

ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 2

Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist

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Our Sunday Visitor

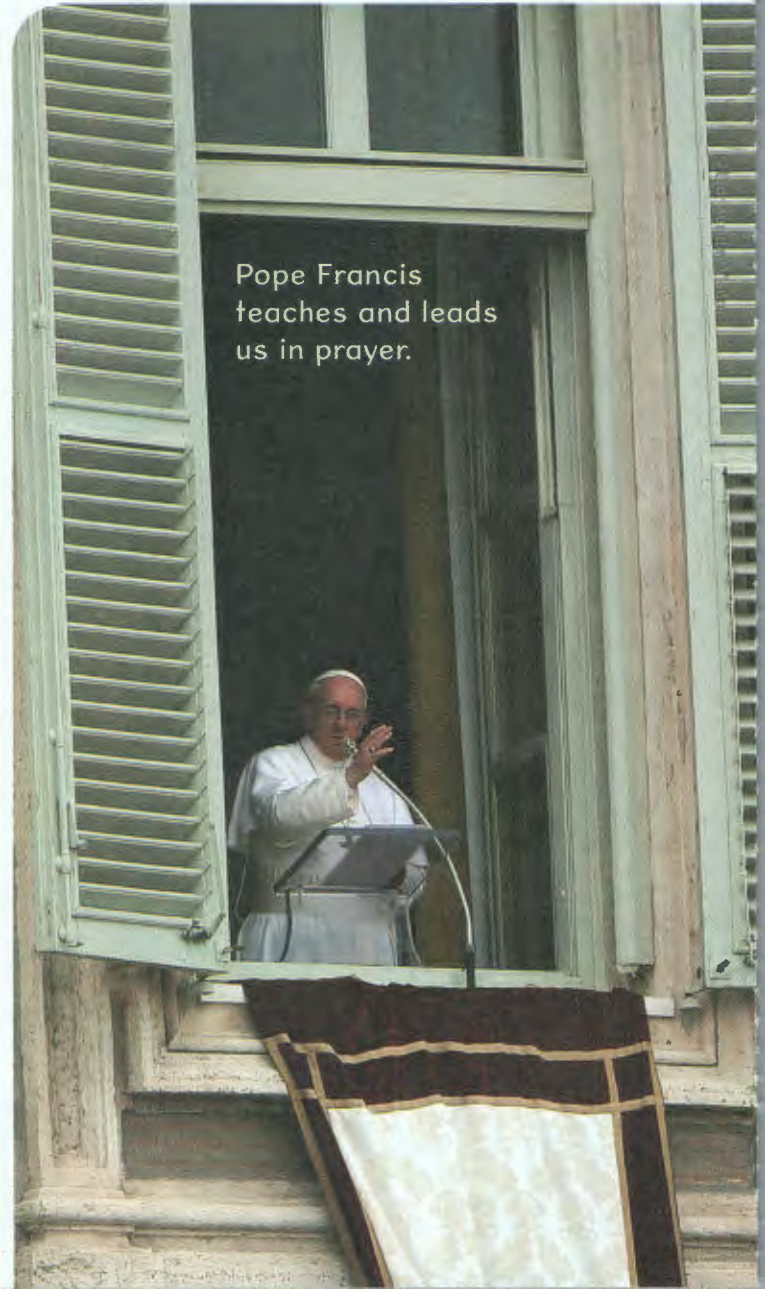
Morality



Our Catholic Tradition

- Jesus told us that all are welcome in the Kingdom of God—the world of love, peace, and justice that is in Heaven and is still being built on Earth. (CCC, 543, 2819)
- Jesus taught us to pray to the Father in the Lord’s Prayer. (CCC, 2773)
- As Jesus’ followers, we share in his life and work. We share the Good News with the world. (CCC, 897, 940)
- We can pray in many ways, for many reasons, at any time. (CCC, 2743)

What do we mean when we pray, “thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”?



Pope Francis teaches and leads us in prayer.

Welcome in the Kingdom

Let Us Pray

Leader: Lord, we praise you for your love.

