

ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 2

Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist

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Our Sunday Visitor

God's Mercy

Let Us Pray

Leader: Blessed be our loving God of Mercy.

You, Lord, are a merciful and gracious God,
slow to anger, most loving and true.

Based on Psalm 86:15

All: God of mercy and love, bless us and guide us. Amen.

God's Word

"Then Peter approaching asked him, 'Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.'"

Matthew 18:21-22

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What Do You Wonder?

- Why does Jesus tell us to forgive?
- How is forgiving others connected to God forgiving us?



Jesus Teaches Forgiveness

When does God forgive us?

Since the time of Adam and Eve, we've all been tempted to do what was wrong and choose sin. The **virtues** are good habits that can help us say no to **temptation**. Even if we fail, and hurt our friendship with God, he is kind and full of **mercy** and always ready to forgive us when we are truly sorry.

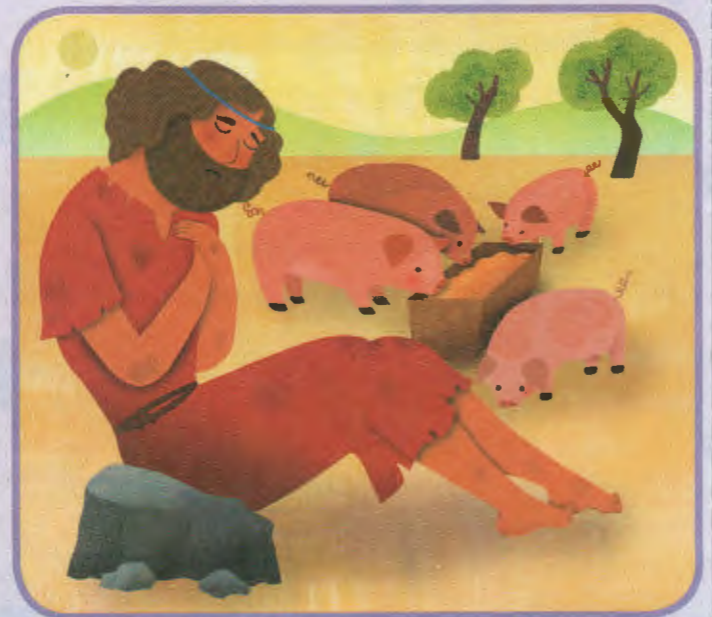
God's Word

The Prodigal Son

Once, a father had two sons. The younger son did not want to stay home. "Give me my half of your money," the son said.

The father sadly gave the younger son the money. The son went to a city far away. He wasted all his money.

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The son needed more money, so he got a job feeding pigs. He did not like his job. He was sad and cold and all alone.

He said, "I will go home to my father. I will beg him to give me a job as his servant." The son started to walk home.

One day, the father saw his son far away. The father ran to meet him. The son fell into his arms and cried, "I am sorry I have sinned. I am not good enough to be your son."

The father hugged his son. He threw a big party. The older son said, "That's not fair. He disobeyed you!" But the father said, "He has come home. We must welcome him." **Based on Luke 15:11-32**

Catholic Faith Words

virtues good habits that make you stronger and help you do what is right and good

temptation wanting to do something we should not, or not doing something we should

mercy kindness and concern for those who are suffering. God has mercy on us even though we are sinners.



Draw the last part of the story in the empty box.

Share Your Faith

Think Name two people in your life that help you make good choices.

1. _____

2. _____

Share with a partner.

Forgive One Another

How can we forgive others?



Read each story and circle who needs to ask for forgiveness. How can they do that? What can the other people in the story say or do to show they forgive?

God our Father always forgives us if we are truly sorry. He gives us the Sacrament of Penance so we can always have his forgiveness. And Jesus wants us to forgive others in the same way that the Father forgives us!

Sometimes it is not easy to forgive others. You want to stay angry. But, Jesus asks that you make the choice to love the person that hurt you the way that God loves you.

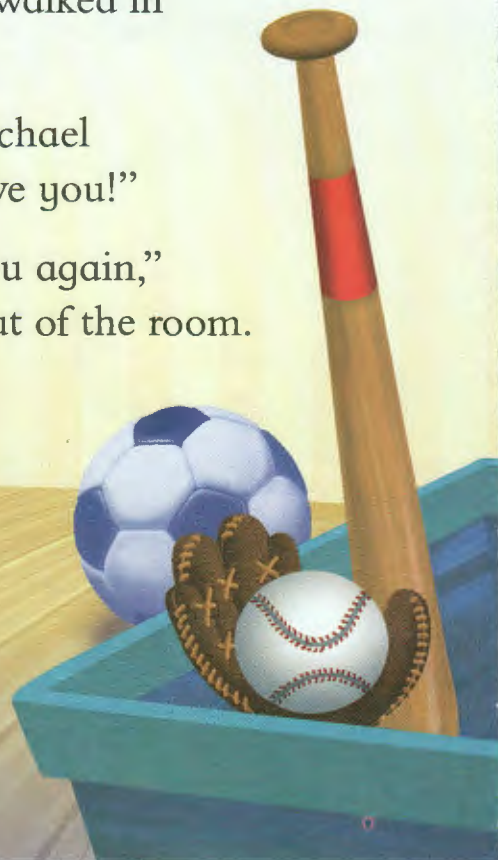
The following stories are about children who made wrong choices.

