

# ALIVE <sup>IN</sup> CHRIST

GRADE 6

The Word of God in the Old Testament

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**Our Sunday Visitor**

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**Nihil Obstat**

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Censor Librorum, Diocese of Orlando

**Imprimatur**

✠ Most Rev. John Noonan  
Bishop of Orlando  
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# Revelation

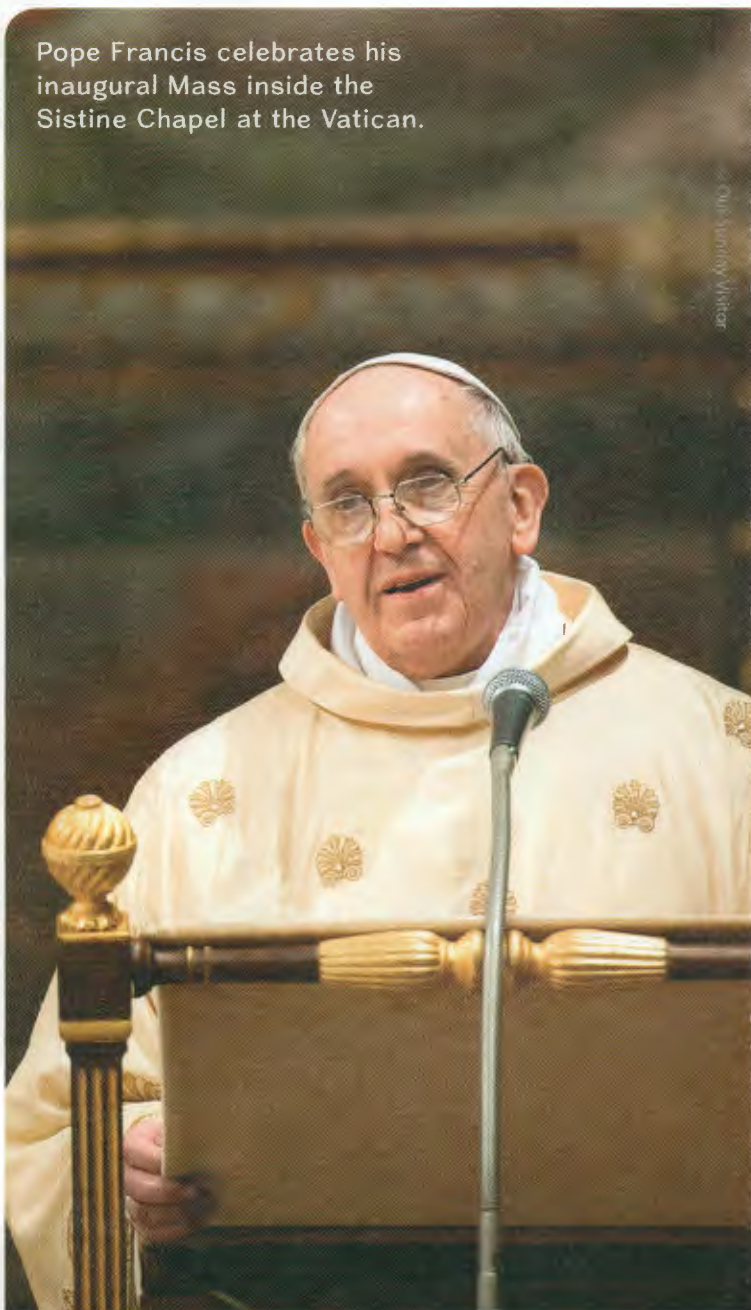


## Our Catholic Tradition

- We come to know what God is like from Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. (CCC, 97)
- In both, God reveals himself and his desire for us to live in friendship with him. (CCC, 74, 80)
- Through the accounts of creation and the establishment of the covenant, we learn that God is faithful. (CCC, 346)
- By sending his Son, Jesus, God the Father reveals himself to us in ways we never would have known. (CCC, 151)

Why is it important to study and pray God's written Word in the Old Testament?

Pope Francis celebrates his inaugural Mass inside the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican.



# Divine Revelation

## Let Us Pray

**Leader:** Your Word, O Lord, is light and life. Your Word speaks volumes to the heart.

“The word of our God stands forever.” **Isaiah 40:8**

**All:** Fill us with joy and anticipation for your Word, O Lord. Amen.

## Scripture

The LORD's word is upright;  
all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right.  
The earth is full of the mercy of the LORD.  
By the LORD's word the heavens were made;  
by the breath of his mouth all their host.  
He gathered the waters of the sea as a mound;  
he sets the deep into storage vaults.  
Let all the earth fear the LORD;  
let all who dwell in the world show him reverence.  
For he spoke, and it came to be,  
commanded, and it stood in place.

**Psalms 33:4–9**

## What Do You Wonder?

- Why is it important to share stories of faith?
- How can you open your heart to hear God's Word?

## God Makes Himself Known

### How do we learn about God and his plan?

Stories help families remember what binds them together. Stories can do the same thing for communities and nations. April is a Native American girl who lives with her grandparents in a pueblo near Santa Fe, New Mexico. Her grandparents are introducing April to the traditions of the Navajo people.