“Your mercy to me is great.” **Psalm 86:13**

All: Lord, we praise you for your love. Amen.

God's Word

Some people brought their children for Jesus to bless. But when Jesus' disciples saw them doing this, they told the people to stop bothering Jesus. So Jesus called the children over to him, and said, “Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these...whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it.” **Based on Luke 18:15–17**

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What Do You Wonder?

- How are you like Jesus?
- Where do you share Jesus' love?



Welcomed by Jesus

How did Zacchaeus show his faith in God?

We feel happy when someone invites us to join a group. Being included on a team or in a club makes us feel welcome. By the things he said and did, Jesus showed us that God welcomes everyone.

Catholic Faith Words

faith believing in God and all that he helps us understand about himself. Faith leads us to obey God.

peace when things are calm and people get along with one another

God's Word

Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

The news went uphill and down
That Jesus was coming to Jericho town.

Zacchaeus, you know, was too short to see,
So he scurried right up a sycamore tree.

"Zacchaeus, come down, come down, I say.
Let's have dinner at your house today."

Jesus and Zacchaeus walked by the crowd who grumbled and mumbled and said out loud: "He is a sinner and he is a snitch. He took our money. That's why he is rich."

Zacchaeus proclaimed in a loud, clear tone, "To the poor I will give half of all that I own."

Then Jesus said, "God's love has no end. My friend, Zacchaeus, is also God's friend.

Put away your frowns. Be full of cheer. God's love and kindness are truly here.

God calls everyone, the small and the great. So, come gather around. Come celebrate!"

Based on Luke 19:1-10



1. Underline what the mumbler and grumbler said.
2. Circle what Jesus said.

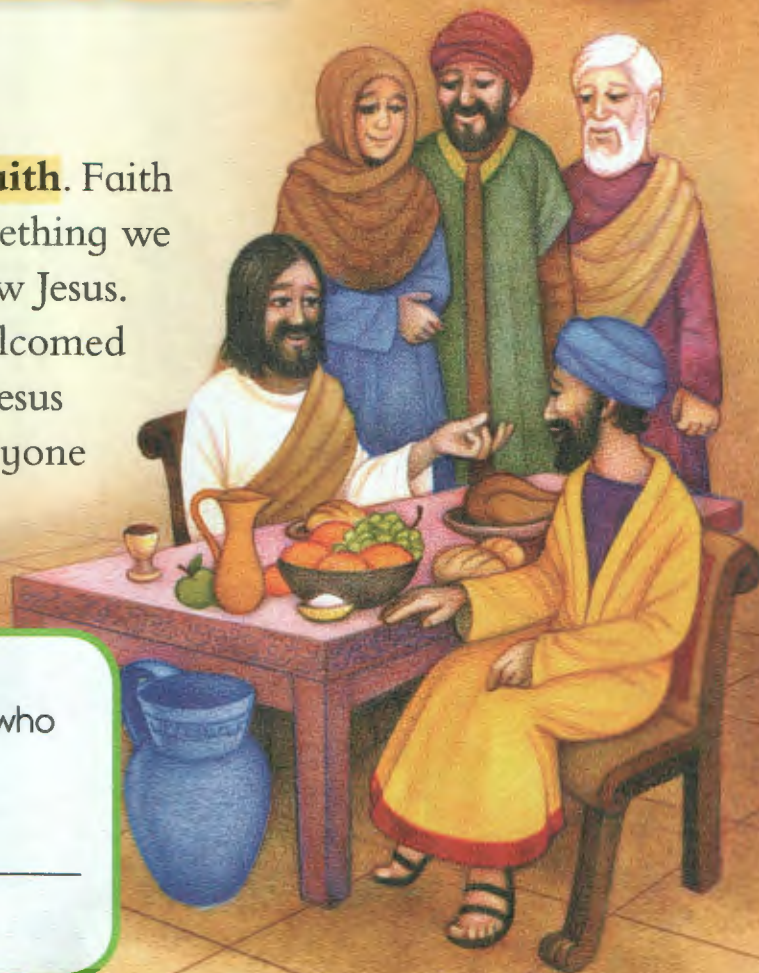
The Surprise Ending

Jesus saw that Zacchaeus had **faith**. Faith is a gift from God, but it's also something we choose. Zacchaeus wanted to follow Jesus. So Jesus surprised everyone. He welcomed Zacchaeus to share in God's love. Jesus wanted him to get along with everyone and be at **peace**.

