francis](#): You are Special
 - ◆ Create a Clips video about how you can celebrate each class member and their unique gifts
 - How to create a [Clips video](#)

Diocesan History Corner



Feast of Our Lady of Charity
of El Cobre

Activities

→ Who is Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre?

- ◆ Discussion: Name the different processions that occur in your parish. What processions have you or a family member participated in?

→ Statues & our faith

- ◆ Virgin Mary of Breezy Point Visual Inference Activity
- ◆ Read about a time when a statue of the Virgin Mary was a symbol of hope.
- ◆ Why do you think a statue can bring us closer to our faith?
- ◆ Teacher Reference:
 - Statues & our Faith
 - Virgin Mary of Breezy Point
 - NY Times Article

Sadlier



Saint Andrew Dung-Lac

Activities

Part of our Catholic faith is learning to live out our faith to the world. Our guidelines are called Catholic Social Teachings, a foundation for life that is rooted in Scripture.

Following in the footsteps of Jesus and living your life with love, peace, and justice can seem overwhelming. By focusing on one of the Catholic Social Teachings at a time, you will live more like Jesus each day.

- In November, we celebrated the feast day of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions.
- Go to www.Religion.sadlierconnect.com/livesofthesaints and go to November 24. Learn how this saint taught us that even though we are from different parts of the world, we are brothers and sisters in faith working for the common good of others. Be sure to complete the Intermediate activity.
- Read Matthew 5. Pick a Beatitude and make a poster to show how to promote a common good celebration in other parts of the world. Think about the martyrs as you create your poster.