

# ALIVE <sup>IN</sup> CHRIST

GRADE 1

Jesus Christ

[aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com)



**Our Sunday Visitor**

# Jesus Teaches Love

## Let Us Pray

**Leader:** God, we want to follow your teachings.

“I will keep your law always,  
for all time and forever.” **Psalm 119:44**

**All:** God, we want to follow your teachings.  
Amen.

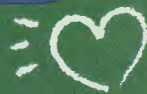
## God's Word

One of the men asked Jesus: “Teacher, what is the most important commandment?” Jesus answered: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind...and love others as much as you love yourself.” **Based on Mark 12:28-31**



### What Do You Wonder?

- Why is it important to love others?
- How do you show love?





# Show Your Love

What gift can you give?

## The Gift

Brooke asked, “Mom, what can I do for Grandpa’s birthday?”

Mom said, “Let’s think. What do you and Grandpa like to do?”

“We like to build sandcastles at the beach. He plays checkers with me, too,” said Brooke.

Mom asked, “Is there anything else?”

“Yes!” Brooke said. “He likes my drawings. He always saves them. I’ve got it! Thanks, Mom!”



Underline the things that Brooke and her Grandpa like.



On Grandpa's birthday,  
Brooke gave him a gift.

It was a drawing of Brooke  
and Grandpa playing checkers  
together. The picture said,  
"I love you, Grandpa."

"Thank you, Brooke," said  
Grandpa. "This is the best gift!  
I will hang it up for everyone  
to see."

"Great!" Brooke said happily.  
"Let's go play checkers!"

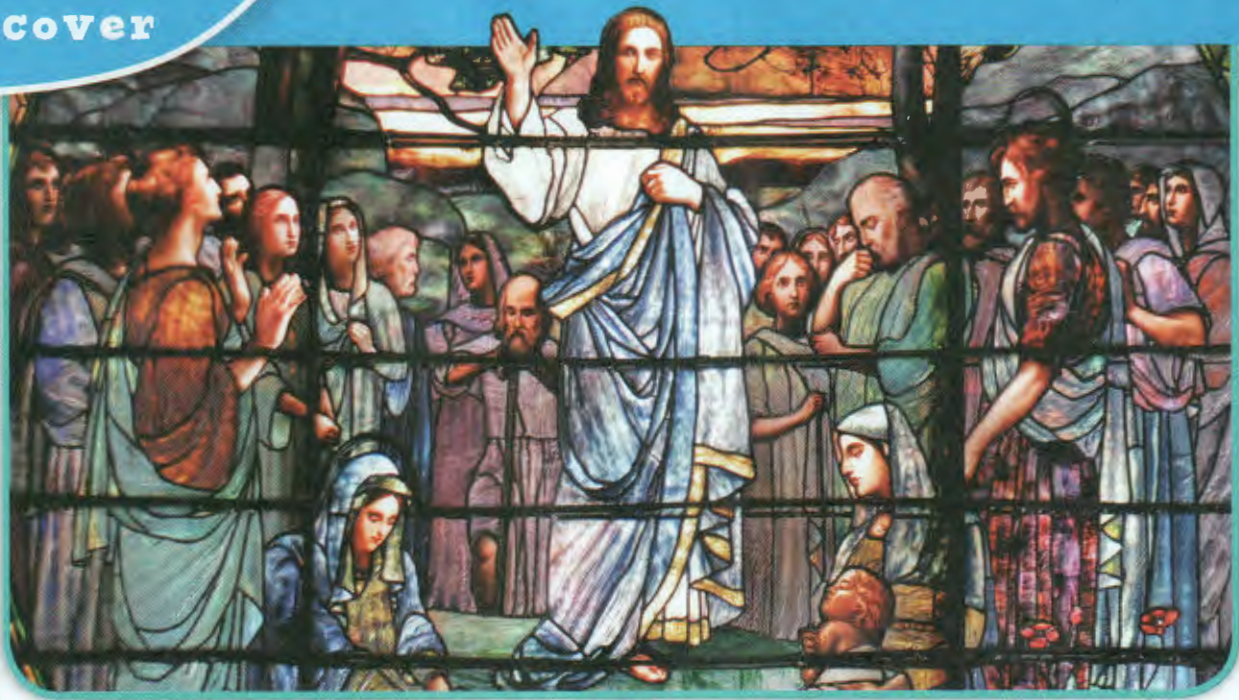


## Share Your Faith

**Think** How did Brooke  
show love with her gift?  
Draw one way you can  
show love to someone else.

**Share** your work with  
a partner.





## Love God and Others

### What did Jesus teach about love?

Brooke's drawing was a sign of her love for her Grandpa. Listen to one of Jesus' teachings on love.

© Our Sunday Visitor



Circle what the law says about loving God and others.

### God's Word

#### The Greatest Commandment

One day a man said, "I want to be happy with God forever. What should I do?"

Jesus asked, "What is written in the law?"

The man replied, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

Jesus said, "You have answered correctly." **Based on Luke 10:25-28**



# The Great Commandment

A **Commandment** is a law that God made for people to obey. Loving God and others is the most important Commandment. This law is called the Great Commandment.

The **Great Commandment** teaches you to love God more than anything. It also tells you to love others as you love yourself.

➔ What are some ways parents show love to their children?

