

Pokemon No?
A Parable in Three Parts

Dramatis Personae:

ASH

MISTY

PICKACHU [stuffed animal - voiced by Maggie?]

DRE RACHEL at St. Clueless Parish

SECRETARY MARIA at St Clueless Parish

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE at Our Lady of Perpetual Paranoia Parish

FRIENDLY PERSON KRISTIN

FRIENDLY VOLUNTEER JON at St. John Bosco Parish

NARRATOR MATTHEW

Various POKEMON [on the screen/ppt] --> Matthew running tech

Scene I

Title card background

NARRATOR

Once upon a time, in your community...

Advance slide to generic neighborhood

Pokemon theme song plays --- will play across slides

MISTY and ASH appear, hunting and catching Pokemon at various places.

Slide advance cues:

Generic neighborhood

I wanna be the very best / like no one ever was / to catch the is my real test / to train them is my cause

<Advance slide>

Culvers

I will travel across the land / searching far and wide / each Pokemon to understand / the power that's inside

ND High School

Pokemon gotta catch 'em all / it's you and me / I know it's my destiny / Pokemon oh you're my best friend / in a world we must defend

<Advance slide>

Festival

Pokemon gotta catch 'em all / a heart so true / our courage will pull us through / you teach me and I'll teach you

<Advance slide>

Lambeau

Gotta catch 'em all / Pokemon!

<til song clip ends>

Song ends

NARRATOR

Two aspiring Pokemon trainers - Ash and Misty - are out and about, when they find a new place to look for Pokemon

MISTY and ASH are on the sidelines, looking at their phones and looking around

<Advance slide>

St. Clueless background appears

St. Clueless staff, DRE RACHEL and SECRETARY MARIA, are very busy. Their desks are facing the wall. They are very stressed looking through documents and calendars.

DRE RACHEL

Maria, are those registration lists updated yet?

SECRETARY MARIA

Almost. Just a few more families to add.

DRE RACHEL

We have a lot of new families this year! But with the new curriculum, I just don't know... *[she wrings her hands and flails]*

SECRETARY MARIA

There's so much to do! I am so overwhelmed by our ministry. That RE Director at the Diocese sure is demanding....we can't ever catch a break!

Phone Rings

SECRETARY MARIA

St. Clueless Parish, this is Maria, can I help you?

She listens and nods

Oh sure, that's a question for our DRE, Rachel Cohen. Can you hold for minute?

she puts the phone down

SECRETARY MARIA, *to DRE RACHEL*

Got another one. They want to know if our Confirmation program is easier than St. Peter's.

DRE Rachel

Rolls her eyes

Oh boy, here we go.

Takes the phone from SECRETARY RACHEL

Hi, this is Rachel, how can I help you?

SECRETARY MARIA returns to all her paperwork while DRE RACHEL silently continues the conversation on the phone.

SARAH and MICHAEL approach St. Clueless Parish looking for Pokemon.

<click>

A wild STARYU appears [in St Clueless foreground] , and MISTY catches it

<click as she catches it and the STARYU will fly off screen>

MISTY and ASH high-five

ASH

Great catch Misty!

MISTY

Thanks Ash! I only need seventeen more water Pokemon before I have all 56!

ASH

Wow, you're such a good Water Trainer! *[whining]* I don't even have a Squirtle yet!

MISTY

Hey look, there's a pond behind that church. I wonder if you could find any water Pokemon there?

PIKACHU
Pika Pika!

ASH
Yeah, let's go!

MISTY and ASH tiptoe around the parish.

ASH
Hey, I think that is a Squirtle!

PIKACHU
Pika!

MISTY
Shoot, I don't know if we can get in. I don't see anybody around.

ASH
Shucks! I guess we need to go somewhere else...

MISTY
Sorry Ash! But cheer up, we're bound to see lots more Pokemon around our neighborhood!

Lights dim

SECRETARY MARIA and DRE RACHEL exit

ASH and MISTY return to the sidelines on their Pokemon hunt

<Advance slide: who's that Popemon? And click for the silhouette to appear>

Wait a few seconds! then

<Advance slide: who's that Popemon? And click for answer to appear: JP!!>

Scene II

Generic background

Lights up

NARRATOR

True Pokemon trainers never give up! Our heroes persevere on their journey...
ASH and MISTY wander in slowly.

MISTY

Wow, the people at that library Pokestop back there were so awesome! I was out of Pokeballs but now I'm all set! And my battery was almost dead- I'm glad they had some plugs we could use to recharge.

ASH

I can't believe I found a Pontya! They're really rare!

MISTY

Professor Oak will be so proud of you Ash!

