

# ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 5

The Seven Sacraments

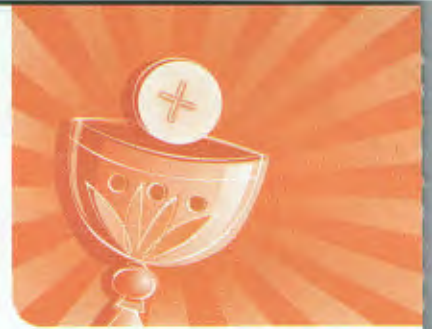
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**Our Sunday Visitor**

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# Sacraments

## Our Catholic Tradition

- In the liturgy, the Holy Spirit forms the community as an assembly. (CCC, 1112)
- The Eucharist unites Christ's followers to him and to one another. (CCC, 1396)
- In the Eucharist, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. He is really and truly present in the Eucharist—Body, Blood, soul, and divinity. (CCC 1374)
- In worship and daily living, the community shows that through the Eucharist, Christ lives in us, and we live in Christ. (CCC, 1076)



What do we celebrate in the Mass?



# Gathered as One

## Let Us Pray

**Leader:** Gather us together, O Lord. Welcome us to your house.

“I rejoiced when they said to me,  
‘Let us go to the house of the LORD.’”

**Psalm 122:1**

**All:** Thank you, God, for your presence among us. Thank you for making us a people who need to be made one. Amen.

## Scripture

Call an assembly!  
Gather the people,  
sanctify the congregation;  
Assemble the elderly;  
gather the children,  
even infants nursing at the breast.

**Joel 2:15b-16**

### What Do You Wonder?

- How is praying as an assembly different from praying alone?
- Why do we have to go to Mass every Sunday?



## United in Christ's Body

### How are we united in the Mass?

We read in the Acts of the Apostles that the very first Christians gathered together to break bread and praise God.

### Catholic Faith Words

**Real Presence** a phrase used to describe the teaching that Jesus Christ is really and truly with us in the Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity

**Communion of Saints** everyone who believes in and follows Jesus: people on Earth, and people who have died and are in Purgatory or Heaven

### Scripture

#### Communal Life

Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. **Acts 2:46-47**

As Jesus commanded at his Last Supper, we continue to gather as the Church today. At Sunday Mass, Sally sees Billy Yuan with his grandfather, who is in his wheelchair. Father Burke is talking with Deacon Tom, and Sister Teresita is with the Dixon family. Sally says hello to DJ and waves to Zoe, who comes early to pray the Rosary. Happy or sad, people come. All are welcome.

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## In His Name

The worshippers at Sally's church have come from different places to assemble as one community of faith. When the opening hymn begins and all raise their voices in song and prayer, they become more than just a group of individuals. They become a liturgical assembly gathered in Christ's name, doing the most important thing that Catholics can do—participating in the Eucharist.

When a parish community comes together to participate in the Eucharist, you can see that all kinds of people make up the Body of Christ. Rich and poor, old and young, healthy and frail, people come together from all nations and cultures to share in the Mass, the celebration of their salvation through Christ. Together they become an assembly of the People of God brought together by the Holy Spirit with Christ in their midst.

## The Real Presence

The Mass is central to Catholic life because it unites us more closely to Christ and to one another. During the liturgy, Catholics celebrate the presence of Christ.

He is present in the assembly, the priest, and the Word of God. Most importantly, Jesus is really and truly present in the Eucharist. Our gifts of bread and wine truly become Christ. The Church teaches that in the Eucharist, Jesus Christ is really and truly present: Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. This unique, true presence of Christ in the Eucharist under the appearance of bread and wine is called the **Real Presence**.

In the Eucharist, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. In the celebration, we remember, give thanks for, and share in his life, Death, and Resurrection through prayer, song, active participation, and reception of Holy Communion. All are united to the sacrifice of Christ through which new life comes. And we are not just united with those at Mass with us. Because we are part of the **Communion of Saints**, we are joined more closely to all those who believe. We remember in a special way those who have died, praying that they will have eternal happiness and life with God in Heaven.

➔ **How and with whom are we united in the celebration of the Mass?**

### Share Your Faith

**Reflect** What sights, sounds, and actions make you feel welcome at Mass?

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**Share** With a partner, share these things and why they make you feel welcome. Discuss how you can welcome others as you gather for the Mass.





