

ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 5

The Seven Sacraments

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Our Sunday Visitor

Morality



Our Catholic Tradition

- Evil is a result of humans turning away from God's goodness. (CCC, 385)
- We are redeemed from the power of evil and sin through the power of Jesus' Death and Resurrection. (CCC, 1741)
- We experience the salvation of God's grace through the Sacraments. (CCC, 1084)
- We receive God's forgiveness especially through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. (CCC, 1440)

What does the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation teach us about human beings and God?

Catholic devotees hold lit candles during a midnight Easter vigil Mass in Hyderabad, India.



Evil in the World

Let Us Pray

Leader: Good and gracious God, hear us as we do our best to answer your call to choose what is good over what is evil, what is right over what is wrong.

“Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.” **Psalm 34:15**

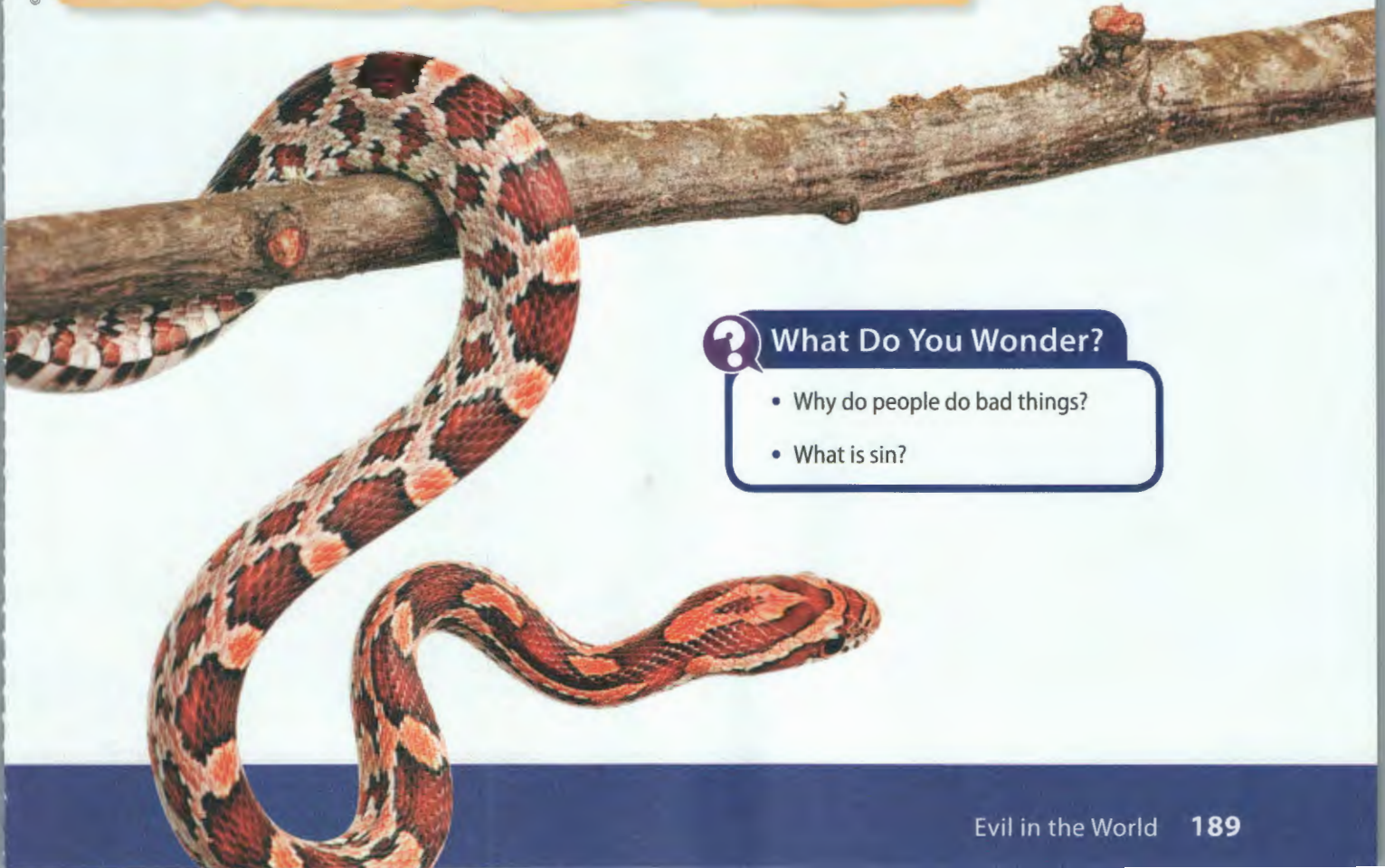
All: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