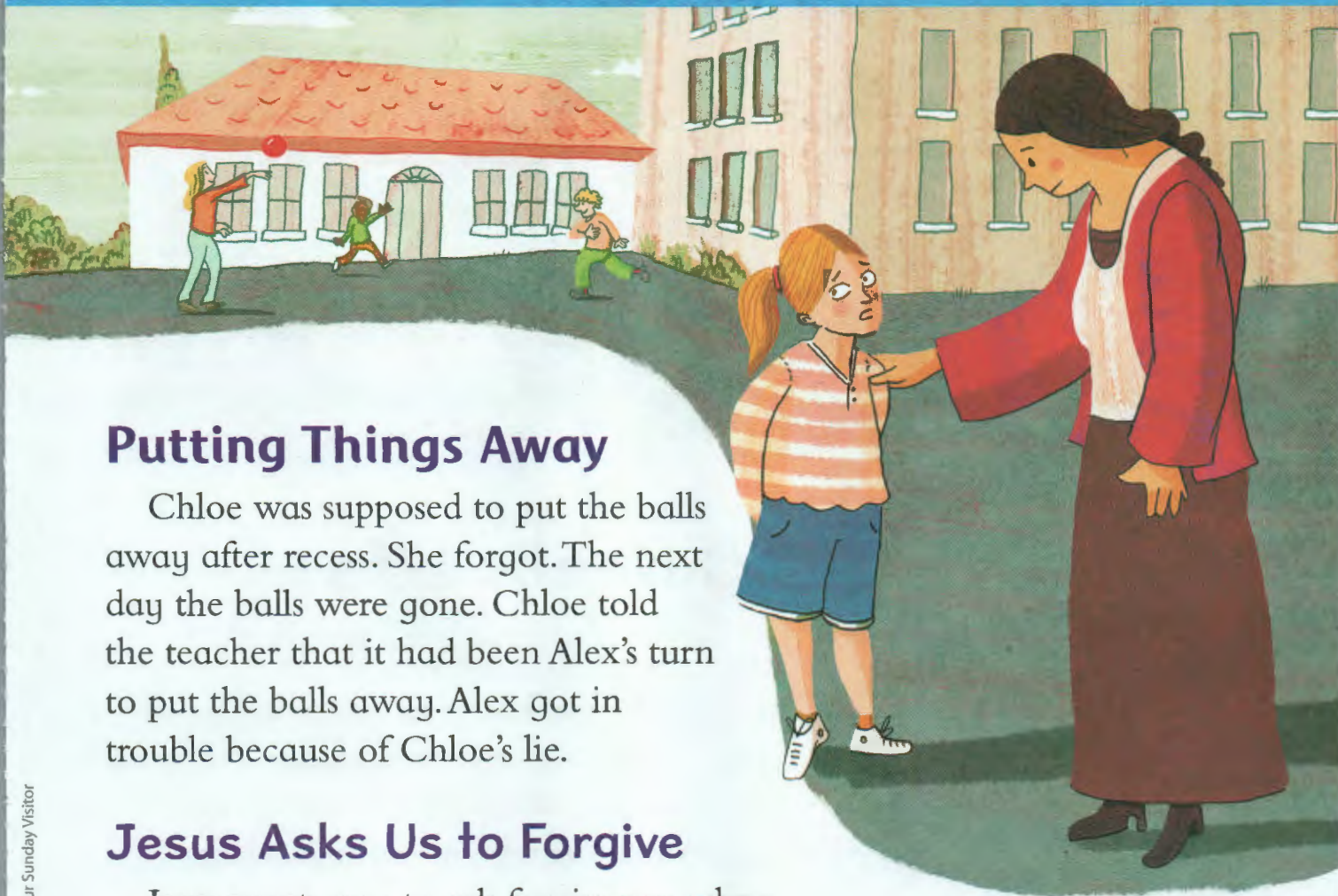
A New Model

Ethan crept into Michael's room to see his brother's new model airplane. As he picked it up, he broke the wing. Michael walked in and became angry.

Ethan apologized, but Michael screamed, "I will never forgive you!"

"Well, I'll never talk to you again," said Ethan, as he stomped out of the room.





