



Level: **2**

Title: **SHARING WITH OTHERS – OUR CALL TO MISSION**

Strand: **CHRISTIAN LIFE:**
The flourishing of human persons, the common good of societies, shared responsibility in relation to creation.

Suggested Duration: **3 weeks**

Unit Focus This unit will develop the students' concept of mission as being like Jesus, caring and sharing in a loving way for people in need. This unit will assist students to discern how they can share with others in need, in their family, school, in their own country and overseas.

Level Outcome By the end of Level Two children should be able to:
Explore ways that Christians in their lives express love for God, self and others

Unit Outcomes By the end of this unit students should be able to:

- 1. Recall ideas and examples of 'sharing'***
- 2. Identify ways students can participate in Jesus' mission by sharing in a loving way with people in need.***

STRAND	DOCTRINAL CONCEPTS	CATECHISM REFERENCE
God	5. God invites us to respond in love.	2196, 2822
Christian Life	2. God invites me to love and care for myself and for others.	27, 2822

Key Understandings for students

- Jesus shows us how to share in a loving way.
- We are to share with others as Jesus did.
- When we share with people less fortunate than ourselves we live as Jesus shows us.

Curriculum Links - VELs
Victorian Essential Learning Standards

The unit *Sharing With Others- Our Call to Mission* can be used to assess a range of VELs. The table below gives examples of how Level 2 standards could be assessed.

Strand	Domain	Dimension	Key elements of Standards Students...
Physical, Personal and Social Learning	Interpersonal Development	Building Social Relationships	-“identify the feelings and needs of other people. Students identify and accept that there are consequences for their actions. They take appropriate steps to resolve simple conflicts.”

Inter disciplinary Learning		Working in Teams	-“work in teams in assigned roles, stay on task and complete structured activities within set timeframes. They share resources fairly. With teacher support, they describe their contribution to the activities of the team.”
	Information and Communications Technology	ICT for Visualising Thinking/ ICT for Creating	-“students manipulate text, images and numeric data to create simple information products for specific audiences. They make simple changes to improve the appearance of their information products. With some assistance, students use ICT to locate and retrieve relevant information from a variety of sources.”

Curriculum Framework Context	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	Called To Live Like Jesus	Sharing With Others – Our Call To Mission Loving God and Others – Our Call To Mission	Reaching Out Serving Others

Student Context

Level Two students display a vivid imagination which gives rise to lifelong religious images and concepts; incorporating images of God from loving and powerful adults and from stories and symbols. They are focused on themselves but are increasingly aware of the requirements of belonging to a group. They are ready to be introduced to the concept of Mission, but they require good modelling and developmentally appropriate Scripture and stories so that teaching and learning activities are in line with their social, emotional, intellectual, faith and moral development. Students in Level Two will be developing their concept of sharing. In their first few years of school they will be challenged to share many things, yet still may find it difficult because they like to have things for themselves. They may need some assistance in discerning ways to share. Special attention needs to be given to explaining and modeling genuine Christian sharing as not just giving from one’s excess. This unit enables the students to integrate their practice of sharing with their faith and how they live the values of the reign of God. They are invited to discover appropriate ways to respond through their personal witness.

Theological Background for Teachers

- Prior to the Second Vatican Council, Mission was understood to refer to the Church’s work for the salvation of souls, which was carried out for the benefit of non-Christians abroad, mainly by priests, religious brothers, nuns, and specially-commissioned lay people, with the financial and spiritual support of the laity back home. The goal of mission was to establish the church in these “mission fields.” Mission, at this time, meant foreign mission, that is, mission in all the continents that were not considered already Christianised.
- The understanding of Church and the understanding and practice of mission has changed since Vatican II. The contemporary Church’s identity is rooted in the mission that Jesus received from his Father. Thus, the Church has as its mission the establishment of the reign of God.
- Jesus lived and preached the values of the reign of God. Many of his parables speak of the reign of God, and his miraculous deeds are signs that the reign of God had drawn near in his ministry. This new world order is said to be of God because its arrival signals the gracious, forgiving, and redeeming presence of Yahweh in the world, and is not the fruit of human efforts. This way of being is open to all people, and all are invited to transform their lives according to its values, but it is given especially or “preferentially” to those who are marginalized, that is, the poor, the afflicted, the oppressed, the captives (Luke 4: 18).
- The present day work of mission is a continuation of the establishment of the reign of God, and all the baptised are called to this task, even though some are more engaged in

“missionary” activities than others.

- This understanding of mission prompts cooperation with all Christians, and with the followers of other religions as well, since they too are called to the reign of God, even though not all of them will join the church.
- Mission is proclaimed through personal witness, dialogue and through projects of evangelisation, healing, teaching, development or liberation. The Holy Spirit through the whole community of believers inspires and directs the mission of the Church. Christian mission is no longer a one-way proclamation of a message of salvation to a world of pagans bereft of God’s self-revelation and grace, but first of all a search for and recognition of the presence and activities of the Holy Spirit among the peoples to be evangelised.
- Mission is directed to the whole world, including the cosmos, with less distinction between believer and non-believers. This takes into account that many people are nominally Christian but have yet to grasp what the gospel means.
- Whilst the content threads of mission education are woven throughout the primary syllabus, these units explicitly focus on Jesus, the reign of God and the call to mission. The aim of these units is to develop a contemporary understanding and appreciation of mission, which is to realize more fully the reign of God. (see below).

