

# ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 5

The Seven Sacraments

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**Our Sunday Visitor**

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**Nihil Obstat**

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Censor Librorum, Diocese of Orlando

**Imprimatur**

✠ Most Rev. John Noonan  
Bishop of Orlando  
March 26, 2013

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Alive in Christ Parish Grade 5 Student Book  
ISBN: 978-1-61278-014-6  
Item Number: CU5104

5 6 7 8 9 10 015016 21 20 19 18  
Webcrafters, Inc., Madison, WI, USA; August 2018; Job# 138116



# Made to Be with God

## Let Us Pray

**Leader:** Gracious God, Saint Augustine said, “You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.” Hear, then, our restless call:

“‘Come,’ says my heart, ‘seek his face’;  
your face, LORD, do I seek!” **Psalm 27:8**

**All:** O God, you are our heart’s desire. Fill us with the longing, the hope, and the promise of your love forever. Amen.

## Scripture

O God, you are my God—  
it is you I seek!  
For you my body yearns;  
for you my soul thirsts...  
For your love is better than life;  
my lips shall ever praise you!  
I will bless you as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands, calling on your name. **Psalm 63:2, 4–5**



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### What Do You Wonder

- What does it mean to long for something?
- Why do you think our deepest longing is for God?



## What We Want

### Why are longings important?

Some people long for things that others take for granted. Some long for things they really don't need. Still others long for friends, or family, or a closeness in relationships. Read this passage to discover what is more important to Jesus.

### Scripture

#### Martha and Mary

[Jesus] entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary [who] sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak.

Martha, burdened with so much serving, came to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me."

The Lord said to her... "Martha... you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her." **Luke 10:38-42**

Both Martha and Mary welcomed Jesus, but Mary showed she was looking for something more.

- ➔ What was Mary longing for?
- ➔ Why do you think Jesus said her choice was better?





## The Gift of Longing

People long for—hope for, desire, really want—all kinds of things. Some of these things are important, and some are not. Both Martha and Mary welcomed Jesus into their home. Martha provided hospitality and served her guest. Mary, however, longed for something more. She wanted to connect with Jesus. What a wonderful gift she received as she listened to Jesus' teaching.



There are many layers of longing in the world. You may long for things, or for the right words to say. You may long to be loved and accepted by others. You may long for good health, or to win a game, or to be chosen for a special honor. All of your longings are part of your desire to be truly happy.

Longing is actually a gift in itself. It is planted inside you by God. God wants you to find your way home to him at the end of your life on Earth. **Religion** is the way you express your longing for God. Religion gives you a language to express your thoughts and feelings about God.

➔ **What are the most important things that you would like to have?**

### Catholic Faith Words

**religion** a group of beliefs, prayers, and practices through which people express longing for God

## Share Your Faith

**Reflect** Fill in the first column below with some of the ways you express your thoughts and feelings about God. In the second column, explain what those actions mean to you.

| Action | What it Means for Me |
|--------|----------------------|
| _____  | _____                |
| _____  | _____                |
| _____  | _____                |

**Share** Discuss your chart with a partner.



## What God Gives

### Who alone can satisfy your longing?

Jesus knows our longings and offers us all we need, as we learn in this account from the Gospel according to John.



Underline the message Jesus wanted to give the woman.



### Scripture

#### The Samaritan Woman

A woman of Samaria, tired and hot, trudged along with her water jars. At the well, she noticed a Jewish stranger. Contrary to custom, the man spoke directly to her, asking for a drink. He then said, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

She asked where she could get this "living water." The stranger, who was Jesus, said he did not mean ordinary water. The water he spoke of was God, who wants everyone to worship him in the Spirit and in truth. The woman said, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Anointed; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus answered, "I am he, the one who is speaking with you."

At that, the woman forgot about the water she had come for. This news of "living water" was more important. She ran to tell everyone, asking, "Could he possibly be the Messiah?" **Based on John 4:7-29**

➔ Why do you think Jesus chose the image of water in his teaching?





## God Satisfies You

When you long for God, only the living water of his **grace** will satisfy you. Jesus knows that deep in the human heart is a longing that only God can fill. The desire for God is more powerful than your thirst for water on a hot day. The Samaritan woman's response to Jesus shows the beginning of her **faith** in him as the **Messiah**.

Faith is a gift from God that enables you to believe and trust in God and the things he has revealed to us, even though you cannot see him. Faith is also a human action by which you choose to respond to God's presence in your life. You received this gift in the Sacrament of Baptism. In the waters of Baptism, you became a child of God and a member of the Body of Christ.

## Helping Faith Grow

Baptism is the beginning of your faith journey. Your faith continues to grow and develop. In this life, you come to know God through creation, through the Bible, and, most of all, through Jesus. You are helped by your parents and the Church community. Your faith grows through praying, reading Scripture, and being active in your parish. Like the Samaritan woman, you are called to share your growing faith and joy with others.

### Catholic Faith Words

**grace** God's free, loving gift of his own life and help to do what he calls us to do. It is participation in the life of the Holy Trinity.

**faith** the Theological Virtue that makes it possible for us to believe in God and the things that he has revealed to us. Faith leads us to obey God. It is both a gift from him and something we choose.

