

**The Weight of a Mass: A Tale of Faith Parable Room**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist Retreat 2020**

**Materials Needed:** *The Weight of a Mass: A Tale of Faith* by Josephine Nobisso

**Time:** Approximately 20-minute session

*Gathering:* Today we are going to listen to a story that is based off true events, and it's going to help us think more about the Mass and why it is so important to us. Let's listen carefully and then we'll take some time to think about it together.

*Read Story*

*Reflection Questions:*

- 1) What did you hear?
- 2) What was the gift the woman was wanting to offer in place of a crust of stale bread? *To offer her Mass for the baker.*
- 3) What was the baker's reaction to this gift/offer? *He scoffed at her and asked her for money instead.*
- 4) What did the baker do with the offer of a Mass? *He tested it (out of jest) by writing on a piece of paper "One Mass" and placing it on the scale.*
- 5) What happened when he placed the piece of paper that said "one Mass" on the scale? *The piece of paper/the Mass weighed more. How did this happen? Miracle of God Why did this happen? To show how important the Mass is.*
- 6) What was the reaction of the people in the village who were watching? *They were amazed. What were they inspired to do? To go to Mass and attend the wedding of the King and Queen.*
- 7) How did the baker change his attitude toward the woman? *He had greater appreciation and respect for her. What did he offer her? Anything that she wanted in his shop and that he would make sure she would never go hungry again. What was her response? She took one piece of bread (she had also doubted the weight of a Mass).*
- 8) What's the weight of a Mass? *Priceless.*
- 9) What does this story tell us about importance of Mass? *The Mass is beyond measure and is the greatest gift we have.*
- 10) What is the greater miracle? The miracle of the scales or the Miracle of Jesus present with us at Mass? *Jesus present with us at Mass in the gift of the Eucharist and the mystical body of Christ.*