Phan, P. *Proclamation of the Reign of God as Mission of the Church: What For? To Whom? By Whom? With Whom? And How?*

	Before Vatican II	Since Vatican II
What is mission for?	The Church’s work for the salvation of souls.	For the full realization of the reign of God, which is already-but-not-yet, present-and-future, realized-and-eschatological.
To whom?	Carried out for the benefit of the pagans abroad.	To the whole world in all its dimensions and arenas, including the cosmos, to all peoples whatever their religious faith.
By whom?	Mainly by priests, religious brothers, nuns, and specially-commissioned lay people, mostly from Europe and America.	By God, first of all, because the Church’s mission is nothing but a continuation of God’s mission in Jesus; and secondly, by all, hierarchy and laity, even though some are more engaged in “missionary” activities than others.
With whom?	With the financial and spiritual support of the laity back home.	With all Christians, and not only with Catholics, without denominational confrontation and competition; and furthermore, with the followers of other religions as well, since they too are called to the reign of God, even though not all of them will join the church.
How?	By planting the Church in these “mission fields”.	By personal witness and dialogue.

Lk 14:15-24

One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, "Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" Then Jesus said to him, "Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.' Another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets. Another said I have just married, and therefore I cannot come. So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.' And the slave said, 'Sir what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.' Then the master said to the slave, 'Go into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you none of those who are invited will taste my dinner.'

Student Reference (CEV)**Mk 12:41-44 A Widow's Offering**

Jesus was sitting in the temple near the offering box and watching people put in their gifts. He noticed that many rich people were giving a lot of money. Finally, a poor widow came up and put in two coins that were worth only a few pennies. Jesus told his disciples to gather around him. Then he said:

I tell you that this poor widow has put in more than all the others. Everyone else gave what they didn't need. But she is very poor and gave everything she had. Now she doesn't have a cent to live on.

Mt 28:16-20 Go out to all Nations

Jesus' eleven disciples went to a mountain in Galilee, where Jesus had told them to meet him. They saw him and worshiped him, but some of them doubted. Jesus came to them and said: I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth! Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have told you. I will be with you always, even until the end of the world.

Suggested Assessment Tasks**Outcome 1 Recall ideas and examples of sharing**

- Paint/Draw pictures of sharing times featuring the students and their families and friends.
- Students respond: "I can be like Jesus by caring and sharing in a loving way when I"; (school, home, community, wider community)

Outcome 2 Identify ways students can participate in Jesus' mission by sharing in a loving way with people in need.

- Students list/illustrate ways that they can participate in Jesus' mission by sharing in a loving way with people in need.

N.B All of the above Outcomes lend themselves to reporting in the dimension of Knowledge and Understanding.

Suggested Teaching & Learning Experiences**Focusing Activity**

List the things that parents shared with the students in the morning before coming to school.

- Read the current Catholic Mission materials. List how and what the people involved in mission share with others.
- Discuss what it would have been like if they had not had these shared experiences (as per Focusing Activity)

- Paint pictures of sharing times featuring the students and their families and friends.
- Complete a book review from literature related to sharing, e.g.: “*Rainbow Fish*” (Pfister, Marcus) or “*The Stew that Grew*” (Gray, Michael)
- Complete simple research of organisations involved in sharing resources with people in need.
- Brainstorm things students can share with those less fortunate, eg: tinned food, clothing, money, prayers, and time. Students devise a plan for what they will share with others less fortunate, eg: St. Vincent de Paul, Winter Appeal, and Mission Week.
- Students create mission cards that contain a simple message like “Your mission today is to smile at someone”. Students then carry out the mission.
- Look at where the text Mt 28: 16-29 comes from
 - who was listening to Jesus?
 - who was the message for?
 - read the text and highlight the important words.
 - retell the story in your own words to a partner.
- Jesus said, “Go and preach the Good news to everyone.” How do you see yourself preaching the good news?
- Mk 12:41-44 To PREPARE TO HEAR the Word - Explore the vocabulary e.g. widow, give generously
- Mk 12:41-44 To ENCOUNTER the Word after reading the text from the Bible, students use Godly Play materials to tell the story
- Mk 12:41-44 To ENCOUNTER the Word after reading the text from the Bible, students use Liquid Pictures, Freeze Frames (*refer to icon in Planning Tool*), to break open the word.
- Mk 12:41-44 To RESPOND to the Word – list the ways we can give generously not only in money but in time, energy, talents, compassion and forgiveness
- Art - Collage a rainbow fish using tissue paper and foil. The rainbow fish showed us the importance of sharing. I can share by ... (children think about how they can share their time, talents/gifts, possessions)
- Discuss the Mission Week activity, why we hold them, where the money will go, what to bring, etc.

Resources

For resources to support this unit, refer to the online planning tool. For additional resources, refer to the Resource Centre Catalogue: <http://www.ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au> and follow links to Resource Centre.