Scripture

But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. For just as through the disobedience of one person the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one the many will be made righteous. **Romans 5:8, 19**

What Do You Wonder?

- Why do people do bad things?
- What is sin?





The Source of Sorrow

How did evil enter the world?

Some bad things that happen are beyond human control. But others are the result of sinful decisions and actions.

Sin Enters the World

God is good and desires only good for people. Yet sin and evil are found in human life. The Book of Genesis teaches that Adam and Eve's choice to disobey God ended the **Original Holiness** that God had created. The disobedience of our first parents, and its effects on all humans, is known as Original Sin. With Original Sin, the harmony between humans and God, between humans and nature, and among all people was destroyed. Death entered the world, and people became subject to the inclination to sin. All humans have been affected by Adam and Eve's decision, and all share in the human condition of Original Sin. As you listen to this Scripture passage, recall how much God truly loves and cares for you.

Catholic Faith Words

Original Holiness the state of goodness that humanity enjoyed before our first parents, Adam and Eve, chose to sin against God



Underline what happened as a result of Original Sin.



Scripture

The Sacrifice of Jesus

For Christ did not enter into a sanctuary made by hands, a copy of the true one, but heaven itself, that he might now appear before God on our behalf. ... once for all he has appeared at the end of the ages to take away sin by his sacrifice. Just as it is appointed that human beings die once, and after this the judgment, so also Christ offered once to take away the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to take away sin but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him. **Hebrews 9:24,26-28**

➔ What does this passage tell you about Jesus' care for you?

Share Your Faith

Reflect Read the story of the Fall as told in Genesis 3:1-6. Write one thing you learned about sin and one thing you have learned about God from the reading.

About Sin

About God

Share your responses with a partner.



Turning from God

What are mortal sin and venial sin?

The presence of evil and of innocent suffering in the world are two of the hardest things for humans to face. Why evil exists is the hardest question to answer. Only faith can provide an adequate explanation.

As Catholics, we know that no evil, and no suffering, is more powerful than God. The Father so wanted us to know this that he sent his Son to this world. Jesus' suffering on the Cross and his Resurrection are sure signs that God is more powerful than evil. Jesus conquered **sin** by offering us a way back to his Father. He conquered everlasting death by giving us eternal life.



Sin is a deliberate thought, word, deed, or omission that is contrary to the law of God. Sins of omission occur when we do not do what we should, even when we know it is right. Sins of commission occur when we do something we should not have, even when we know it is wrong.

Mortal Sin

Mortal sin is the most serious form of personal sin. Someone who commits mortal sin breaks his or her relationship with God. Mortal sin involves complete selfishness. For a sin to be mortal, it must be a serious matter, done with a person's full knowledge and complete consent. Examples of such serious matters are murder and extreme forms of injury, and wishing grave harm on others. Even in these cases, the other two conditions of full knowledge and consent must be met before a sin is mortal. A person who has tried to live in friendship with God does not easily choose to sin so seriously.

To restore friendship with God after committing mortal sin, the sinner must repent (turn away from sin) and seek forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. God's grace helps the sinner do this.



Underline what is necessary for friendship with God to be restored after a mortal sin has been committed.

Jesus conquered the power of sin and death by rising to new life in the Resurrection.

Venial Sin

Venial sin weakens a person's relationship with God. A sin is venial when it involves disobeying God's law in a less serious matter than one associated with mortal sin. For example, someone who makes fun of another because of gender, physical or mental abilities, or appearance causes harm to that person's dignity and worth. This lack of respect can be a venial sin.

