

Student worksheet for Family Field Trip #5, to St. Mary's in Melrose

Grades 6-10

1) Look up the Gospel of Matthew 18:20 in a Bible at home or online (<https://bible.usccb.org/bible>)

a. Is this passage talking more about the **church as a community of people** or **the church as a building**?

b. The church community often gathers at their church building. But sometime 2 or 3 people gather as church someplace else. One example of this is when you gather to pray as a family in your home – Jesus is present there, even though your home is not a church building. Another example would be after a funeral, when family and friends gather to pray at the cemetery – Jesus is there, even though it is outside.

Think of another example of when 2 or 3 of the church community gather to pray, but they are not in a church building:

c. Look around St. Mary's, and **find the place** where that Scripture passage (Matt 18:20) is printed **on a wall**.

Say where in the church you found it: _____

2) Find the baptismal font in St. Mary's (hint: it's near the big Easter candle). Either draw a picture of the baptismal font here or take a picture of it and text the picture to our Remind App!

3) Watch Jody Wehlage's online video (links to the videos are posted on the One in Faith website under the education tab <https://www.oneinfaith.org/education> and also on the One in Faith Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/OneInFaithUnoEnFeMN>).

a. She says that the people who designed the baptismal font wanted the water to look like it was "living water," and the person who designed the fabric art piece above the baptismal font wanted to create something that moved in the air.

Make a guess: why do you think that things that are moving (like flowing water, or fabric waving in the breeze) remind people of the Holy Spirit/God?

b. **Why** should we think about the Holy Spirit when we think of baptism? (Hint: what do we believe we receive in the sacrament of baptism?)

4) In your 25 questions booklet, read #3 about BAPTISMAL FONTS. The book says that some baptismal fonts are placed near the **entrance** of the church (instead of up front, closer to the altar) to remind people of their baptism.

Why would having it near the entrance of the church remind people of their baptism? (hint: what do we believe happens to us in baptism? What do we “enter” into, in baptism?)

5) Now watch to Morgan Kempenich’s video.

What does she say about why they designed the **ambo** (which is piece of furniture where the reader reads from the Bible) and the **altar table** so that they were about the same size, and made out of the same kinds of wood?

6) Next, watch any of the other videos. Pay attention to places where the speakers talk about **CHURCH as COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE** (maybe they are talking about people who helped to design the building? or helped to make part of it?).

Write one thing that the person in the video said about people in the church community:

7) **Describe** what your favorite part of this church building is. **Why** do you like it?

8) In the 25 Questions About What We See in a Catholic Church, read #6 about the **NAVE**.

The booklet mentions that some churches have pews in a semi-circle (like at St. Mary’s) in their nave, in order to “draw attention to the community.”

Make a guess: Why do you think the church designer wanted to help us pay attention to the community of people (in addition to paying attention to the altar) when we’re at Mass? (wouldn’t this be distracting?!)

9) In your 25 Questions booklet, read #9 about **STATUES of MARY**. Find the statue of Mary in the church and also find the other statue of a female saint in the church somewhere.

Who is the second statue of? _____

Near the statue, there is a story of this saint’s life. Write one thing you learned about this saint here:

10) In your 25 Questions booklet, read #21 about the **TABERNACLE**. The booklet says that we keep some of the extra hosts in the tabernacle after Mass is finished, especially for certain people.

Who do we especially save the consecrated hosts for? _____

11) **Write** 1 question that you have about the new church: _____