## Participation in the Community

### Why do we celebrate the Lord's Day?

When Sally joins the parish community for Mass on Sunday, she may not be aware that she is stepping into a tradition many centuries old. In the time of the early Christians, Sunday was the Lord's Day, the day on which the community celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus. The Church continues this practice today.

The Eucharist is the high point of a life of faith shared by a community. The Christian community must be built day by day, as Saint Paul advised an early Church community.



### Scripture

#### Church Order

"We urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, cheer the fainthearted, support the weak, be patient with all. See that no one returns evil for evil; rather, always seek what is good [both] for each other and for all. Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." **1 Thessalonians 5:14–18**



## Sunday Observance

According to Jewish custom, the Sabbath began on Friday evening. The early Jewish Christians adopted this custom. Similarly, the Church begins its observance of Sunday on Saturday evening. Because of this, Saturday evening Mass is considered part of the Sunday observance.

For Catholics, participation in the Sunday Eucharist is a privilege and a duty. It offers the opportunity to meet God the Father in a dialogue through Christ and the Holy Spirit, to pray, and to give offerings. To deliberately stay away from Mass on Sunday without a very good reason is a serious matter.

## Role and Responsibilities

Within the Church, certain members are called to special service as ordained ministers—baptized men who, through the grace of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, serve God and the Church as bishops, priests, and deacons. By the power of the Holy Spirit, bishops and priests preside, or lead the Eucharistic celebration. The priest acts *in persona Christi*, representing Christ as he presides over the assembly in worship. Deacons assist in many ways, such as proclaiming the Gospel, and distributing Holy Communion.

Other members called by the community also have distinct roles in the liturgy. They are greeters, choir members, cantors, musicians, readers, altar servers, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. All of these people help the assembly worship as one community.



Underline two of these liturgical roles that interest you or that you would like to know more about. Explain your choice.



## Connect Your Faith

**Share an Invitation** Imagine that you have been asked to give a talk at the end of Sunday Mass, inviting others to serve in any of these liturgical roles. What three reasons would you give for joining a particular ministry?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



## Our Catholic Life

**What are the specific responsibilities of people who serve in the celebration of the Mass?**

All members of the parish are invited to participate in the Eucharist. Priests and deacons assist the bishops in teaching, preaching, and celebrating the Sacraments. Led by these ordained ministers, other members of the Church serve the assembly. Think about the skills and qualities required for each one listed.



Place a check mark by the roles that could share your God-given gifts and talents with your parish community.

### Roles and Responsibilities

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Choir member</b> Enhances worship by singing in a group and supporting the singing of the assembly.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Extraordinary minister of Holy Communion</b> Helps distribute Communion at Mass or to those who are sick.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Cantor</b> Leads the people in song and sings the verses of the psalm and other sacred texts in the liturgy.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Greeter or usher</b> Greets and seats people, passes out worship programs and bulletins, and takes up the collection.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Reader or Lector</b> Proclaims the Word of God in the first and second readings of the Mass. A reader may also read the Prayer of the Faithful.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Altar server</b> Assists the priest by holding the book of Mass prayers and bringing items to the altar as needed. A server also carries the cross, candles, and incense in processions. |





# People of Faith

April 28

## Saint Louis de Montfort, 1673—1716

Saint Louis de Montfort was a French priest. He told people to pray every day and to believe that God answers all prayers. He knew that Jesus used stories to invite us to become part of God's Kingdom. So Saint Louis did the same thing. He wrote many books to proclaim the Good News of God's love. Saint Louis had a special love for Jesus' Mother, Mary, so he told people about her, too. He said that she loves us even more than our own mothers do. People still read his books and learn about Jesus from his writings.