Putting Things Away

Chloe was supposed to put the balls away after recess. She forgot. The next day the balls were gone. Chloe told the teacher that it had been Alex's turn to put the balls away. Alex got in trouble because of Chloe's lie.

Jesus Asks Us to Forgive

Jesus wants you to ask forgiveness when you have done wrong. And Jesus asks you to be a forgiving person, too.

Connect Your Faith

Rewrite the Story Choose one of the stories and write a different ending to show good choices.



Our Catholic Life

How do people forgive one another?

When someone has been unkind or unfair, you may be angry with that person. You may not want to talk to him or her. But Jesus asks you to do something very different. Jesus asks you to forgive.

Sometimes you are the person who does the hurting. You need to ask forgiveness if you have been unkind or unfair.



Write one more way you can show forgiveness and one way you can ask forgiveness.

Show Forgiveness

- Be ready and willing to make things better.
 - Listen to the person's apology.
 - Say "I forgive you," and show it with a hug or a smile.
 - Don't hold a grudge or pout.
-

Ask Forgiveness

- Imagine how it must feel for the other person.
 - Say "I'm sorry," and mean it.
 - Do whatever you can to make up for the wrong you did.
 - Pray to God for help to make better choices.
-

People of Faith

Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, 1572–1641

Saint Jane Frances de Chantal is one of the few Saints who was a wife and mother. Jane was born in France. As she grew up, her parents helped her to grow in faith. When she was twenty years old, Jane married Christophe. The couple shared their love and their deep faith with their four children. One day, Christophe was killed in a hunting accident. Before he died, he forgave the man who shot him. Jane was heartbroken with grief. She struggled to forgive the man. She prayed to God to help her. Eventually, with God's help, she was able to forgive.



August 12

Discuss: How can you be forgiving?



Learn more about
Saint Jane at
aliveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Draw one way someone has shown God's mercy to you.

Think of a way you can show mercy to someone this week.

 Let Us Pray

Prayer for Mercy

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: For the times when we were slow to forgive those who hurt us,

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the times when our words and actions have hurt others,

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: For the times we have not told the truth,

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: May God give us mercy and forgiveness.

All: Amen.



Sing "God of Mercy"

God of mercy, you are with us.
 Fill our hearts with your kindness.
 God of patience, strong and gentle,
 fill our hearts with your kindness.
 Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy upon us.

Repeat

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YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explains God's mercy and how important it is to show we are sorry and ask for the forgiveness of God and others.

God's Word



Read **Matthew 18:21–22** to find out how many times Jesus wants us to forgive someone.

Catholics Believe

- God is merciful and forgiving.
- God will always forgive you if you are truly sorry.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #1428, 1439 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child met Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, a wife and mother who prayed to God to help her to forgive.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand God's Mercy God loves us no matter what. A second-grader's understanding of this will be influenced by his or her experience with love and forgiveness from significant adults. It's important that we not overreact to accidents (which are not the same as bad choices unless a bad choice led to the accident). It's also important that when children this age make a purposeful wrong choice, they be given a way to help repair the damage that was done. Finally, be sure to reassure your child of your love, even when he or she makes wrong choices.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

How important is being able to admit you are wrong?

As difficult as it may be to say those words, admitting that we are wrong is the necessary first step in the journey of forgiveness and reconciliation. "God's mercy makes possible the repentance of the sinner and the forgiveness of sin. Time and again in the Old Testament, the sins of the people are met with God's outreach of mercy and the invitation to be healed and return to a covenant relationship" (*USCCA, p. 235*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child what Jesus teaches us about forgiveness.
- Talk about a time when you needed forgiveness and received it. Share how it impacted you in some way.

LET'S PRAY >>>



God our Father, help us to be merciful and forgiving like Saint Jane Frances de Chantal. Amen.



For a multimedia glossary of Catholic Faith Words, Sunday readings, seasonal and Saint resources, and chapter activities go to aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Chapter 9 Review

A Work with Words Complete each sentence with the correct word from the Word Bank.

1. God forgives when we are truly _____.
2. _____ are good habits that help us choose good.
3. We've all been tempted to choose _____.
4. God is kind and full of _____.
5. Wanting to do something we should not do is a _____.

Word Bank

sin

mercy

temptation

sorry

virtues

B Check Understanding Fill in the circle beside the correct answer.

6. You show forgiveness when you listen to a person's _____.
 anger apology stories
7. You need to ask forgiveness if you have been _____.
 unhappy unloved unkind
8. You show forgiveness when you don't hold a _____.
 grudge party sin
9. When you need forgiveness, you can say, "_____."
 I'm sorry I'm angry I'm hurt
10. Jesus asks you to _____ those who hurt you.
 hurt ignore forgive

