

ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 5

The Seven Sacraments

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Our Sunday Visitor

Lives of Holiness

Let Us Pray

Leader: Gracious God, we have been made in your image and have received a breathtaking calling:

“Be holy, just as your heavenly Father is holy.”

Based on Matthew 5:48

All: Help us, holy God, to live up to that image and calling. Amen.

Scripture

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will. **Ephesians 1:3–5**

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What Do You Wonder?

- What do you think it means to be holy?
- How can Mary and the other Saints help us grow in holiness?



Catholic Faith Words

salvation the loving action of God's forgiveness of sins and the restoration of friendship with him brought by Jesus

holy unique and pure; set apart for God and his purposes

Fruits of the Holy Spirit the qualities that can be seen in us when we allow the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts

Models of Virtue

Why is it important to know about the Saints?

Saints are known for heroic virtue, or the exemplary practice of Christian virtues. Saints are excellent examples of discipleship and of living as a follower of Jesus. Some are heroes or heroines because they took a stand against those who did not believe in what Jesus had taught. They are signs of hope for us. Most Saints are ordinary people, gifted with God's grace at Baptism, as are all of the faithful. What makes them Saints is how they lived their lives. Saints let the grace of God shine through them, and they become living signs of God's love.

On Being a Saint

Choose one of these Saints. What would each person want you to understand about God's love?

Saint Juan Diego

While Juan Diego was walking to Mass, the Virgin Mary appeared to him and asked him to have a church built on the site. With a miracle from the Virgin Mary, he was able to convince the local bishop and the church was built.



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Saint Teresa of Ávila

Known for her spiritual life, Teresa taught that in prayer the important thing is not to think much, but to love much. She explained that love is "the desire to please God in everything."

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini

The first American citizen to become a Saint, she founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart to care for poor children in schools. She came to the United States in 1889. Filled with trust in God and endowed with administrative ability, this remarkable woman founded schools, hospitals, and orphanages.



Respond to the Holy Spirit

You cannot buy or earn **salvation**. Salvation is a gift from God that is yours because of the sacrifice of Jesus. Your good works show that you accept and thank God for his generosity. They are also a means by which you grow in holiness, through God's grace and Christ's merit. Good works are a response to the prompting of the Holy Spirit's calling you to goodness.

Saints are models for you because they listened and responded to the Holy Spirit's call. By their example of faithful living, Saints remind you that God is the source of all life and holiness.

One of the Marks of the Church is that she is **holy**. The Saints point to Jesus, who sacrificed himself to make the Church holy. An important work of the Holy Spirit, who dwells in the Church, is to sanctify, or make holy. As members of the Church, all Catholics are called to be holy through the Holy Spirit. When we allow the Holy Spirit to work in our lives, characteristics called the **Fruits of the Holy Spirit** (see page 317) can be seen in our lives.

Share Your Faith

Reflect Look at the images of some of the Saints on these pages.

Share Choose one of the images, and tell a partner what qualities of the Saint you can see from the image.



Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

Saint Kateri became the first Native American to be canonized, in 2012. She learned about Jesus from Jesuit missionaries. Because she lived so close to nature and found God in the natural world and the wonders of creation, she is the patron Saint of ecology, nature, and the environment.

Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

Many penitents flocked to Saint Padre Pio for confession. He used the confessional to bring both sinners and devout believers closer to God. When giving counsel or encouragement, he relied on the Holy Spirit to know what each person needed to hear.



Mary, Queen of Saints

How does the Church name and honor Saints?

The Church honors Saints because of their lives of holiness. Many Saints have feast days. Parishes and people are often named for them. Saints are chosen to be patrons of persons, countries, and organizations. Saints help you by their prayers and example. These models of holiness show the obedience of faith that Mary, the **Mother of God**, the greatest Saint and known as the Queen of Saints, showed by saying “yes” to God. Read part of the **Annunciation** below.

Catholic Faith Words

Mother of God a title given to Mary because she is the Mother of the Son of God who became man

Annunciation the Angel Gabriel’s announcement to Mary that she was called to be the Mother of God

Assumption the teaching that after her earthly life, Mary was taken into Heaven, body and soul, to be with Jesus

Scripture

The Handmaid of the Lord

Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.” ... Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her. **Luke 1:30–31, 38**

The Church teaches the truth that from the beginning of her existence, God kept Mary free from sin. This doctrine is called the Immaculate Conception. From the time that he was born, Jesus, the Son of God made man, was the center of Mary’s life. Catholics believe in Mary’s **Assumption**—that after her earthly life she was taken into Heaven, body and soul, to be with Jesus.

By honoring Mary, Catholics show their belief that all of God’s faithful people will share in the glory of Christ’s Resurrection.

➔ How do you say “yes” to God in your daily life?





