

ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 3

The Church

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Our Sunday Visitor

Sacraments at the Service of Communion

Let Us Pray

Leader: Dear God, we are your servants forever.

“The LORD is the redeemer of the souls of his servants;
and none are condemned who take refuge in him.” **Psalm 34:23**

All: You want us to serve each other, Jesus. Let my heart be like yours so that I serve out of love and not because “I have to.” Amen.

God's Word

For you were called to be free. Do not use this freedom so you can sin. Instead, serve each other in love. For all the commandments can be put together in one statement, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” **Based on Galatians 5:13–14**

What Do You Wonder?

- How can third-graders serve others in love?
- How will you know whether God is calling you to be married or to the priesthood or religious life?



Catholic Faith Words

vows solemn promises that are made to or before God

Learning about Service

How do married people and ordained men serve others?

An anniversary is a time to remember a special day of love and commitment. Listen as Jeremy and Samantha learn about their parents' wedding day.

The Wedding Story

"Mom, you looked pretty," Samantha said.

"It's because I was so happy," said her mother.

"We said our **vows** and promised to love each other and to be faithful before God through good and bad times," Dad said.

"I know it's fun to share good times," said Samantha. "But bad times?"

"Well, Samantha," said Mom, "everyone has bad times, but mine would be worse if I didn't have your dad. We often ask God to help us through the bad times. And the good times are even better because I get to share them with someone I love."



Sharing Wedding Memories

“Look, there’s a picture of Father Hernandez, witnessing our wedding vows,” said Mom. “He also met with us before we were married. He shared with us how important it is to understand that marriage is a Sacrament. That means that God gives us the grace to love each other and help each other grow in his image. Our **priest** and **deacon** do a lot of work that we don’t always see.”

“What kind of work?” asked Jeremy.

“They teach people about the faith and guide them in making good decisions. They visit people who are sick and serve the parish in many other ways. Priests celebrate Mass and other Sacraments. Deacons baptize and witness marriages. Priests and deacons do important work,” said Dad.

“Just like married people,” said Samantha.

“Yes, just like married people. God helps all of us do his work,” said Mom.

Catholic Faith Words

priest an ordained man who helps his bishop by leading a parish, preaching the Gospel, and celebrating the Eucharist and other Sacraments

deacon an ordained man who serves the Church by assisting in the Eucharist, baptizing, witnessing marriages, and doing works of charity

Share Your Faith

Think What is love? Think about the different ways that people show love to one another.

Share with a partner about the different meanings of love and how you can show love for others.





Serving God's People

How do the Sacraments at the Service of Communion continue Jesus' work?



Circle the two Sacraments at the Service of Communion.

The priest and the parents in the story had something in common. They had each celebrated one of the **Sacraments at the Service of Communion**. The two Sacraments are Holy Orders and Matrimony.

Holy Orders is the Sacrament in which baptized men become deacons, priests, or bishops. When a man receives Holy Orders, he is ordained. He shares Jesus' ministry in a special way. Saint Paul wrote about the work of the Church's early ministers.

Catholic Faith Words

Sacraments at the Service of Communion

the two sacraments that celebrate people's commitment to serve God and the community: Holy Orders and Matrimony



God's Word

The place of the preachers is not to establish themselves as leaders among men; instead, think of us as servants of Christ and trustworthy stewards of the mysteries of God. **Based on 1 Corinthians 3:21-4:2**

➔ What are some ways deacons, priests, and bishops serve the Church?

Sacraments of Service

	Holy Orders	Matrimony
Action	A bishop lays his hands on the man to be ordained and prays to the Holy Spirit.	In front of a priest or deacon and other witnesses, a baptized woman and man promise to love each other and to be faithful.
Effects	The ordained man receives the authority to minister, to teach, and to lead and serve the Church and their community through sacramental ministries and works of charity.	The couple receives the grace to love each other as Christ loves his Church, to remain faithful, and to welcome and raise children.

Serving One Another

Married people share Jesus' ministry, too. The Sacrament of Matrimony joins a baptized man and a baptized woman in Christian marriage. They serve God by loving and serving each other and any children God gives them.

