

ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 3

The Church

aliveinchrist.osv.com



Our Sunday Visitor

Live in the Light

Let Us Pray

Leader: God our Father, help us to be a light in the darkness.

“Send your light and your fidelity,
that they may be my guide.” **Psalm 43:3**

All: God, with you as our guide, we will learn how to love our neighbor. Amen.

God's Word

Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 8:12



What Do You Wonder?

- Does your choice to shine the light of Jesus in the world really matter?
- How do you “practice” faith and hope?



The Light of the World

Who has shared the light of Christ with you?

Jesus talked about how people should help others find their way. He wanted to teach everyone how to glorify God. One day, Jesus told his followers what the world needed from them.



Underline what Jesus said others may see when you share your light.



God's Word

Your Light Must Shine

"You are the light of the world," Jesus said. "A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden."

He went on, "Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house."

Finally he said, "Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." **Based on Matthew 5:14-16**

© Our Sunday Visitor

We share Jesus' light during the Service of Light at Easter Vigil



Be a Light

Jesus taught about the many ways that we are called to show love and care for others. The good things you do for others show that you believe in God's Kingdom.

God's plan for your life is called your **vocation**. Each person has a purpose and our vocation helps us live that calling. When you choose loving actions, you are following God's plan. You are letting your light shine.

You are a light for the world when you help bring peace to others. Sometimes you work for peace in your own family and neighborhood. Sometimes you need to help people who live far away. Wherever help is needed, Jesus calls his followers to bring his peace.



Catholic Faith Words

vocation God's plan for our lives; the purpose for which he made us

Share Your Faith

Think Write one way you've been a light to others.

Share With a group, discuss ways you have shared the light of Christ with someone.

Catholic Faith Words

virtues good spiritual habits that make you stronger and help you do what is right and good. They grow over time with our practice and openness to God's grace.

Theological Virtues the virtues of faith, hope, and charity (love), which are gifts from God that guide our relationship with him

faith the theological virtue that makes it possible for us to believe in God and all that he helps us understand about himself. Faith leads us to obey God.

The Virtues

How do the Theological Virtues help us?

Making good and loving choices helps you develop habits of goodness, called **virtues**. The word virtue means “strength.” Practicing these good habits helps you make even more loving choices. The Theological Virtues come from God and help us to relate to him. We are first given these virtues in our Baptism.

The Theological Virtues

The **Theological Virtues** are faith, hope, and charity (love). They help to guide our relationship with the Holy Trinity.

Faith leads us to obey God. True faith is believing in God and all that he helps us understand about himself. As a follower of Jesus, you believe in him. Faith is both a gift from God and something we choose. Scripture tells us that real faith also produces good works.



Hope is the virtue that helps you trust in the true happiness that God the Father wants us to have. It helps us trust in Jesus' promises of eternal life, and to rely on the help of the Holy Spirit. As members of the Church, we hope for a world that is more like God's Kingdom.

Charity directs people to love God above all things and their neighbor as themselves. You show your love for God by helping people, loving others, and listening to friends who have problems. The Church helps you show love for God by teaching you how to treat everyone with kindness and respect.

In order to get better at something, you need to practice. You have to practice virtues. When you do, these gifts from God—faith, hope, and charity—grow strong in you.

Catholic Faith Words

hope the Theological Virtue that helps us trust in the true happiness God wants us to have and in Jesus' promises of eternal life, and to rely on the help of the Holy Spirit

charity the Theological Virtue of love. It directs us to love God above all things and our neighbor as ourselves, for the love of God.

Connect Your Faith

Create a Reminder Design and decorate a bookmark about practicing one of the virtues as you share the light of Christ with others.



Our Catholic Life

How can you make prayer a part of your day?

The virtues of faith, hope, and charity help you develop your prayer life.

- **Prayers of faith** show God that you believe in him.
- **Prayers of hope** tell God that you trust in him, even when times are tough.
- **Prayers of charity** (love) show God that you love him and will show your love to others by being kind.

There are many ways to add prayer to your day. If you aren't already saying morning prayers, mealtime prayers, and bedtime prayers, you can easily develop the habit of praying at these times. Some families say prayers at special times, such as before leaving on a trip. Talk to your family about adding more prayer to your lives.



Place a check mark next to the times you pray during the day.