Honor and Intercession

The New Testament refers to all members of the Church as Saints because they have been baptized by the power of the Holy Spirit into the Paschal Mystery. The Church today has a process of **canonization** to publicly recognize certain people of faith who have died as Saints. **Beatification** is one step in the process of canonization. The community is encouraged to ask these Saints for prayer and look to them as examples. Just as we might ask a person who we know is close to God to pray for us, we can also ask the Saints, who are with God in Heaven, to pray for us. Scripture tells us that the “prayer of a righteous person is very powerful” (**James 5:16**). Worship is reserved for God alone. But by honoring the Saints and praying for their intercession, the Church also honors God.

➔ In what ways do you honor Mary and other Saints?

Catholic Faith Words

canonization a declaration by the Pope naming a person as a Saint. Canonized Saints have special feast days or memorials in the Church’s calendar.

beatification the second step in the process of becoming a Saint, in which a venerable person is recognized by the Church as having brought about a miracle through his or her prayers of intercession

Connect Your Faith

Honor Mary and the Saints How does the Church celebrate Mary and the other Saints during the year?

What is your favorite feast day?

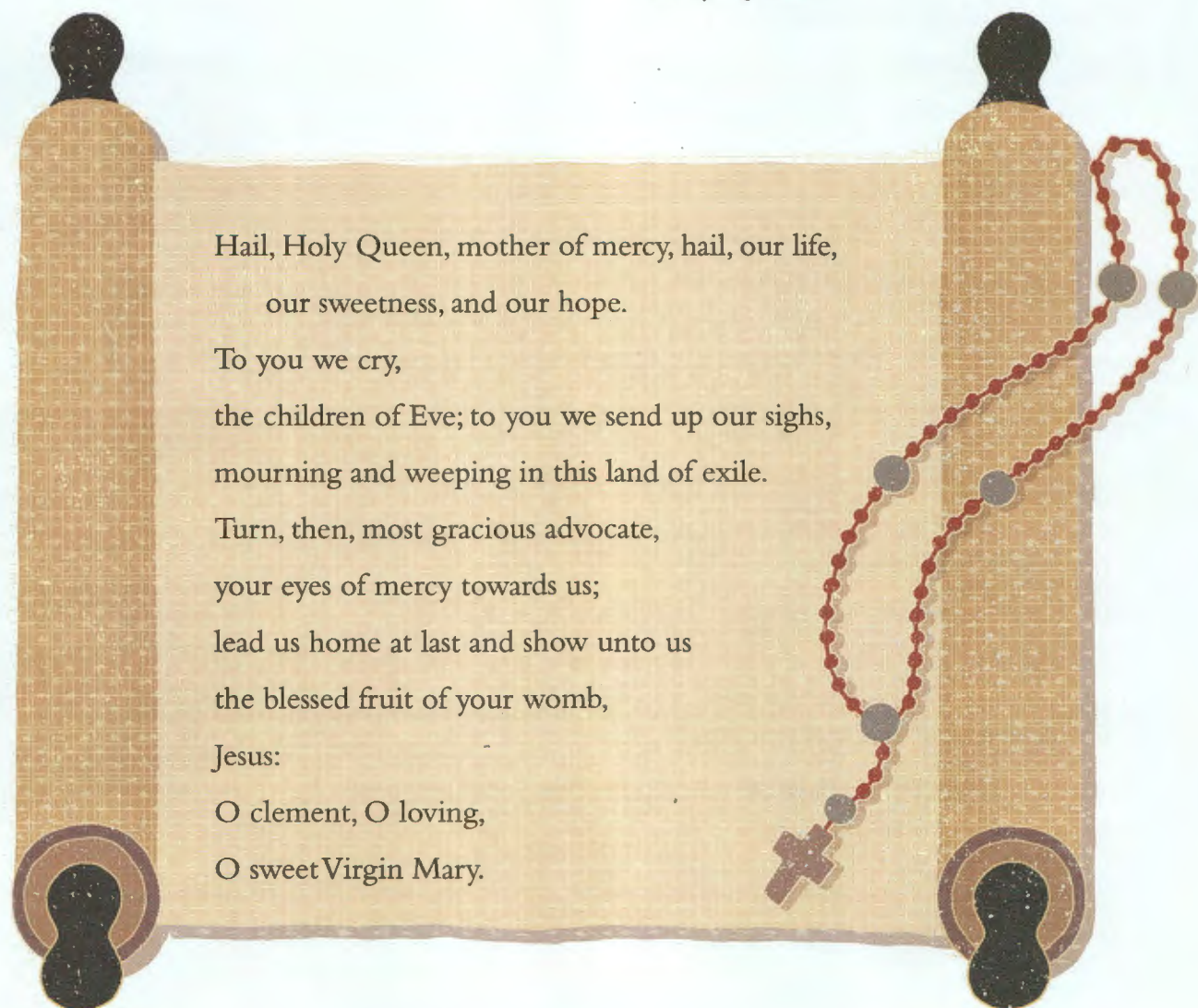
Our Catholic Life

How do you pray the Rosary?

