

ALIVE^{IN} CHRIST

GRADE 5

The Seven Sacraments

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OurSundayVisitor

Liturgy of the Word

Let Us Pray

Leader: Gracious Father, you are the author of all words of truth.

“Your word, LORD, stands forever;
it is firm as the heavens.
Through all generations your truth endures.”

Psalm 119:89–90

All: Open our ears, and minds, and hearts, O God, to your holy Word.

Scripture

While [Jesus] was speaking, a woman from the crowd called out and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed.” He replied, “Rather, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it.” **Luke 11:27–28**

What Do You Wonder?

- How do you observe God’s Word?
- What do you think Jesus means when he says that those who observe God’s Word are “blessed”?

The Power of God's Message

Why is God's message important?

Jesus lived long ago, but his message is for all people of all times. Following Jesus helps us transform our lives. Here is a story about how learning about Jesus changed one man's life.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Ignatius of Loyola led a life of wealth and adventure. In 1507, when he was sixteen, he became a messenger in an important home in Spain. He often visited the Spanish court. As he grew older, he became a swordsman and a soldier.

In 1521, Ignatius was hit by a cannonball in a battle against the French army. One of his legs was wounded; the other was broken. The French soldiers

admired his courage, so they took Ignatius back to his home, the castle of Loyola, to recover.

Ignatius spent months in bed while his legs mended. He asked for books to read, hoping that the castle had some adventure novels. The castle only had a book about Jesus' life and stories about Saints. Disappointed, he read what was brought to him.

To his surprise, the adventures of the Saints captured his imagination. Reading about the Saints taught Ignatius that his goals of fame and glory were empty. Instead, he decided to follow Jesus' teachings. He gave away his weapons and elegant clothes and dressed like a beggar.

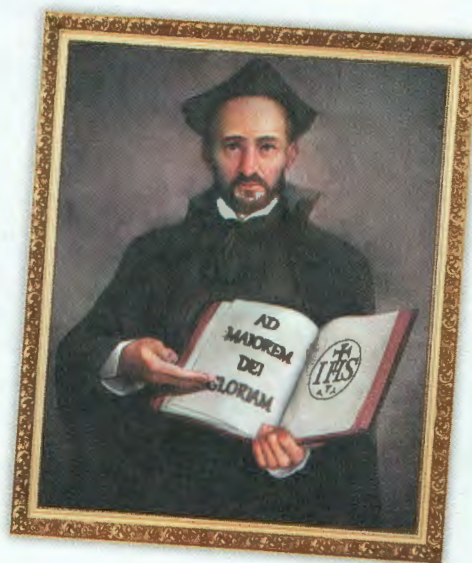


Underline what helped lead Saint Ignatius to God.



Ignatius patterned his spiritual training after his military training. He wrote a book called the *Spiritual Exercises*, which outlines how to follow Jesus.

With a group of friends, Ignatius followed the exercises. They decided to share the Gospel throughout the world. They started the Society of Jesus, also called Jesuits. The Jesuits are a religious community of priests and religious brothers that still educates people about the Gospel. It is the largest male community in the Catholic Church. Today, there are approximately 19,000 Jesuits in the world.



Beginning the Mass

Saint Ignatius was moved by God's message. We, too, are moved by it. But we also must be prepared to listen to it. That is why the Mass begins by gathering the people together. The Introductory Rites focus our attention and prepare us to hear the Liturgy of the Word.

While we can be moved by the stories of the Saints, we are especially formed by God's Word. We must, however, open our hearts to allow God to change our lives. At Mass, we gather as Jesus' Body, the Church, and through the Introductory Rites, the Holy Spirit prepares our hearts to listen together to God's Word.

Share Your Faith

Reflect Read Proverbs 16:16. Reflect silently on its meaning.

Share With a partner, take turns telling what the passage means to each of you. Write two sentences about why Saint Ignatius of Loyola would agree with this Bible verse. Explain your answer.



Catholic Faith Words

Book of Gospels the book containing the Gospel readings from which the priest or deacon proclaims the Gospel during Mass

psalms poems and hymns that were first used in the liturgy of the Israelites. Today, the psalms are also prayed and sung in the public prayer of the Church.