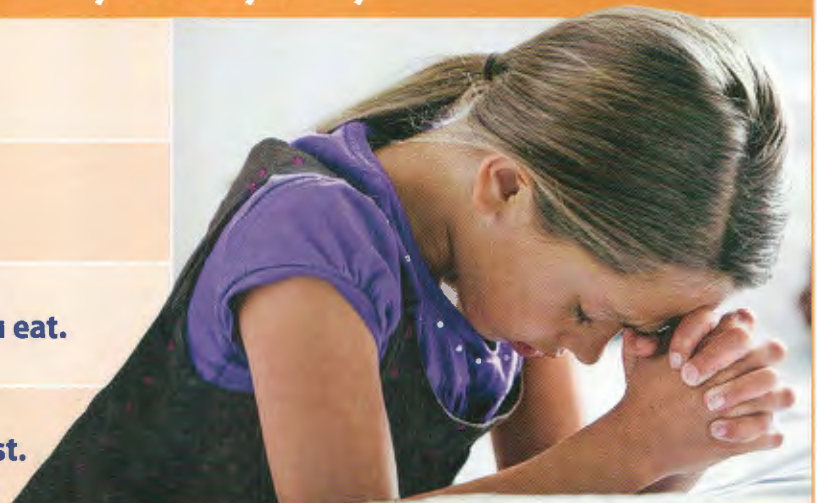
Pray Every Day

Before bed.

At Mass.

Before and after you eat.

Before a game or test.



People of Faith

Saint Genevieve, c. 422–500

January 3

Saint Genevieve lived in France. When she was young, she decided that she wanted to share the light of Christ with everyone she met. She lived the virtues her whole life and showed her faith by praying. Attila the Hun and his army didn't attack Paris because Saint Genevieve led the people in prayer. She showed her hope by building a church that people still use. She gave food to hungry people and asked the King to have mercy on prisoners. Saint Genevieve often wore a crucifix to remind her to think about Jesus.



Discuss: When have you helped others in need?



Learn more about Saint Genevieve at aliveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Remember to Pray With a group, list several times of day when you can pray. Make a list of ways to remind yourself to pray.

When to Pray:

Reminders to Pray:





Let Us Pray

Prayer of Petition

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: We pray together, asking Jesus to help us grow in faith, hope, and charity.

All: We know you, and so we have faith in you, O Jesus.

Reader 1: Help us act with love toward one another.

Reader 2: Help us share the light of your love.

Reader 3: Give us the hope of living with you in Heaven.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us pray.

Bow your heads as the leader prays.

All: Amen.



Sing "Share the Light"

Share the light of Jesus.

Share the light that shows the way.

Share the light of Jesus.

Share God's spirit today. Share God's spirit today.

Repeat Verse

Share the word...

Share the love...

Share the smile...

Share the light...

© 1995, 1999, Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explores the importance of sharing Christ's light with others and the Theological Virtues of faith, hope, and charity (love).

God's Word



Read **John 8:12** to learn how you can help others to see Jesus' light.

Catholics Believe

- Each of us has a purpose and vocation that helps us follow God's plan and be a light to the world.
- God's gifts of faith, hope, and charity (love) help you live a good and moral life.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #1813, 1877 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child met Saint Genevieve, the patron Saint of Paris. She is said to have thwarted the attack of Attila the Hun through prayer.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Sharing the Light of Christ It's a powerful feeling for children when they realize they can have an impact on others. Your child can do this in both positive and negative ways. Particularly if he or she has younger siblings at home, but also with peers and even people who are older, your child can spread the light of Christ through kind actions and virtuous example. This will usually mean something different for each child, but third graders often need to be reminded that they serve as examples for others.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

How quick are you to recognize the bad habits of yourself or others?

It is easy to see other's bad habits. We are familiar with our own as well—so much so that it may be easier to name our bad habits than recognize our good ones. "[Virtues] are acquired by frequent repetition of virtuous acts that establish a pattern of virtuous behavior. . . . Yet it is through doing good acts in the concrete that the virtue within us is strengthened and grows" (*USCCA, p. 317*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Talk about a time when your trust in God has given you hope.
- Ask your child to name some good habits that he or she has.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Genevieve, help us to be the light of Christ and share God's love with all we meet. Amen.



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

Chapter 14 Review

A **Work with Words** Complete Jesus' message with the correct words from the Word Bank.

1–5. Jesus said, “You are the _____.
A city on a mountaintop cannot be
_____. Your light must
_____ before others, that they may
see your good _____ and glorify
your Heavenly _____.”

Word Bank

deeds
Father
hidden
shine
light

B **Check Understanding** Match each description in Column A with the correct term in Column B.

Column A

- Helps you trust in God's promise of happiness and Jesus' promise of eternal life.
- Helps you believe in God and all that he has made known to us.
- You can do this at any time of day, not just at meals or bedtime.
- Helps us love God and our neighbor.
- Good spiritual habits that make you stronger and help you choose right.

Column B

faith
charity
virtues
pray
hope