Venial sin may sometimes lead to mortal sin. A person who lies about or steals small things may be establishing a pattern of behavior that can lead to more serious sins. Small acts of discrimination can lead to extreme forms that could be mortally sinful if a person chooses to show only hate rather than love. Mortal sin occurs when selfishness wins out completely.

The Forgiveness of Sins

Even in cases of serious sin, God always forgives sinners when they are truly sorry and wish to turn their hearts to him again. Through the grace of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, people can have their sins forgiven and rebuild a loving relationship with God.

Catholic Faith Words

sin a deliberate thought, word, deed, or omission contrary to the law of God. Sins hurt our relationship with God and other people.

mortal sin the most serious form of personal sin, through which a person breaks his or her relationship with God

venial sin a sin that weakens a person's relationship with God but does not destroy it

Connect Your Faith

The Wrong Choice Think of one movie or television program you have seen that showed an example of one person's sinful choice and the consequences that everyone else had to suffer.

Name of movie or show:

Sinful choice:

Consequences of the choice:



Our Catholic Life

How do you express pain and sorrow?

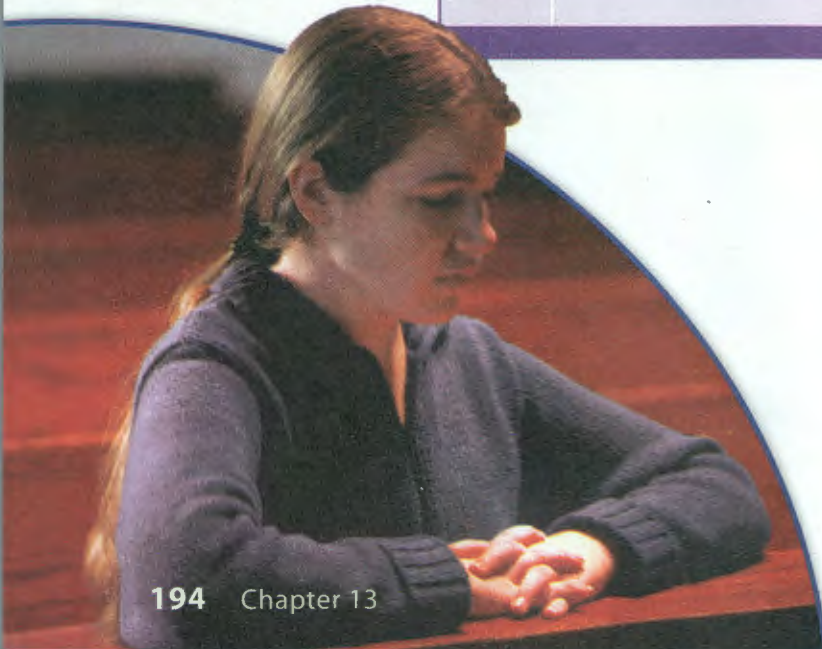
From the Bible, you learn that in the face of tragedy, God's People bring their feelings of sorrow and anger to God. Such prayers of sorrow and anger are called lamentations. They express the need for God's presence in times of difficulty. Psalm 55 is an example of a prayer of lamentation. Use it to understand how you can pray in this way.



1. Follow these steps in order to tell God about your feelings of anger and sorrow.
2. Place a check mark by the things you have trouble expressing.

Prayer of Lamentation		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Express your feelings honestly. Describe the feeling you wish to pray about.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell God how you really feel. • Remember that he already knows and wants to help you, but you should try to express and share your needs with God.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Name the painful situation clearly. In Psalm 55, the psalmist has been betrayed by a friend. The violent city is also mentioned.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In your prayer, include every aspect of the situation you wish to pray about. • What is the event? Who or what caused it? What would you like to do about it?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Express your hope and trust in God. In this part of the prayer, it is important to express your trust in God's power and goodness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like the psalmist who was looking for freedom and peace (see Psalm 55:19), you will find strength when you affirm your faith in God. • What do you believe God has already done for you? What do you believe he is doing right now? What do you believe he will do?