Creed a formal statement of what we believe about the Holy Trinity and the Church. The word *creed* comes from the Latin for "I believe."

God Speaks to Us

Why is the Liturgy of the Word important?

The process by which God makes himself known to us is called Divine Revelation. The chief sources of this Revelation are Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture. Every time you open the Bible, you discover a treasure—the Word of God. The Old Testament begins with the creation of the world. It tells about God's relationship with his People until the time of Jesus. The New Testament is about Jesus' life, teaching, and saving work. It also contains writings by Jesus' followers. Sacred Scripture was written long ago, but it continues to reveal God's truth today.

The inspired Word of God in Scripture is not something you can interpret on your own. The Church's understanding of the message of Jesus comes to you from the Apostles and from the life of the Church and her teachers. God's Word to the Church, safeguarded by the Apostles and their successors, the bishops, and handed down verbally to future generations is called Sacred Tradition. Scripture and Tradition have one common source: the Word of God conveyed through God's revelation.



Scripture

Gratitude in Your Hearts

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God." **Colossians 3:16**

Honoring God's Word

Ritual actions let the assembly know the importance of the Word of God. The readings are proclaimed from the ambo, the podium-like structure beside the altar. A lighted candle is usually placed near the ambo. After the first and second readings, the reader pauses and then says, "The word of the Lord," and you reply, "Thanks be to God."

➔ How do you express your gratitude to God during the liturgy?



Sometimes incense is used to reverence the **Book of Gospels**. The assembly stands for the Gospel reading. After the priest or deacon reads the Gospel, he raises the book and kisses it to show honor and love of God's Word.

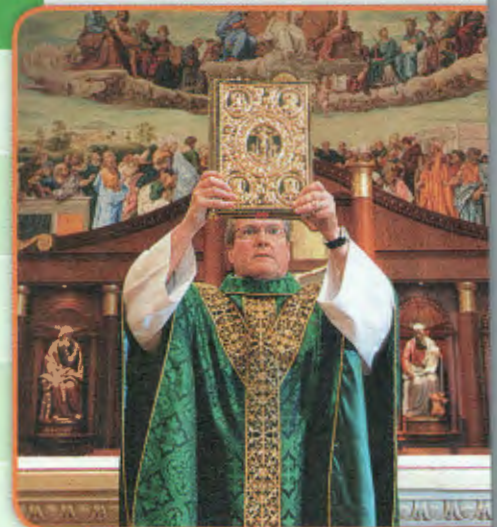
Proclaimed and Preached

The Liturgy of the Word is the first of the two main parts of the Mass. It begins

with the first reading from the Old Testament, followed by a response from one of the **psalms**, and ends after the profession of the Nicene or Apostles' **Creed** with the Prayer of the Faithful. In readings from the Old and New Testaments, God speaks to us as the assembly gathered, as well as to the heart of each person. We respond to him with our prayer.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading	The first reading is from the Old Testament or from the Acts of the Apostles.
Responsorial Psalm	The assembly usually sings a response taken from the psalm, and the choir sings the verses.
Second Reading	The second reading is from one of the New Testament Letters or from the Book of Revelation.
Acclamation	An Alleluia is sung, except during Lent, to express the assembly's anticipation of the Gospel.
Gospel Reading	Each person traces a cross on forehead, lips, and heart before the Gospel is proclaimed.
Homily	A talk given by the priest or deacon about the readings proclaimed and how God speaks to us today in his Word. The homilist encourages us to live faithfully.
Creed	Usually, the Nicene Creed is professed. During Easter and at other times, it's the Apostles' Creed.
Prayer of the Faithful	The assembly prays for the needs of Church leaders, the faithful, and the world.



Connect Your Faith

Respond to God Write three ritual actions during Mass that show the importance of the Word of God.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Our Catholic Life

How do you live God's Word?

The Word of God nourishes the Christian community in the liturgy. By reflecting on the Sunday readings either before or after Mass, you allow God's Word

to become a real part of your life. When that happens, you live God's Word.