Sometimes husbands and wives must both work at jobs so that their families will have food and shelter. Other times, one of them

may stay home with their children while the other goes to work.

Sometimes a couple has to live apart from each other. However, they must still do their best to serve their families. The Church cares for and supports all families.

Through the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, all Church members are called to use their gifts to serve God's People. Any way you answer that call, you serve God and your community.

Connect Your Faith

Learn About Sacraments at the Service of

Communion In this space, write two questions that you would like to ask your pastor and a married person about how they serve others.

Our Catholic Life

How can you serve the family of God?

Being part of a family brings many responsibilities. Being part of God’s family, the Church, brings responsibilities, too. Many people serve through their vocation to marriage or through Holy Orders.

When you serve others, you do not think about how the service will help you. You serve others because God calls you to share your time and talents with others.

You can serve others through small acts of kindness. You can assist a neighbor by carrying groceries. You can help your parents care for your brothers or sisters or a pet. There are many ways to serve God and others.



A new priest may be visiting your church.



A deacon may baptize or proclaim the Gospel at Sunday Mass.

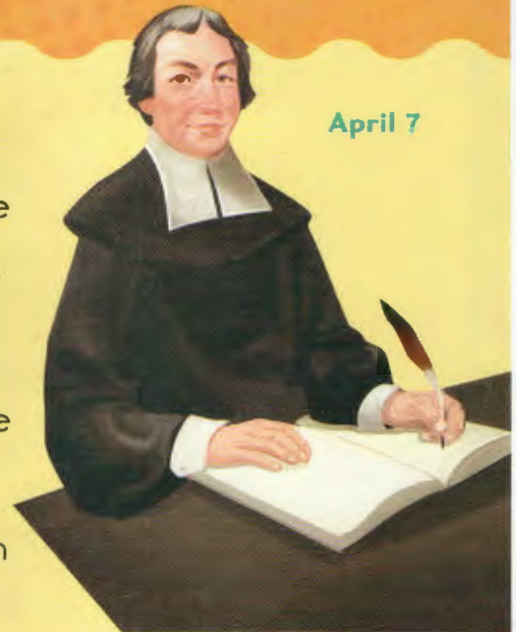


A man and a woman may get married on a Saturday at your church and then help others prepare for marriage.

People of Faith

Saint Jean-Baptiste de la Salle, 1651–1719

Saint Jean-Baptiste de la Salle knew he wanted to be a priest when he was eleven years old. He came from a wealthy French family. He used his money to build schools for poor children. He founded a group of men called the Christian Brothers, who were teachers. He also founded a college to train teachers. He said that when he became a priest, he didn't know he would be a teacher, too. He knew he had a vocation to be a priest, but God also gave him a vocation to teach. Even today, Christian Brothers teach in schools all around the world.



April 7

Discuss: How have you served the poor?



Learn more about Saint Jean-Baptiste de la Salle at allveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Write a Thank You Letter Bishops, priests, and deacons do many things for Church members. Draft a thank-you letter to one of these leaders. Then write your final letter on nice paper and send it to the person.



 Let Us Pray

Prayer of Thanks

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: Generous God, we thank you for the gifts of service of bishops, priests, deacons, and married people.

Reader 1: For priests who lead us to you,

All: We thank you, God.

Reader 2: For deacons who help us find you,

All: We thank you, God.

Reader 3: For bishops who guide your people,


All: We thank you, God.

Reader 4: For married people who lead each other to you,

All: We thank you, God.