## Catholic Faith Words

**Commandment** a law that God made for people to obey

**Great Commandment** the law that tells you to love God above all else and to love others the way you love yourself

## Connect Your Faith

**Match the Picture** Match the actions in the pictures to the different ways that someone in your family shows love for God and others.



Teaching

Praying

Giving Love

# Our Catholic Life

## How can you show love for God and for others?

There are many ways to keep the Great Commandment. Here are some ways that you can show love for God and for others.

### Love God and Others

#### Love God

Pray at meals and bedtime.

~~~~~  
Learn about God at home,  
at church, and in school.

~~~~~  
Get to know the stories  
in the Bible.

~~~~~  
\_\_\_\_\_  
-----  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Love Others

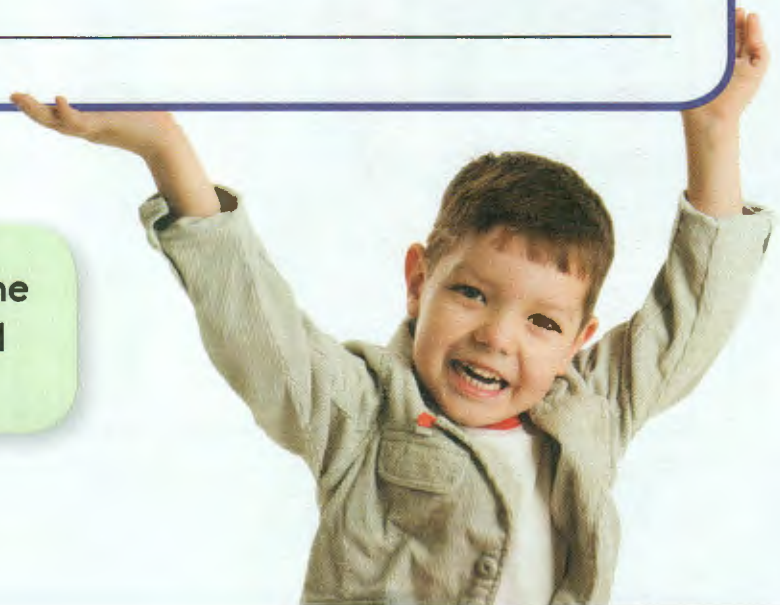
Do what parents and family members ask of you without grumbling.

~~~~~  
Share what you have.

~~~~~  
Be kind. Don't tease or fight.



On the line above, write one way you can love God and love others.





# People of Faith

## Saint Thomas of Villanova, 1486–1555

Saint Thomas was a teacher, a monk, and a bishop in Spain. He wanted to love people like Jesus did. He always tried to live the Great Commandment. Saint Thomas gave his money to people who had nothing. He tried to help them find work, too. He found homes for many orphaned children. He paid to free many slaves. Because of all the good things he did, Saint Thomas was called “Father of the Poor.”



September 22

**Discuss:** When has your family given food to the poor?



Learn more about  
Saint Thomas at  
[aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com)

## Live Your Faith

**Draw** a picture of a time when you shared with someone else.



 Let Us Pray

## Pray with God's Word

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

**Leader:** Blessed be God.

**All:** Blessed be God forever.

**Leader:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Read Matthew 5:14–16.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Sing "Loving God"

Love the Lord, your God,  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.

Love the Lord, your God,  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.

© 2010, Chet A. Chambers. Published by  
Our Sunday Visitor, Inc.





## YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

*This chapter explains that a Commandment is a law God made for people to obey, and that we are called to love God and others.*

### God's Word



Read **Mark 12:28–31** to learn more about how Jesus wants us to love God.

### Catholics Believe

- A Commandment is a law that God made for people to obey.
- The Great Commandment teaches that you are to love God above all else and love others as you love yourself.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #2052–2055 at [usccb.org](http://usccb.org).

### People of Faith

This week, your child met Saint Thomas of Villanova, a Spanish bishop whose generosity to the poor gave him the name, "Father of the Poor."

## CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

### How They Understand the Great Commandment

The concrete way of thinking that is characteristic of most first graders may sometimes make it difficult for them to know how to love God, whom they cannot see, above all things. However, you can make this practical for your child by helping him or her understand that we show our love for God by talking with him and making the good choices he wants us to make. We also show love to God when we are kind and loving toward others.



## CONSIDER THIS >>>

*What is the greatest priority in your life?*

Our first response would probably be family. Yet, Jesus said we must love God first then everything falls in order, including our relationships. "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (**Matthew 22:37–39**).

## LET'S TALK >>>

- Have your child name one way he/she shows love to God and one way he/she shows love to others.
- Talk about why God's laws are important.

## LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Thomas, help us care for people who don't have enough money and people who are hungry. Amen.



For a multimedia glossary of Catholic Faith Words, Sunday readings, seasonal and Saint resources, and chapter activities go to [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).



# Chapter 8 Review

**A Work with Words** Circle the correct word to complete each sentence.

1. A Commandment is a \_\_\_\_ God made for people to obey.

parable

law

2. \_\_\_\_ taught the Great Commandment.

Jesus

Jairus

3. The Great Commandment begins with \_\_\_\_ God.

loving

knowing

4. You can love God by \_\_\_\_.

praying

pushing

**B Check Understanding** Draw a picture to show a way to love others.

5.