The exercise below is based on the Church's practice of *lectio divina*, "divine reading." It is a reflective way of reading Scripture that leads us to prayer.



Respond to the questions or statements in the space provided.

Reflect on the Word

Begin with a prayer:

- Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart to hear God's Word.
- Read the Gospel or one of the other readings aloud. Write down the passage you will read.

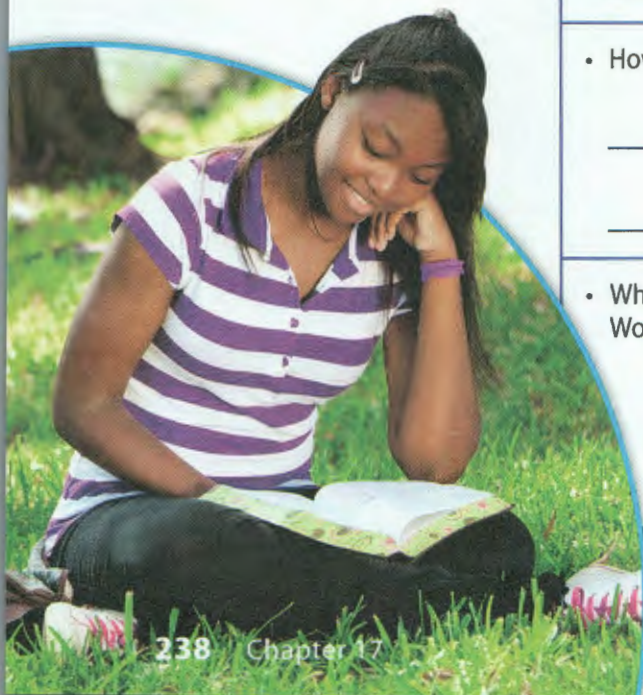
Ask yourself these questions:

- What words in the reading are important to me?

- If I were going to tell someone the message of this reading, what would I say?

- How does this message apply to my life today?

- What action can I take today that will make the message of God's Word come alive in the world in which I live?

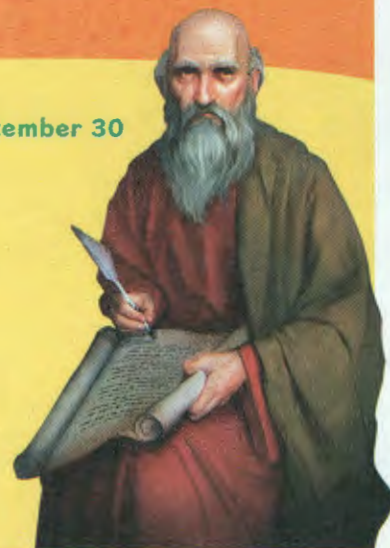


People of Faith

Saint Jerome, c. 341–420

When Saint Jerome was alive, most people spoke Latin. Because the Bible was written in Greek or Hebrew, most people couldn't read it. Jerome thought that everyone should be able to discover the Word of God, so he spent the rest of his life translating the Bible into Latin. His translation was called the *Vulgate*. The Church used it as the main Bible for almost 1,500 years. Jerome also wrote explanations about parts of the Bible that are hard to understand. These explanations are called commentaries. Saint Jerome wrote many other things, including history books and stories about Saints.

September 30



Discuss: What do you know about the Bible?



Learn more about Saint Jerome
at aliveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Listen carefully to the Sunday readings this week at Mass. In the space below, write how their messages will help you run the race of faith this week.





Let Us Pray

Psalm Prayer of Praise

In this prayer, using a psalm from the Old Testament, we give praise to God for his everlasting love.

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Side 1: I bow down before you.
I will give thanks to your name for your kind love
that never fails.

Side 2: When I prayed to you, you answered me.
You made me brave and strong.

All: I thank you, Lord, with all my heart.
I will sing your praises forever.

Side 1: All the rulers in the world will thank you, Lord.
They have heard the promises that you have made.
That is why they will thank you.

Side 2: They will sing about what you have done.
They will sing because of your great glory.

All: I thank you, Lord, with all my heart.
I will sing your praises forever.

Side 1: You keep me safe when there is trouble around me.
You save me with your love and protection.