The Rosary is a prayer honoring Mary. It is also a sacramental, a sacred symbol and object that helps us respond to the grace received in the Sacraments. Sacramentals help us pray and remember God's love for us. The rosary has five sets of ten beads. Each set is called a decade. When people pray the Rosary, they keep in mind important events in the lives of Jesus and his Mother. These events are called the Mysteries of the Rosary.

How to Pray the Rosary

- Hold the crucifix, and pray the Apostles' Creed.
- Then say the Our Father and three Hail Marys, followed by a Glory Be to the Father.
- The Rosary is divided into five decades. Each decade is made up of an Our Father, ten Hail Marys, and a Glory Be to the Father. Use the beads as you pray each of the five decades. During each decade, think about the mystery it represents.
- Close the Rosary by praying Hail, Holy Queen.



People of Faith

August 22

Queenship of Mary

Although all of the Saints rejoice in God's presence, Mary enjoys a special place among them. We honor Mary, the Mother of Jesus, as Queen of Heaven and Earth. Calling her "Queen" reminds us that she is as close to her Son in Heaven as she was when he lived on Earth. We recall Mary's coronation each time we pray the last of the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. But Mary is not just a queen. She is also our mother. When we ask for her help, she always takes our prayers to Jesus.



Discuss: What is your favorite prayer to Mary?



Learn more about the Queenship of Mary at aliveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Choose one Saint whom you will honor by learning more about him or her.

Tell one thing you learned about him or her that surprised you.

Write a prayer, asking for your chosen Saint's help, and pray it throughout the week.

Saint _____,

pray for me,

that I _____



 Let Us Pray

Litany to Mary

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: Loving God, we thank you for the gift of your Saints. We ask Mary, the Mother of Jesus, to pray for us so that we may be faithful, as she was.

All respond "Pray for us" after each title of Mary.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Hail Mary, | Cause of our joy, |
| Mother of Christ, | Help of Christians, |
| Virgin most faithful, | Queen of Angels, |
| Mirror of justice, | Queen of all Saints, |
| Seat of wisdom, | Queen of Peace, |

Leader: Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

All: That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.

Leader: Let us pray.

Bow your heads as the leader prays.

All: Amen.



Sing "Mary, a Woman of Faith"
 Mary, Mother of God,
 teach us in your ways.
 Mary, Mother of God,
 lead us to your Son.
 Living in faith, always trusting in God.
 All generations call her blessed.
 Mary, Mother of God,
 Mary, Mother of God.


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YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter identifies the Holy Spirit as sanctifier, describes personal holiness and canonization, and presents key teachings about Mary, the Mother of God and the greatest of Saints, and how we honor her.

Scripture

 Read **Ephesians 1:3–5** to find out what Saint Paul wrote about holiness.

Catholics Believe

- Mary and the Saints provide the Church with models of heroic virtue and holiness.
- Canonization declares that a model Christian is enjoying eternity with God.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #828, 829, 1173, 2013, 2030 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Mary, the Mother of Jesus, who is honored as Queen of Heaven and Earth.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand the Call to Holiness A popular concept today is the “personal best.” Unfortunately, we are often tempted to think we have done our “personal best” when we persisted until we felt challenged or until trying hard to do something became inconvenient. Fifth-graders might sometimes think that they could not be as holy as the men and women we call Saints, but God calls all of us to holiness, and he gives us the grace we need to accomplish what he has called us to do.



CONSIDER THIS >>>


As a parent, how often have you wished that you had a child psychologist on speed dial?

We yearn for the knowledge and insight of an expert when we are swimming in uncharted waters. When it comes to living our faith, we may often feel the same way. The Church puts us in touch with some great role models—the Saints. As Catholics, we know that “when we read the lives of the saints, their teachings and witness, we can be motivated to holiness by their example which was shaped by the Holy Spirit” (*USCCA, p. 106*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to explain canonization as a public recognition of a person as a Saint.
- Share with each other the name of a favorite Saint.

LET'S PRAY >>>

 Hail Mary, Mother of God and Queen of Heaven, pray for us now and all the days of our lives. Amen.



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

Chapter 12 Review

A Work with Words Fill in the circle next to the correct response.

- Saints can help you by their _____.
 - divinity and power
 - prayer and example
 - example and divinity
- Mary showed the obedience of faith by saying _____ to God.
 - "I AM"
 - "yes"
 - "I am afraid"
- The Church is holy because of the presence of the _____ within the Church.
 - candles
 - Holy Spirit
 - liturgical calendar
- Those who follow Jesus are called _____.
 - disciples
 - sanctifiers
 - handmaids
- During the year, the Church celebrates Saints with _____.
 - Sacraments
 - worship
 - feast days

Solve the crossword puzzle.

Across

- To declare that a person is named a Saint
- The Angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she was to be called the Mother of God
- The loving action of God's forgiveness of sins

Down

- The Holy Spirit, who makes the Church holy
- Mary's being taken into Heaven, body and soul

