

ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 5

The Seven Sacraments

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Our Sunday Visitor

Jesus Christ



Our Catholic Tradition

- Jesus is the perfect image of God because he is God. In Jesus we are given the greatest sign of God's presence. (CCC, 381, 479)
- Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of God through parables and shows us the Kingdom in his miracles. (CCC, 546–547)
- We continue to know God's presence, and to experience the Paschal Mystery of Jesus, through the Seven Sacraments. (CCC, 1115)

Why do we call Jesus Divine, Redeemer, King?



Living Image of Christ

Let Us Pray

Leader: Creator God, teach us to mirror your amazing love.

“You formed my inmost being;
you knit me in my mother’s womb.
I praise you, because I am wonderfully made;
wonderful are your works!” **Psalm 139:13-14**

All: Creator God, teach us to see your amazing love not only in ourselves, but in everyone we meet.

Scripture

Then God said: Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the tame animals, all the wild animals, and all the creatures that crawl on the earth.

God created mankind in his image;
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them. **Genesis 1:26-27**

What Do You Wonder?

- What is something wonderful and unique about you?
- How can someone your age show that he or she is made in the image of God?



Honoring God

What gifts do the Magi bring to Jesus?

This is a Scripture passage about wise leaders who looked for signs of God and found a newborn king in a surprising place.

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Scripture

The Visit of the Magi

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage."

After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother.

They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way. **Matthew 2:1-12**



Gold



Frankincense



Myrrh

- ➔ How did the magi honor Jesus?
How can you honor Jesus today?
- ➔ There is a saying: "Wise people still seek him." When or how do you seek God?

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Share Your Faith

Reflect Your good works are your gifts for Jesus. Think about some of the good things you have done in your life. Write some examples below.

Share with a partner two of the good things you have done.

1. _____
2. _____

Catholic Faith Words

Incarnation the mystery that the Son of God took on human nature in order to save all people

Savior a title for Jesus, who came into the world to save all people who were lost through sin and to lead them back to God his Father

free will the God-given freedom and ability to make choices. God created us with free will so we can have the freedom to choose good.

soul the spiritual part of a human that lives forever

In His Image and Likeness

What does it mean to reflect the image of God?

The Magi saw a human baby whom they thought would be the king of the Jews. But Jesus is even greater than the wise men could have known. He is both God and man, and he came to Earth not only for the Jewish people, but for all people.

The mystery of how the Son of God, the Second Divine Person of the Trinity, took on a human nature is called the **Incarnation**. The word *Incarnation* means “coming into flesh.”

The Church calls the Incarnation a mystery because it can only be understood through faith. In faith, Catholics believe that Jesus is both fully Divine and fully human at the same time. Jesus is both true God and true man. Jesus is the perfect image of God because he is God. Sometimes he is called the Sacrament of God because he makes God truly present among us. To meet Jesus is to meet God.

The name Jesus means “God saves.” Jesus saved all people from the power of sin and everlasting death, and so he is rightly called the **Savior** of the world.

➔ **What are some things you have learned about God through the teachings of Jesus?**

Pilgrims entering the Birth Grotto, the traditional birthplace of Jesus, in the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem.





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God's Image in You

Because he is God, Jesus reveals God fully. In his ministry, Jesus set out to love, heal, and forgive—to show that God is with his People. All people are made in the image of God because they are created by God. When people love one another, they reflect the communion of three Divine Persons in one God. When people respect and protect the life of others—including the unborn, the ill, and the elderly—they respect God's image in each person.

➔ How do people you know show they are made in God's image?

Signs of God's Love

God created all people in his image and likeness, with the ability to love, **free will** (freedom to choose), and a **soul** that will live on after death. You are given God's very life and the grace to be a living image of Christ every day.

Every time you offer help, every time you are a good listener, every time you

forgive, every time you pray before making a decision, and every time you look for the good in others, you follow Jesus' example and are a sign of God's love. Your human dignity as a child of God becomes clearer the more you become like Jesus. The more you cooperate with God's grace and care for others, the more you reflect God's image. Jesus is the image of God. When you follow him, you are a sign of God also.



Underline one thing you have done this week to be a sign of God's love.

Connect Your Faith

Show the Face of God Explain to a partner how the people in the photos above are living as signs of God's love.

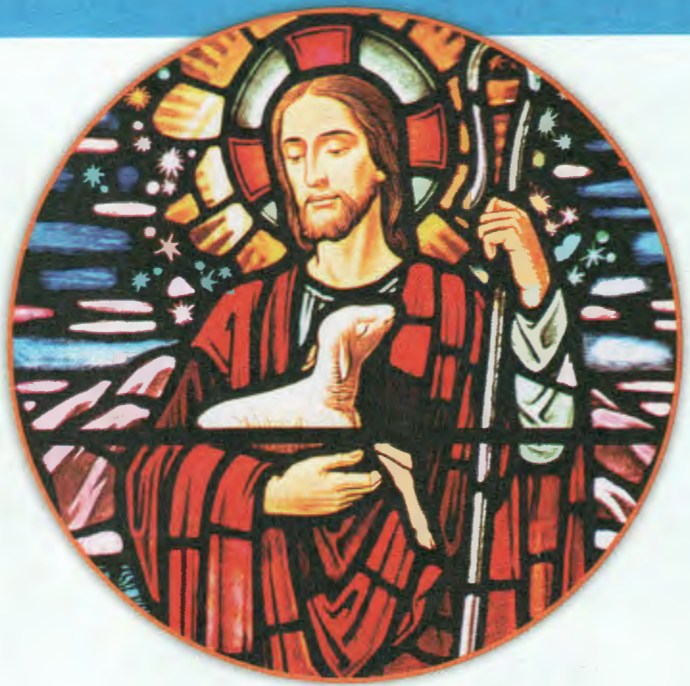
Write one thing you do that shows you are following Jesus and living as a sign of God's love.

