

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

CELEBRATING THE WEEK OF PRAYER

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Ten Ideas for Catechists and Teachers

ABOUT INDONESIA

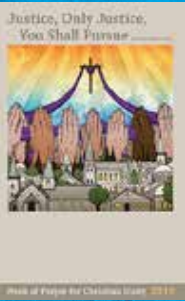
Unity in diversity is strengthened when we take time to learn about another's culture and heritage. Here are five simple ways to help your children learn about Indonesia—whose council of churches prepared this year's materials for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity—and its people.

1. Find a map of Indonesia or locate Indonesia on a globe. Display the map or globe on the classroom prayer table as a reminder to pray for the Church in Indonesia.



Jakarta, taken from Istiqlal mosque Jakarta panoramic view around Medan Merdeka (Merdeka square), the center of Jakarta and the nation. Monas (National Monument) on the foreground with rising Jakarta skylines on the background. Image by Gunawan Kartapranata, CC BY-SA 3.0 or GFDL from Wikimedia Commons.

Orthographic map of Indonesia. Image by Addicted04, GFDL, CC BY-SA 3.0 or GFDL, from Wikimedia Commons.



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A gamelan player playing bonang. Gamelan Yogyakarta style during a Javanese wedding in Taman Mini Indonesia Indah. Image by Gunawan Kartapranata, CC BY-SA 3.0, from Wikimedia Commons.

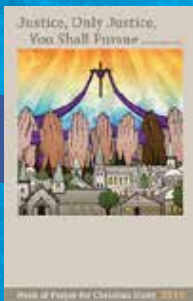


The Sundanese Jaipongan Mojang Priangan dance performance in West Java Pavilion, Taman Mini Indonesia Indah, Jakarta. Image by Gunawan Kartapranata, CC BY-SA 3.0, from Wikimedia Commons.

2. Prepare ahead of time age-appropriate questions about Indonesia. Invite your students to search the Internet or print resources for answers to the questions. Give small prizes to those who complete the search. Questions might include: What is the population of Indonesia? What countries are near Indonesia? What do the people of Indonesia wear? What do the people of Indonesia eat? What is the average income of an Indonesian family? What is the capital city of Indonesia? What continent is Indonesia a part of?

As an alternative, prepare a short presentation on Indonesia, and invite students to color a map of the country or a picture of a person from Indonesia wearing his or her traditional clothing.

3. Search the Internet or print resources for images of traditional instruments used in Indonesian music and for music samplings incorporating those instruments. Be sure to include an example of the gamelan, the traditional gong orchestra of Indonesia.
4. Search the Internet and choose an age-appropriate Indonesian-inspired craft activity such as creating Ketupat cards, batik, hand drums, masks, flags, or simple carvings.
5. Choose and read to the children an Indonesian story or folk tale. An Internet search will offer several possibilities from which to choose.



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UNITING IN PRAYER

Explore with children and youth the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity's* theme of "Justice and only justice you shall pursue" (Deuteronomy 16:18-20) and unite in prayer with Christians throughout the world.

1. Give to the children the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* prayer card. Pray the prayer together each day of the school week or during your parish religious education class time. Encourage the children to share the prayer with their families.
2. Use your religion textbook to help children explore the Week of Prayer focus of justice. Review with the children one or more of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Highlight, in an age-appropriate manner, one or more of the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Review the lives of the saints and holy people you have studied thus far and name the saints who are models of justice. Lead a discussion of what can be learned from their examples.
3. If you are a *Blest Are We* customer, review with your students the Faith in Action lessons and invite them to share what they have learned about justice. If you are a *Be My Disciples* customer, review the Disciple Power virtues you have studied. Invite the students to discuss which of those virtues relate to justice and how they do so.
4. Decide on a practical way to do a work of justice during the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*. Invite families to take part in a special clothing drive, food drive, book and game drive, or another outreach activity that will benefit persons in need.
5. Send home the *Eight-day Prayer Challenge* for families. If you are a Catholic school teacher, use the following adaptation of the challenge with your class.