

Solemnity of Mary

Before the Meeting:

1. Print out the sound cards, double sided, on cardstock and cut them apart.
2. Print off the Lego patterns. You will need 1 pattern for every 5 students.
3. Print off Small Group Discussion Questions for each group.
4. Find a megaphone or microphone with a speaker. If you have a volunteer with a very loud voice, that may work, too.
5. Borrow or purchase some colored Legos. If your Legos are different than what I had, you will need to create your own color or patterns. I used Word and "insert shapes" then used the rectangle shape to make the blocks. Alternately, you can find some more creative patterns online.
6. Purchase some prizes.
7. Make sure you have enough volunteers or leaders to lead each small group. You can always combine 2 groups of 5 to make groups of 10 if needed.

Solemnity of Mary Agenda

Prayer: All-powerful and ever-living God: You raised the sinless Virgin Mary, mother of your Son, body and soul, to the glory of heaven. May we see heaven as our final goal and come to share her glory. Amen

Animal Matching Game: Pass out color coded cards. Ask the teens to begin mingling making only the sound of the animal on the color side of the card. While making the sound they must locate another person in the room making the same sound. Once they have found that person, they are to share one place they saw God this week. After each person has found their partner and shared, they are to flip the card over and begin making the sound listed that is a sound you would hear at a construction site. Finding their partner and then sharing one thing they read, saw, or studied that brought them closer to God this week. While the teens are moving around the room listening for their animal/construction site sounds, use a megaphone or speaker to loudly proclaim “Sunday, Sunday, Sunday” or other slogans that have the tendency to get stuck in our heads. This is used as a distraction for the teens in accomplishing their goal. If possible, give prizes to the team who most played up the role of their animal or construction sound.

Discussion -The Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary: All the feast days of Mary mark the great mysteries of her life and her part in the work of redemption. The central mystery of her life and person is her divine motherhood, celebrated both at Christmas and a week later (Jan. 1) on the feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) marks the preparation for that motherhood, so that she had the fullness of grace from the first moment of her existence, completely untouched by sin. Her whole being throbbled with divine life from the very beginning, readying her for the exalted role of mother of the Savior.

The Assumption completes God's work in her since it was not fitting that the flesh that had given life to God himself should ever undergo corruption. The Assumption is God's crowning of His work as Mary ends her earthly life and enters eternity. The feast turns our eyes in that direction, where we will follow when our earthly life is over.

The feast days of the Church are not just the commemoration of historical events; they do not look only to the past. They look to the present and to the future and give us an insight into our own relationship with God. The Assumption looks to eternity and gives us hope that we, too, will follow Our Lady when our life is ended.

Brick Game: In small groups (groups will be formed by the color of the card they were given in the last game). Each youth will be given a handicap. As a group, they will be given a Lego pattern to build. The youth that cannot speak is the only one who gets to see the diagram and she/he must find other ways to help the others complete the task.

1. One can see and use hands but can't speak (has directions)
2. 2-3 can speak and see but can't use hands
3. 2 can use hands and speak but can't see

Each small group, consisting of about 5 teens are given colored Legos, a handicap for each youth (from above) and 1 diagram of the building they are to create. The first team to complete the pattern using the correct blocks and following all handicaps will win a prize.

Small Group Discussion:

1. What was the hardest part for you about the block building game? (Looking for an answer like, "Relying on others, not being in control, letting other help you.)
2. What characteristics do you think make a good servant of God? (Have them list them off rapidly, look for an answer that resembles selflessness.)
3. Do you see any of those characteristics in Mary? What about in yourself?
4. What could you do in the Church, community, school, or at home to be a servant of God?
5. God is calling all of us to be selfless in life. In what area of your life are the most selfish, and what can you do to change and be more selfless?

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Pig

Cow

Cow

Horse

Horse

Pig

Sheep

Chicken

Chicken

Drill

Jack Hammer

Cement Truck

Drill

Hammer

Cement Truck

Dump Truck Backing Up

Hammer

Jack Hammer

Turkey

Turkey

Sheep

Cat

Rooster

Rooster

Dog

Dog

Cat

Bulldozer	Loud Bang	Loud Bang
Alarm	Bulldozer	Chainsaw
Dump Truck Backing Up	Alarm	Chainsaw

Parrot

Mouse

Mouse

Goat

Goat

Parrot

Snake

Bear

Bear

Whistle	Whistle	Whistle
Whistle	Explosion	Wrecking Ball
Explosion	Grinding	Grinding
Explosion	Grinding	Metal Scraping

Elephant

Crow

Monkey

Elephant

Bee

Monkey

Snake

Bee

Crow

<p>Beeping</p>	<p>Beeping</p>	<p>Motor</p>
<p>Clanking</p>	<p>Clanking</p>	<p>Honking</p>
<p>Metal Scraping</p>	<p>Honking</p>	<p>Motor</p>

Frog

Chipmunk

Bird

Duck

Chipmunk

Wildcat

uck

Frog

Wildcat

Screaching

Rattle

Buzzing

Pounding

Screaching

Humming

Rattle

Pounding

Buzzing

Pig

Dog

Monkey

Cow

Cat

Moose

Bird

Mouse

Moose

Falling Beam	Sizzling	Falling Beam
Foreman Screaming	Foreman Screaming	Knocking
Humming	Knocking	Sizzling