Share Your Faith

Think Write the name of someone who helps you feel welcome.

Share your answer with a partner.



All Are Invited

Who does Jesus invite to God's Kingdom?

It did not matter to Jesus how old a person was or how tall. Jesus welcomed everyone. Jesus teaches us that people of all ages and backgrounds are welcome in God's Kingdom.

Catholic Faith Words

Kingdom of God the world of love, peace, and justice that is in Heaven and is still being built on Earth

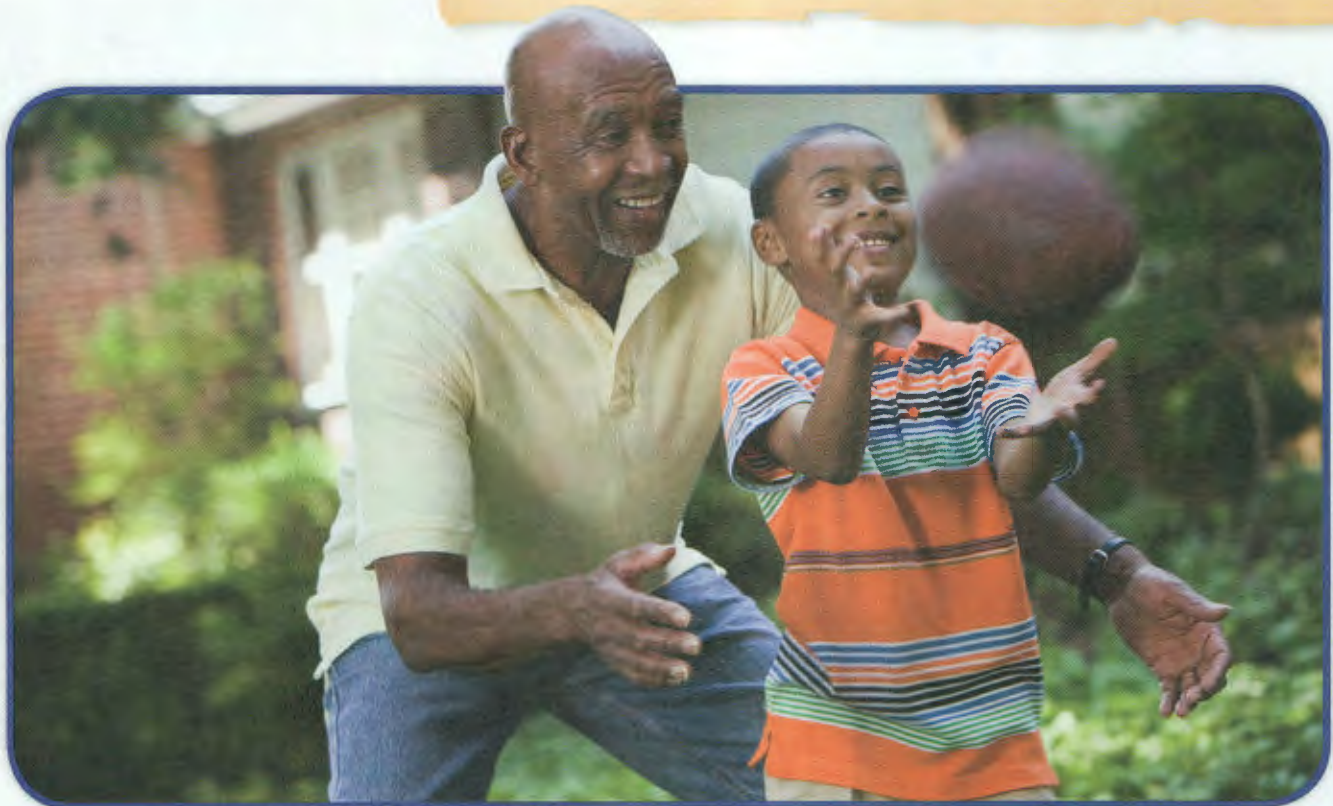
God's Word

Blessing of the Children

People often brought their children to Jesus. The disciples said, "Don't bother Jesus. He is too busy!" But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. . .for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Jesus welcomed the children and blessed them. Then he went on his way. **Based on Matthew 19:13-15**