Our Catholic Life

Who is Jesus?

When you call Jesus Savior, you affirm the Good News that Jesus came to save all people and give them eternal life. Jesus has been given many titles, and each one teaches us something about who he is. You may have heard Jesus referred to as the Lamb of God, the Good Shepherd, or the Son of Man.

Read the following Scripture passages to learn some of the titles given to Jesus. Reflect on them, and see how they expand your understanding of who Jesus is. Remember some titles from the Old Testament are applied to Jesus.



1. Write the title of Jesus on the line beside the Scripture reference.
2. Tell which qualities of Jesus are suggested in each passage.

The Many Faces of Christ

Scripture	Title	Qualities
Matthew 1:23	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Mark 1:1	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Luke 2:11	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Isaiah 9:5	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

People of Faith

August 24

Blessed María Vicenta Rosal Vásquez, 1820–1886

Blessed María Vicenta grew up in Guatemala. She wanted to always show God's love to the world, so she took a new name when she became a nun. She became María de la Encarnación del Corazón de Jesús (Mary of the Incarnation of the Heart of Jesus). With her new name, she would always remind people that Jesus loves us with his whole heart. When the Guatemalan government began arresting Catholics, she moved to Costa Rica. There she built schools and homes for orphans. She even founded the first college for women in the country.



Discuss: How do you reflect the image of God in your life?



Learn more about Blessed María Vicenta at aliveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Work in small groups to talk about the ways each group member will live as a sign to others of God's love in school, at home, and with friends next week.

Design a wristband to wear as a reminder of your plans.



 Let Us Pray

Prayer of Thanksgiving

This litany prayer helps us to reflect on some of the many titles of Jesus. We are grateful for the many gifts that Jesus gives us. He shows that God is life, he restores our relationship to the Father, and he calls us to be disciples.

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: We gather to show our thanks for all that Jesus is and does.

Reader 1: Jesus, the Good Shepherd,

All: we always feel your care for us.

Reader 2: Jesus, the Light of the World,

All: we can see our way because of you. We are grateful.

Reader 3: Jesus, the Vine,

All: we are your branches, alive because we are connected to your love. Thank you.

Reader 4: Jesus, the Bread of Life,

All: we are nourished and fed to be your Body in our world. We give thanks.

Leader: What other titles and names might there be for Jesus, our brother and Savior, image and sign of God?

All: We are grateful that you are our brother and Savior, Jesus, Son of God.



Sing "You Are God"

Jesus, you are God. There is none like you.

Jesus, you are God, and we worship you.

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YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter recognizes Jesus as the fullness of God's Revelation and explores ways in which humans reflect the image of God.

Scripture



Read **Genesis 1:26–27** to find out about God creating people in his image.

Catholics Believe

- The Incarnation is the mystery that the Son of God became man in order to save all people.
- God created all people in his image and likeness, with the ability to love, free will (freedom to choose), and a soul that will live on after death.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #461–464, 470, 483 at uscgb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Blessed María Vicenta Rosal Vásquez, the first person from Guatemala to be beatified. As a nun, her name was María de la Encarnación del Corazón de Jesús (Mary of the Incarnation of the Heart of Jesus).

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Jesus and Themselves as Images of God

As they begin to grow to look more like young men and women and less like small children, fifth-graders have likely heard people comment on how much they look like their mother or father, or perhaps someone else in the family. While it's still an abstract concept for them, fifth-graders are ready to be challenged to think more figuratively about how they are also made in the image of God. Jesus serves as a perfect model of God's image in human form, because he is God himself.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

Do you ever wonder why God chose to become human?

Unlike those in other religious traditions, Christians believe that God knew that human beings needed to experience the fullness of his love in order that we might believe in him. God's love for us is made visible in Jesus—God fully human in the Incarnation. As Catholics, we remember that “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life” (**John 3:16**).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to explain how Jesus is both human and Divine.
- Share how family members reflect the image of God.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Blessed María, pray for us that we may be an image of Jesus to the whole world in all we do and say. Amen.



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

Chapter 7 Review

A Work with Words Match each description in Column 1 with the correct term in Column 2.

Column 1

1. A title for Jesus, who came into the world to save all people who were lost through sin, and to lead them back to God his Father.
2. This is the mystery by which the second Divine Person of the Holy Trinity took on human nature.
3. This means God, like God, or of God.
4. Their story indicates that Jesus' message of salvation is for all people.
5. The God-given freedom and ability to make choices.

Column 2

- Incarnation
- Magi
- free will
- Divine
- Savior

B Make Connections Write a brief response to each question or statement.

6. Explain the meaning of the gifts that the Magi brought.

7. Why is Jesus the "perfect image of God"?

8. What is the connection between the Holy Trinity and Jesus' command to love?

9. How do you become a sign of God's love to the world?

10. Name the title of Jesus that is most meaningful to you, and explain why.