PIKACHU

Pika Pika!

<Advance slide>

Background changes to: Our Lady of Perpetual Paranoia Parish.

ASH

Hey, I've never been to this place. Maybe they have lots of Pokemon too! We're on a roll today!

MISTY and ASH approach.

<click--- Snorlax will appear in foreground of Our Lady of Perpetual Paranoia>

A wild Snorlax appears

On the opposite side, CHURCH LADY MAGGIE peers suspiciously out at them. She looks concerned and quietly picks up the phone.

ASH

Hey, a Snorlax!

MISTY

Go for it Ash!

ASH

We have to be super careful - let's sneak up quietly while it's asleep.

ASH catches the SNORLAX

<click and the SNORLAX will disappear>

ASH and MISTY high-five

<click and VULPIX appears in the background of parish>
A VULPIX appears

MISTY

Look! A VULPIX! Awwww, it's so cute!!

PIKACHU

Pika!

ASH and MISTY approach the VULPIX

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE storms up to them.

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

What do you kids think you're doing here, hmmmmm?

ASH

gulps nervously

Uh... uh... we're just playing Pokemon Go, uh, m'am.

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

What?

MISTY

Pokemon Go! It's a cool game on our phones where you ---

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

interrupts MISTY

--Are you trespassing?

ASH and MISTY

No...

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

Loitering?

ASH and MISTY

No.

MISTY

There's a Pokemon right over there, see---
shows CHURCH LADY MAGGIE her phone and points to the VULPIX

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

---Well, did you know that Pokemon is a cult designed to lure helpless children into the clutches of Satan?

ASH

What? That's crazy - it's just a cool game---

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

Did you know that evil predators can track your every move and invade your privacy? No, no, no, you kids had better stop immediately.

MISTY

Well yeah, it has privacy issues like any app, but my mom said as long as I play it in safe neighborhoods with friends and tell her where I'm going, it's ok...

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

No, no no. This is a terrible, unsafe game, and Churches certainly can't promote something so horrible and worldly.

MISTY

But my friend Brock said his church is a Pokestop!

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

A what? No no---

MISTY

A Pokestop. A place you can stop and refill on supplies and meet other trainers. Lots of pokemon hangout around historical places like churches....

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

Well, isn't that special!

ASH

Can we look around your church?

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE

No! We close at 4:00! I'm late for a hair appointment!

ASH
Fine, fine, we'll leave.

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE
You'd better make sure you go to Confession, and come back for Mass at 8 am
on Sunday, you pagans!

MISTY and ASH dash away. CHURCH LADY MAGGIE shakes her head and stomps off. As she walks away, she takes out her [non-smart]phone.

CHURCH LADY MAGGIE
Hello, Mr. Jones? Please double check that all the doors to the parish are locked.
Triple check! There are weird kids creeping around the parish and it's 4:05 pm!
So suspicious. Make sure you warn the night janitor that there may be a
disturbance.

MISTY and ASH
Wow, that was horrible.

PIKACHU [*sad voice*]
Pika....chu

ASH
Let's look at friendlier places, ok?

MISTY
Yeah, absolutely.

PIKACHU
Pikachu!

Lights dim

<Advance slide: who's that Popemon? >

Wait a few seconds! then

**<Advance slide: who's that Popemon? And click for answer to appear:
Francis!>**

Scene III

<Advance slide: generic neighborhood reappears>

Generic background

Lights up

NARRATOR

Even a cranky Church Lady can't deter our heroes! Misty and Ash keep going, finding Pokemon throughout their community, and meeting lots of families they know around town. But poor Ash still hasn't caught any water Pokemon, and he's starting to get discouraged.

MISTY

Oh, cheer up Ash! We've had a great day of Pokemon catching!

ASH

Pokemon missing, you mean! So many wasted Pokeballs... and that mean Pidgey tried to attack us!

MISTY

Don't worry, we can try again tomorrow. I'm hungry - let's go get some pizza.

MISTY and ASH walk slowly through the front.

<Advance slide to Pizzeria>

Background changes to Pizzeria

FRIENDLY KRISTIN is leaning on a table, looking at her phone. DRE RACHEL is at the counter.

ASH and MISTY approach counter.

DRE RACHEL

Hey guys, welcome to Pep's! Our special today is the veggie-lover's deep dish, and at 7 we have trivia with some amazing prizes!

ASH

Um, ok, we'll split a medium pepperoni...

DRE RACHEL

Sure thing!

DRE RACHEL goes offstage and grabs a pizza box.

DRE RACHEL

Order for Kristin!

KRISTIN looks up, alarmed.