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In God's Kingdom

Another name for the Kingdom of Heaven is the **Kingdom of God**. Jesus invites everyone to enter the Kingdom, to live by God's love and seek his peace. Jesus knew how to make people feel welcome. Many people came to him for help and healing. Some people were like Zacchaeus. They thought Jesus wouldn't care about them. Jesus taught that all people are welcome in God's Kingdom.



Like Jesus, the Catholic Church welcomes all people. In some Catholic parishes there are people who welcome each Church member before Mass begins. These "welcomers" can be men, women, or children. Sometimes these people are called "greeters."



Underline what greeters do.

➔ How do others make you feel welcome?

Connect Your Faith

Fill It In Who does God welcome? Fill in the blanks to complete the statement.

G D

E C M S

E E O E



Our Catholic Life

What is God's Kingdom like?

Jesus told people about the Kingdom of God. Some people thought Jesus meant a king who lived in a castle. But Jesus was talking about a different kind of Kingdom.

God's Kingdom is filled with joy. Everyone puts God first and works with him to make sure every person has what is needed. By his kindness and care, Jesus showed that everyone is welcome.

God's Kingdom will be complete at the end of time when Jesus returns in glory, but you have already received an invitation. When you were baptized, you were welcomed into God's Kingdom.



How are the people in the pictures helping to build God's Kingdom?



People of Faith

Saint Brigid of Kildare, c. 451–525

Saint Brigid was a religious sister who dedicated her life to God. Everywhere Brigid went, she spoke of God's love. She walked and traveled by horse and cart all around Ireland. She sailed in a boat on the Irish Sea. She was known for her kindness and mercy to everyone. She once said that she would like to turn a whole lake into something good to drink and have everyone share it. She wanted everyone to feel loved by God.



February 1

Discuss: How can you share God's kindness and mercy with your friends and family?



Learn more about
Saint Brigid at
allveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Write an Invitation Fill in the blanks to complete the invitation. Then decorate the invitation with colorful designs.

You Are Invited!

Jesus invites

to the Kingdom of

Join us this Sunday at

 Let Us Pray

Prayer of Welcome

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: God our Father, we gather together in Jesus' name.

Reader 1: When we welcome a friend,

All: Jesus' love shows through us.


Reader 2: When we welcome a child who is left out,

All: Jesus' love shows through us.

Reader 3: When we take extra time to help,

All: Jesus' love shows through us.

Amen.

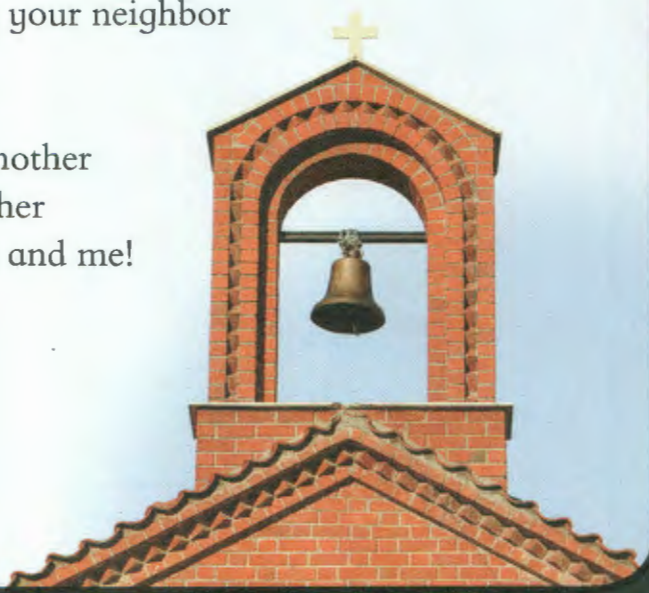
 **All:** Sing "Loving Others"

Share the Good News of the Lord and sing.
Shout it out and make the church bells ring!
Show the people on Earth today.
Jesus' love is a better way!