Side 2: You will do everything you have promised.
Lord, your kind love will always continue.
Finish the work of your hands.

All: I thank you, Lord, with all my heart.
I will sing your praises forever. **Based on Psalm 138**



Sing "Malo! Malo! Thanks Be to God"

FAMILY+FAITH

LIVING AND LEARNING TOGETHER

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter describes the elements of the Liturgy of the Word and the need to reflect on Scripture, and identifies Sacred Tradition as the message of Jesus that comes from the Apostles and the life of the Church.

Scripture



Read **Luke 11:27–28** to find out what Jesus said about those who hear and observe the Word of God.

Catholics Believe

- Sacred Scripture is the Word of God written by humans.
- The Word of God is proclaimed and preached in the first of two main parts of the Mass: the Liturgy of the Word.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #84, 108, 1088, 1100 at usccb.org.

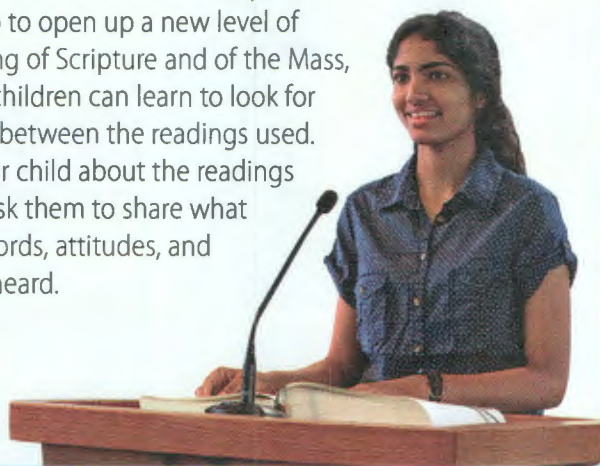
People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Jerome. Jerome translated the Bible from Greek and Hebrew into Latin.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand the Liturgy of the Word Because of the dramatic increase in reading and writing work that occurs in most educational settings beginning in fourth grade, many fifth-graders are better able than before to read and understand the language used in our Lectionary.

This can help to open up a new level of understanding of Scripture and of the Mass, especially if children can learn to look for connections between the readings used. Talk with your child about the readings after Mass. Ask them to share what teachings, words, attitudes, and beliefs they heard.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

Who is the person in your life you go to when you want to be heard?

To be heard is a very precious gift. God invites us to hear his Word at Mass. God enters into a dialogue with us and opens our hearts to hear his precious Word. As Catholics, we know that “the Liturgy of the Word is an important part of every liturgy because the proclamation of the Word of God and the response of faith to it help give meaning to the celebration” (USCCA, p. 177).

LET’S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to explain the importance of the Liturgy of the Word in the Mass.
- Share how your family honors God’s Word.

LET’S PRAY >>>



Saint Jerome, pray for us that we may love the Word of God as you did. May we always find wisdom and comfort in God’s Word. Amen.



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

Chapter 17 Review

- A Work with Words** Complete each sentence with the correct term from the Word Bank. Not all terms will be used.

Word Bank

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Acclamation	Nicene Creed
Sacred Scripture	candle
Sacred Tradition	ambo
	homily

1. The Bible is also called _____.
2. God's Word to the Church, safeguarded by the Apostles and their successors, the bishops, and handed down verbally to future generations comes from _____.
3. The _____ explains the reading in the Liturgy of the Word.
4. Readings are proclaimed from the _____ near the altar.
5. The homily is usually followed by the _____.

- B Check Understanding** Fill in the circle by the choice that best completes the sentence or answers the question.

6. The Responsorial Psalm is said or sung after the _____.
☐ first reading
☐ Creed
☐ second reading
7. The word *creed* means _____.
☐ "I need"
☐ "I think"
☐ "I believe"
8. Participation in the Liturgy of the Word includes all of these except _____.
☐ listening
☐ fasting
☐ responding
9. Scripture and Tradition have one _____ source.
☐ historical
☐ biblical
☐ common
10. _____ actions show the assembly the importance of the Word of God.
☐ Holy
☐ Ritual
☐ Reverent