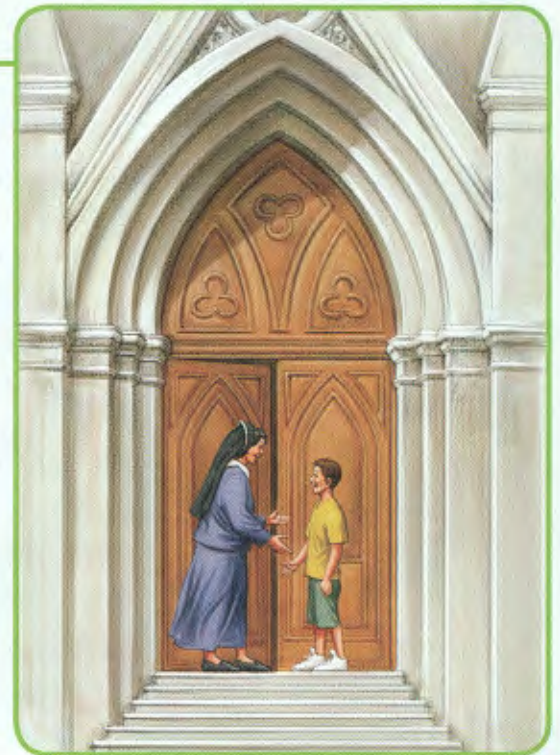
**Discuss:** What story can you tell about Jesus?



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

## Live Your Faith

**Name** someone who makes you feel welcome at your parish during the Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day. Work in small groups to write thank you notes to the person each group member named. Outline your note below.





## Let Us Pray

# Lectio Divina

This ancient prayer of the Church is a slow praying of the Scriptures in which we listen for what the Holy Spirit wants us to hear.

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

**Leader:** Come Holy Spirit. Open our ears;

**All:** open our minds; open our hearts.

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:14–18

First Reflection

Think of one word or phrase from the reflection that stands out to you.

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:14–18

Second Reflection

Think about why your chosen word or phrase means something important to you.

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:14–18

Third Reflection

Consider what God is saying or asking you to do through the word or phrase.

**All:** Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.



## YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

*This chapter explains that the Mass is central to Catholic life because it unites Christ's followers more closely to him and to one another, including those who have died in God's friendship.*

### Scripture



Read **Joel 2:15b–16** to find out about calling an assembly of believers.

### Catholics Believe

- The wheat bread and grape wine become the Body and Blood of Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.
- Participation in the Mass is a duty and privilege,

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #1141, 1373–1381 at [usccb.org](http://usccb.org).

### People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Louis de Monfort, who influenced Pope Saint John Paul II's devotion to Mary.

## CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

**How They Understand Sunday Mass** Fifth-grade children may sometimes complain of being bored in Mass. They may see Mass as primarily an adult activity, not something geared toward them. However, they are at an age at which they can participate in Mass more than ever before. They can prepare by reading the Sunday readings before Mass, sing the hymns, and often can even participate in liturgical ministries, such as being an usher or altar server or singing in the choir. This participation can help children feel more a part of the community and more engaged in the liturgy.



## CONSIDER THIS >>>

*Have you ever experienced someone's presence after they died?*

We hear about those experiences of presence in poetry, plays, and movies. We hear them from family and friends. These experiences confirm for us that love is stronger than death. Jesus' love for us conquered death. He gave us his Real Presence in the Eucharist so that we can continue to experience God's love—a love that is stronger than death. As Catholics, we recognize that "by the power of the Holy Spirit, Christ is present in the proclamation of God's Word, in the Eucharistic assembly, in the person of the priest, but above all and in a wholly unique manner in the Eucharist" (*USCCA*, p. 223). The true presence of Christ in the Eucharist under the appearance of bread and wine is called the Real Presence.

## LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to explain why the Eucharist is central to Catholic life.
- Talk about how your family celebrates the Lord's Day.

## LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Louis, help us to use our words to help people come to love Jesus and Mary. 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 16 Review

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

## Column 1

1. ordained men who proclaim the Gospel, serve at the altar, and distribute Holy Communion
2. called together by God to celebrate the liturgy
3. presides at the Eucharist
4. community built up by the Eucharist
5. has a role in the Eucharistic celebration

## Column 2

- bishop or priest
- assembly
- Body of Christ
- each individual
- deacons

**B Check Understanding** Fill in the circle next to the choice that best completes the sentence.

6. The true presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, is called the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Paschal Mystery  
 Communion of Saints  
 Real Presence
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ is everyone who believes in and follows Jesus: people on Earth, and people who have died and are in Purgatory or Heaven.  
 Holy Trinity  
 catechumen  
 Communion of Saints
8. During Mass, Christ is present in all of these except \_\_\_\_\_.  
 the bells and incense  
 the Word of God  
 the Eucharist
9. Participation in the Sunday Eucharist is \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a privilege and an option  
 merely a duty  
 a privilege and a duty
10. All these are particular roles in the liturgy except \_\_\_\_\_.  
 reader  
 greeter  
 catechumen