You gotta be good to your neighbor
Good to your friends
Good to your family.
You gotta love one another
Like a sister or a brother
'cause Jesus loves you and me!

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YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explains Jesus' teaching on the Kingdom and his desire for the Church to welcome and care for all people in his name.

God's Word



Read **Luke 18:15–17** to learn what Jesus says about children in God's Kingdom.

Catholics Believe

- The Kingdom of God is the world of love, peace, and justice that is in Heaven and is still being built on Earth.
- Everyone is welcome in God's Kingdom and in the Catholic Church.

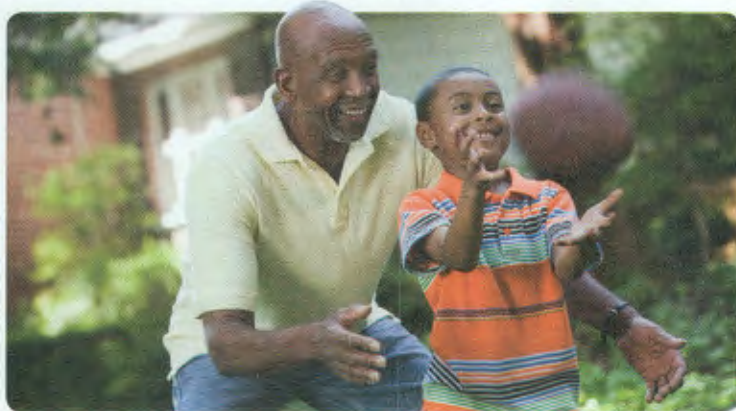
To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #543, 544 at uscgb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child met Saint Brigid of Kildare. One of the patrons of Ireland, she is known for her kindness and mercy.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Caring for Others Our secular society sometimes speaks of the "greater good"—which can mean sacrificing the few for the sake of the many, or violating a smaller principle for the sake of a larger one. Children today are often exposed to this concept. However, our Catholic faith upholds the importance of the common good, the good of everyone, with particular attention to the poor, marginalized, and disadvantaged. Your child will need guidance from you to fully understand this concept and what it means for his or her daily life. A good place to start is in the family, where everyone should be concerned about the good of all.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

How does your family welcome others into your home?

Hospitality is such an important value in the life of a family. When we welcome others into our families, we show love by including and accepting them. In this way the family is an example of the Church. "The Church exists by the will of God the Father and his plan to gather all people under the Lordship of his Son. As Head of the Church, Jesus Christ continues to fill her with his life and saving grace, pouring into her the Holy Spirit with his gifts of unity, peace, and love" (*USCCA, p. 115*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child what he or she learned about the Kingdom of God (the world of love, peace, and justice in Heaven and still being built on Earth).
- Together, name some ways to promote peace, fairness, and love in your family.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Brigid, pray for us that we may be welcoming and kind to everyone we know. Amen.



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

Chapter 13 Review

A Work with Words Fill in the blank with the correct word or words from the Word Bank.

1. _____ became Jesus' friend.
2. Jesus _____ everyone.
3. Jesus blessed the _____.
4. Everyone is invited into the _____.
5. _____ is believing in God and all that he helps us understand about himself.

Word Bank

welcomes

Kingdom of God

Faith

children

Zacchaeus

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

6. The Kingdom of God is not about _____.
 joy castles love
7. Jesus showed that everyone is welcome in _____.
 other countries every club God's Kingdom
8. Your _____ welcomes you into God's Kingdom.
 birthday Baptism school
9. God's Kingdom will be _____ at the end of time.
 complete beginning closed
10. At Mass _____ welcome people as they arrive.
 greeters readers singers

