



Galilee to
Jerusalem

Branch 3

Y6 Teachers' Guide

Version 1: September 2026

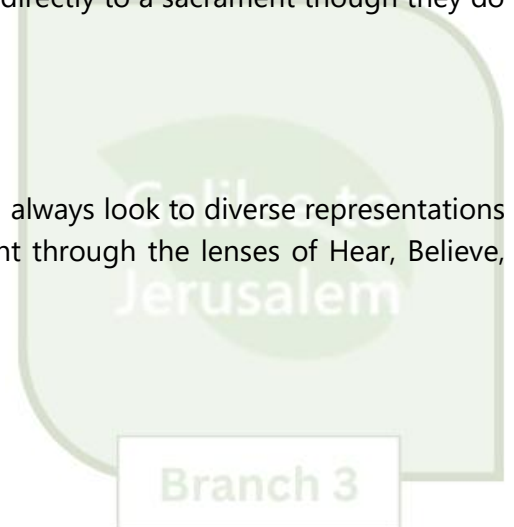
This booklet is offered as a theological guide for teachers. Although the information provides some context for the whole branch, it will be most useful for teachers as they deliver the first few sessions and lessons within the branch.

Teachers' Guide: Branch Three: Galilee to Jerusalem – Y6

Notes for teachers

- In the next three branches, pupils will study the gospel of St John. In this gospel, St John presents Jesus as the Messiah who reveals his kingdom through seven signs. In the Bible, the number seven indicates perfection.
- St John emphasises Jesus' divinity through his seven 'I am' statements that are reminders of the revelation of God as 'I am' to Moses in the burning bush (Ex 3:14). In this branch, pupils will explore the seven signs of John's gospel and one of Jesus' 'I am' statements. Below is a brief outline of the seven signs or miracles.
- *The Wedding at Cana (Jn 2:1-12)* Jesus turns water into wine. He can transform created elements – links with the Eucharist.
- *Healing of the official's son (Jn 4:46-54)* Jesus heals with a word, his words have power, he is the Word of God. Links with the prologue Jn 1:1-2.
- *Healing the man at Bethesda (Jn 5:1-15)* Jesus heals on the Sabbath; he is Lord of the Sabbath. However, the man does not recognise that Jesus has healed him and goes to speak to the authorities. Links with spiritual blindness and seeing Jesus as the Messiah.
- *Feeding of the Five Thousand (Jn 6:5-14)* Jesus feeds the people as the Israelites were fed by manna in the desert. Links with the Eucharist.
- *Jesus walks on water (Jn 6:16-24)* Jesus is the new Moses; as Moses led the people across the Red Sea, Jesus leads the way to the Kingdom of God.
- *Healing of the man born blind (Jn 9:1-7)* Links with healing the man at Bethesda. In this miracle, the man recognises Jesus, and he sees physically and spiritually experiencing conversion and healing.
- *The raising of Lazarus (Jn 11:1-45)* Jesus is the way to eternal life. Martha, his sister, experiences conversion, recognising Jesus as 'the Christ, the Son of God', and then Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. This miracle that prompts the authorities to act against Jesus and the events of Holy Week follow.
- Unlike the other gospels, St John's gospel only tells of these seven miraculous signs. Each one points to a greater truth about Jesus' divine nature. In the seven 'I am' statements Jesus explains his identity in beautiful poetic terms. It is suggested pupils explore either the 'I am the bread of life' (Jn 6:35) statement which follows the feeding of the five thousand, or the 'I am the Resurrection' statement, which is part of the story of Lazarus.
- Through the Celebrate lens, pupils will consider the purpose of the seven sacraments. In this branch, they will not explore each sacrament in detail rather explore the purpose of sacraments as part of a life in Christ. By age ten, they will be able to notice sacraments that happen once in a lifetime and mark a particular point of encounter with God and those that form part of a Catholic's ongoing sacramental life. Each of St John's seven signs does not point directly to a sacrament though they do link with the sacramental imagination.

General guidance: Wherever possible, resources for teaching should always look to diverse representations from the Universal Catholic Church. Teachers must teach the content through the lenses of Hear, Believe, Celebrate, and Live but do not have to follow the lenses in sequence.



CCC Links	Knowledge lens content
Wedding at Cana CCC 1613, 2618 Miracles as signs of the Kingdom of God CCC 547-549 Scripture CCC 105-108, 115, 136-137, 139, 141 Mary 2618 Sacraments YC 172-174 CCC 1084, 1129, 1146-1152, 1210	Hear By the end of this unit of study, pupils will hear the following key texts: • The Wedding at Cana (Jn 2:1-12) • Healing the official's son (Jn 4:46-54) • Healing the man at Bethesda (Jn 5:1-47) • Feeding the 5000 (Jn 6:1-4) • Walking on water (Jn 6:15-21) • Healing the Blind Man (Jn 9:1-41) • Raising of Lazarus (Jn 11:1-57) • 'I am the bread of life' (Jn 6:35) or 'I am the Resurrection and the life' (Jn 11:25) Believe By the end of this unit of study, students will know that the Church teaches that: • God inspired the authors of Sacred Scripture. • Scripture is understood literally and spiritually. • Mary prays and asks Jesus for help at Cana. • The Church has seven sacraments. The sacraments of initiation are baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist. The sacraments of healing are penance and anointing of the sick. The sacraments in service to Holy Communion are marriage and Holy Orders. • The purpose of sacraments is to help people grow more like Jesus, and through him become children of God. • The sacraments engage all the senses, not just intellect and are earthly signs of the presence of God, especially in the Eucharist. Celebrate By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know: • The sacraments are meeting points with God that bring people into a closer relationship with God and the community of the Church. They are holy, visible signs of God's presence and action in the life of a Catholic. Through them Catholics experience the 'healing, forgiving, nourishing, strengthening, presence of God that enables them to love in turn' (YC p105). • Different representations in art or music of one of the signs from St John's gospel or one of the 'I am' statements studied. Live By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know: • How sacraments are celebrated in their local parish community and how these form part of the life of the local Church. • How their local parish community (Parish priest and laity) hand on the teaching of Jesus.
Key vocabulary	
Cana Bethesda Lazarus sacraments	