KRISTIN

Hey can you wait for just a sec? I'll be right back!

KRISTIN dashes outside.

MISTY

What's that all about?'

DRE RACHEL

[Shrugs] She keeps doing that.

KRISTIN

[re-enters with a bright smile]
Yes! I finally caught a Mewtwo!

ASH

Wow! That's amazing! What team are you on?

KRISTIN

Mystic! How about you guys?

MISTY

We're Valor, but have had kind of an off-day...

KRISTIN

Really? What happened?

PIKACHU

Pika! Pika pika!

ASH, MISTY, and KRISTIN settle at the table.

DRE RACHEL reappears with both pizzas.

DRE RACHEL

Have a nice meal! Remember, trivia starts at 7!

ASH, MISTY, and KRISTIN and begin eating.

KRISTIN

So, tough day out there?

ASH

Yeah. I really like this game, but it's been kind of hit-or-miss lately.

MISTY

There were some pretty rude people too.

KRISTIN

Sorry to hear that. Maybe things will look up soon though. I think it's great you guys are enjoying the app. My kids love it too, and so do a lot of my friends.

PIKACHU

Pika!

KRISTIN

[looks at her phone]

Oh hey, there's a Caterpie over there!

[points out the window]

ASH

At that Church over there?

MISTY

Um.... we haven't really had good luck at churches.... Besides, I'm not wild about Caterpie.... It's a giant bug!

KRISTIN

Oh don't worry. That's my church, St. John Bosco. Wanna walk over with me?

ASH

I guess... but I don't really think...

MISTY

[looks at her phone]

Oh my gosh Ash! There's a Squirtle over there too!

ASH

[stands up in a hurry]

We've gotta go try to get it! I need to start catching some Water-type Pokemon!

PIKACHU

Pika!

KRISTIN

Sure, let's go!

DRE RACHEL

Thanks guys! Be sure to come back for trivia!

ASH, MISTY, and KRISTIN all exit.

<Advance slide: to St. John Bosco>

Background changes to St. John Bosco Parish.

VOLUNTEER JON is there, looking at his phone, which is plugged into a charger on a powerstrip. He's standing by a cooler of water bottles.

KRISTIN

Hey Matthew!

JON

Oh hi Kristin. What have you caught?

KRISTIN

I got a Mewtwo about an hour ago!

This is Ash and Misty. This is Jon, a friend from church.

ASH and MISTY

Hey

MATTHEW

Would you guys like a water bottle? We have plenty. Or if your phone is dying, we have chargers you can use .

MISTY

[surprised]

Wow, that would be awesome, thanks!

[she accepts a water bottle]

ASH

There's that Caterpie!

[he runs off to the side]

<click and CATERPIE will appear>

ASH catches it

<click again and CATERPIE will disappear>

MATTHEW

What team are you on Misty?

MISTY

Uh, Team Valor

MATTHEW

That's what my oldest daughter is too. There's actually a gym right by her school, and Valor has been in charge there for weeks!

MISTY

Really? Everyone we know is Mystic. That's good to know. It would be great to have a Valor-controlled gym to train all my Pokemon!

[looks at her phone]

Oh my gosh, Ash! There's the Squirtle we saw!

<click and SQUIRTLE will appear in the foreground of the slide>

ASH

[runs back over from catching CATERPIE]

Really? Where?

[Misty shows him her phone. Ash begins catching the Squirtle]

<click and the SQUIRTLE will disappear when caught>

ASH

Oh boy, finally! My first Water type Pokemon!

KRISTIN

Congratulations!

MISTY

Hooray! I can give you some tips on training- I love Water Pokemon!

MATTHEW

I'm glad you guys came over. It's been great to meet you.

MISTY

It's probably time we were getting home, but thanks!

KRISTIN

Come back anytime! We'll have a Lure up on Sunday nights right before Lifeteen so you might want to stop by then.

ASH

What's Lifeteen?

KRISTIN

It's our church's youth night. It's pretty cool. Matthew and I help with it.

MISTY

Thanks, we might!

KRISTIN and MATTHEW

Bye! Good luck!

ASH and MISTY exit; KRISTIN and MATTHEW exit.

<Advance slide: who's that Popemon? And click for the silhouette to appear>

Wait a few seconds! then

<Advance slide: who's that Popemon? And click for answer to appear: Paul VI!>

<Advance slide to end screen. Pokerap song will begin after a few seconds and play across the next few slides>

Actors bow. Once they're done,

<Advance slide to credits page; wait about 20 seconds, then

<Advance to closing quote; wait about 40 seconds, then fade the sound out