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People of Faith

April 11

Saint Gemma Galgani, 1878–1903

Saint Gemma Galgani was a beautiful Italian girl who loved Jesus from the time she was very little. When she wanted to send someone a message, she would sometimes ask her Guardian Angel to deliver it for her. When she prayed, her Angel would kneel and pray with her. She felt him always at her side, even when she was afraid or sick. Saint Gemma said the best way to always do the right thing is to pray to Jesus and Mary for help.



Discuss: When do you pray to Jesus or Mary for help?



Learn more about Saint Gemma Galgani at aliveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Look through newspapers or magazines for stories of people who made good choices to avoid personal sin. Choose one and make notes below on how you think the person you chose would explain the mystery of evil.

Compare your notes with a partner and discuss the similarities and differences between your chosen people.




 Let Us Pray

Litany of Repentance

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: God our loving Father, you are always ready to forgive us.
Let us reflect on how we have sinned.

 **All:** Sing "God of Mercy"

God of mercy, you are with us.
Fill our hearts with your kindness.
God of patience, strong and gentle,
fill our hearts with your kindness.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy upon us. (repeat)

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All pray the Act of Contrition together. It is found in the Our Catholic Tradition section of your book, page 323.

Leader: Let us pray.
Bow your heads as the leader prays.

All: Amen.



ACT OF CONTRITION

*My God,
I am sorry for my sins with
all my heart.
In choosing to do wrong
and failing to do good,
I have sinned against you
whom I should love above
all things.
I firmly intend, with your
help,
to do penance,
to sin no more,
and to avoid whatever leads
me to sin.
Our Savior Jesus Christ
suffered and died for us.
In his name, my God have
mercy.*

Amen

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YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter describes Jesus' Death and Resurrection as God's plan for redemption, and examines the relationship between sin and the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Scripture



Read **Romans 5:8, 19** to find out about God's love for us through the obedience of Jesus.

Catholics Believe

- Evil is the result of humans' turning away from God's goodness.
- God sent his Son to redeem people from the power of sin and evil.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #309, 311, 312, 397, 1855 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Gemma Galgani, who had a special devotion to her Guardian Angel, asking him to help protect her from evil.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand the Mystery of Evil Because of their tendency to think in absolutes, fifth-graders might think that evil actions only come from "evil people." When they understand that there is the potential for good or for evil in each of us, they can become more aware of times in which they might be tempted to turn away from God's goodness. This will help them to prepare for the challenges of increased peer pressure in the coming years.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

Do you find that gossiping becomes easier the more you do it?

The more we move away from what is good, the easier it becomes to move toward what is evil. Committing a less serious sin can lead to committing a more serious sin or developing a pattern of sin. As Catholics, we know that "every sin has consequences. It disrupts our communion with God and the Church, weakens our ability to resist temptation, and hurts others. Christ, acting through the Church, brings about the healing of the consequences of sin" (USCCA, p. 244).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to explain the origin of sin.
- Talk about how through the grace of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation our sins can be forgiven.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Dear Jesus, sometimes it is hard to be good, but I know that with your help, I can always do the right thing. Amen.



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

Chapter 13 Review

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

Column 1

1. the sin of our first parents and the sinful human condition
2. disobedience to God's law in a serious matter with complete knowledge and full consent
3. the state of goodness humanity enjoyed before Adam and Eve chose to sin against God
4. prayer of sorrow and anger
5. disobedience to God's law in a matter that is not deeply serious

Column 2

- mortal sin
- lamentation
- venial sin
- Original Holiness
- Original Sin

B Check Understanding Fill in the circle next to the correct response.

6. Through the grace of the Sacrament of _____, people can have their sins forgiven.
 - Matrimony
 - Penance and Reconciliation
 - Holy Orders
7. Only _____ can provide a sufficient answer to the question of evil.
 - faith
 - the Church
 - wisdom
8. To restore friendship with God after committing mortal sin, the sinner must _____.
 - repent and receive penance
 - receive Communion
 - write a psalm

9. Venial sin may sometimes lead to _____.
 - mortal sin
 - repentance
 - eternal life
10. The Book of Genesis teaches that Adam and Eve's choice to disobey God ended the _____ that he created.
 - free will
 - Original Holiness
 - shame