**Messiah** the promised one who would lead his People. The word *Messiah* means "God's anointed," or "God's chosen one." Jesus is the Messiah.

### Connect Your Faith

**Write a Poem** Create an acrostic poem using the word *faith*. For each letter, write a word or phrase that helps you grow in faith. The letter *a* is done for you.

f

p \_\_\_\_\_ rents

i

t

a \_\_\_\_\_

h





# Our Catholic Life

## How do you seek God?

We help satisfy our longing for God by searching for him in prayer and Scripture. If we are willing to listen, God will speak to us and help us follow him.

No matter where or when you decide to pray or read the Bible, your effort will bring you closer to God. However, some places help you be a better listener.

## Church

The parish church is the house of God. Even when the community is not worshipping there, Christ is present. Go there and tell him everything in your heart. Then be still and listen for his answer.

## Outdoors

Jesus often prayed outdoors. There, he felt close to his Father, the Creator of all. Being out in the natural world can lead you to a spirit of grateful praise.

## Home

Sometimes it is best to go to a separate room and close the door when you want to talk to God. Any quiet room will work.



In the space provided, draw or write about a place you go to seek God.



# People of Faith

August 28

## Saint Augustine, 354–430

Augustine had a Christian mother and a pagan father. His mother wanted him to be baptized, but he studied many other ideas before he became a Christian. He became a monk and a priest and later was the bishop of Hippo, a city near his hometown in North Africa. Saint Augustine was a great teacher and writer. He tells us that everyone longs to love God, and we will never be happy until we know God. One of his prayers to God begins, "You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."



**Discuss:** How is having a restless heart like being homesick when you are away?



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

## Live Your Faith

**Solve** the rebus puzzle to learn one thing you can do to help satisfy your longing for God. Fill in the blanks below each picture with a word that describes what the picture represents. Then, fill in the Answer box with the sentence you create.



\_\_\_\_\_

2

\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_

God

\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_

Answer:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Explain** to a partner how you would do this.



 Let Us Pray

## A Prayer for Beginnings and Renewals

As we begin this new year together, we renew our never-ending journey of faith. We live each day as disciples of Jesus.

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.


**Leader:** Blessed are you, Lord God,  
Creator of body and mind and heart;  
you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge  
to guide your people in all their ways.

**Side 1:** At the beginning of this new school year, we pray for your mercy: bless us that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love as we learn from you and each other how to follow your Son Jesus.

**Side 2:** Expand the limits of our minds that we may grow in wisdom, understanding, and knowledge; deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways; and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need.

**All:** Glory and praise to you, Lord God, in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. Amen.

Based on Prayers for School [Source: Book of Blessings, page 300]

 Sing "Holy Spirit, Come Now"  
Holy Spirit, come,  
Holy Spirit, come now,  
come now. (Repeat)

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## YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

*This chapter explores our deepest longings, explains grace as participation in the life of the Holy Trinity, and examines faith as the free, loving gift of God's own life and help.*

### Scripture



Read **Psalm 63:2, 4–5** to find out about our longing for God.

### Catholics Believe

- True happiness can come only through communion with God.
- Religion expresses our relationship with God through beliefs, prayers, and practices.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #27–28 at [usccb.org](http://usccb.org).

### People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Augustine, one of the great theologians of early Christianity. He says that our hearts are restless until they rest in God.

## CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

**How They Understand Communion with God** Fifth-graders are just beginning to think about what sort of man or woman they will be someday. As they approach middle school, they will become more and more concerned with their own identity. It's important that from the very beginning of this process, they hear that we are all made to be in relationship with God, and that we cultivate this relationship by talking with God and listening to him in the variety of ways he speaks to us.



## CONSIDER THIS >>>

*How many people do you know who say they are spiritual but not religious?*

In our culture today, some people have negative feelings about institutions, including organized religion. Some argue that the time, money, and effort it takes to maintain the institution can minimize the mission of the institution. As Catholics, we know that “there is no doubt that the Church is called to be a community of love in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The risen Jesus himself presented a model of Church leadership based in love when he solicited three affirmations of love from Peter (cf. Jn 21:15–17). At the same time, though, the Church has many structures that are needed to build up the bond of love” (*USCCA p. 121*).

## LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to explain faith as a journey.
- Share how you help your child grow in faith.

## LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Augustine, you know we long to know what God wants us to do. Help us to find God, as you did, so that we may rest in his love. 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 2 Review

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

- \_\_\_\_\_ is the Theological Virtue that makes it possible for us to believe in God and the things that he has revealed to us.
- “God’s anointed,” the promised one who leads God’s People, refers to Jesus, the \_\_\_\_\_.
- God’s free, loving gift of his own life and help to do what he calls us to do is \_\_\_\_\_.
- You became a member of the Church through \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is a group of beliefs, prayers, and practices that help people to express their longing for God.

## Word Bank

Messiah

faith

religion

grace

Baptism

**B Check Understanding** Match each description in Column 1 with the correct term in Column 2.

### Column 1

- helps you on your faith journey
- a gift planted inside us by God
- can improve your prayer
- longed to listen to Jesus
- one of the ways in which we come to know God in this life

### Column 2

- creation
- Mary
- parish community
- a quiet place
- longing