Reader 5: For parents who show us how to love you,

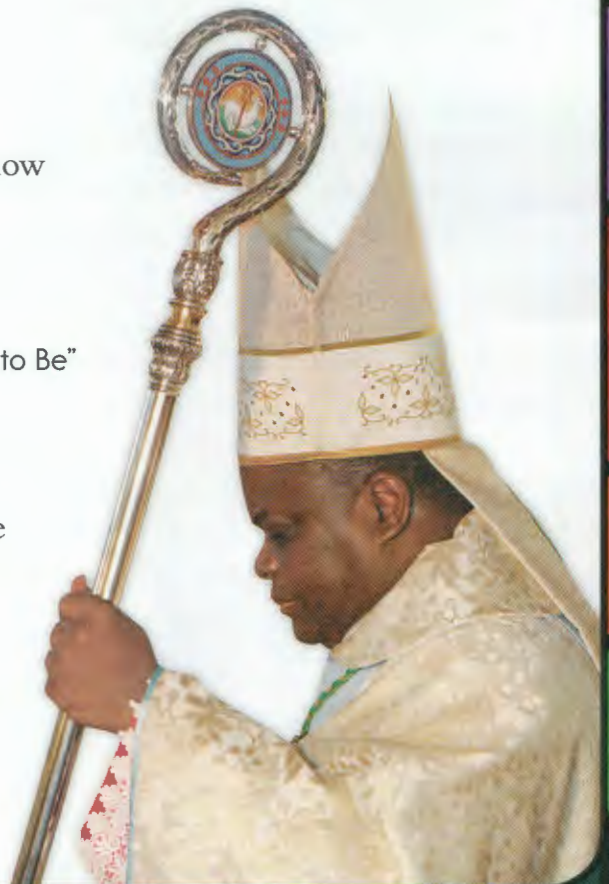
All: We thank you, God.

 Sing "All That God Wants You to Be"
You can become all that
God wants you to be!

Here am I, O Lord! I come
to do your will.

Help me become all that
you want me to be!

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FAMILY+FAITH

LIVING AND LEARNING TOGETHER

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explores serving God and the community through the Sacraments at the Service of Communion: Holy Orders and Matrimony.

God's Word



Read **Galatians 5:13–14** to learn more about how we should serve one another.

Catholics Believe

- Holy Orders is the Sacrament in which baptized men are ordained as deacons, priests, or bishops to lead and serve the Church.
- Matrimony joins a baptized man and a baptized woman in Christian marriage to serve God by loving and serving each other and any children they may have.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #1534, 1535 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child met Saint Jean-Baptiste de la Salle, a priest, teacher, and the founder of the Christian Brothers, whose mission is to educate youth.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand the Sacraments at the Service of Communion

Your child's emerging awareness of others makes this an ideal time to consider how God might call him or her to serve others in the Church and in society. Particular consideration should be given to Matrimony, Holy Orders, or religious life. While your child will ultimately have many years to discern a vocation, an early awareness of a life of service can help keep your child oriented in a direction that is compatible with God's plan for his or her life.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

In how many ways do you see yourself as a servant?

If you are a parent you may see your whole life through the eyes of service! The choice is in being begrudging angry servants, or eager servants, knowing that our service is an act of love. "God's people share in Christ's kingly mission, which is to lead others through loving service to them. Jesus came not 'to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many' (Mt 20:28). We are called in imitation of the Lord Jesus, to be people who offer ourselves willingly in service to others" (*USCCA, p. 118*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to name some ways that the people in your family serve God and others.
- Share some good memories of weddings and family life that you have seen or experienced.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Jean-Baptiste, help us know what God is calling us to do. May we listen to that call and willingly follow it. Amen.



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

Chapter 18 Review

A Work with Words Complete each sentence with the letter of the correct word or words from the Word Bank.

1. A baptized man is during the Sacrament of Holy Orders.
2. The made during the Sacrament of Matrimony last a lifetime.
3. Only baptized men are called to receive .
4. Holy Orders celebrates a man's commitment to Jesus' ministry as a , priest, or bishop.
5. The two Sacraments at the of Communion celebrate people's commitment to serve God and the community.

Word Bank

- a. vows
- b. Holy Orders
- c. Service
- d. ordained
- e. deacon

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

Column A

6. What a man is called after the Sacrament of Matrimony
7. Ordains a baptized man
8. The Sacrament that unites a man and woman in love and faithfulness
9. Ordained man who leads a parish
10. Solemn promises made before God

Column B

- Holy Orders
- priest
- husband
- Matrimony
- vows