### The Storyteller

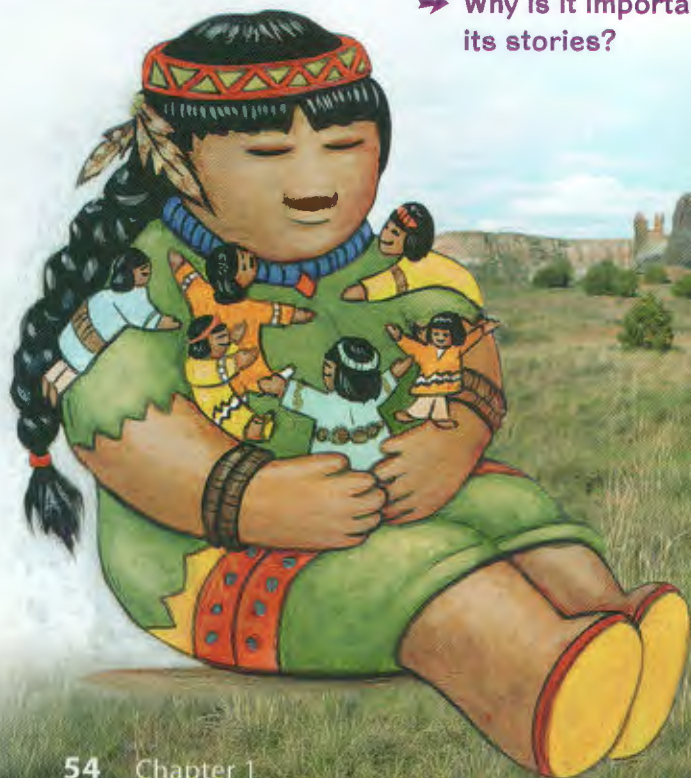
April loved to hear the stories that her grandparents told about the Navajo people. From these colorful tales, she gained knowledge about her roots, respect for all creation, and wisdom for living. Today her grandmother was going to teach her something unique about her people!

Grandmother said, “Our people have always loved stories. They show this by making storyteller figures. Let’s make one.”

Grandmother continued, “The main figure of the Storyteller is that of a woman. Her mouth is open because she is speaking, and her eyes may be closed as if she is remembering experiences from an earlier time. Attached to the woman are many children. Crowding around the Storyteller, they listen to the stories of history and of the wonders of creation.”

➔ **Why is it important for a family or a nation to remember its stories?**

Navajo storyteller dolls are often handmade and shared in families to keep their tradition alive.



## Stories of Our Faith

The stories of our Catholic faith are told in the Bible and continued in the Church. Many of the stories in the Bible were passed down orally from generation to generation before God inspired the human authors to write them down. Over a period of more than six centuries, various people wrote the books of the Bible.

The Bible, or **Sacred Scripture**, is God's Word, written by humans acting under the Holy Spirit's inspiration and guidance. The Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church, to preserve and teach God's Revelation. The Church interprets and hands down the message of the Word of God for future generations through her **Sacred Tradition** so all can know and apply God's wisdom to their lives.

Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition together are the source of God's **Divine Revelation**, or communication about himself. God, the principal author of the Bible, inspired its human authors.

## Learning about God's Plan

By words and actions, God has made himself known gradually and in stages. He gave the Scripture writers the gift of the Holy Spirit to write faithfully about his saving truth.

The Bible presents the story of God's presence and of his loving plan of goodness and actions for his People. After many centuries, God fully revealed his plan of salvation by sending his Son, Jesus, and then, by sending the Holy Spirit as Jesus promised his disciples.

### Catholic Faith Words

**Sacred Scripture** the Word of God written by humans acting under the Holy Spirit's inspiration and guidance; another name for the Bible

**Sacred Tradition** God's Word to the Church, safeguarded by the Apostles and their successors, the bishops, and handed down verbally—in her Creeds, Sacraments, and other teachings—to future generations

**Divine Revelation** the process by which God makes himself known. The chief sources of Divine Revelation are Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

### Share Your Faith

**Reflect** Name one of your favorite Bible stories.

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**Share** this story with a partner. Explain why it is your favorite and what it tells you about God.





## God's Message

God speaks through all of the literary forms of the Bible. A very important truth of both Scripture and Tradition is that God is faithful and wants you to live with him forever. Scripture and Tradition contain the truths that guide your life. This passage is about one woman's coming to believe in God.

### Scripture

#### Ruth and Naomi

Naomi and her husband left the land of Judah and settled in Moab. Her husband died and her two sons married women from Moab. Eventually, Naomi's sons also died. So she decided to return to Judah.

Her daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpah, wanted to go with her, but Naomi told them, "Go back, each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD show you the same kindness as you have shown to the deceased and to me." Orpah went to her home, but Ruth remained.

Ruth said to Naomi, "Do not press me to go back and abandon you! Wherever you go I will go, wherever you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God."

**Based on Ruth 1:1-16**

➔ What does Ruth's decision to remain with Naomi teach you?

### Connect Your Faith

**Learn About God** Read the passages below. What is the literary form of each passage? What is God's message to you in each passage?

Exodus 19:1-7 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Luke 12:16-21 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Revelation 11:15-19 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





## Our Catholic Life

### How does the Bible apply to your daily life?

It is important that you make the Bible a part of your daily life. One way to do this is to devote a short time each day to prayer and Bible reading. You may wish to do this in the morning before going to school, or in the evening before going to bed.

The exercise below is based on the Church's practice of *Lectio Divina*, which means "divine reading." It is a reflective reading of Scripture that leads us to prayer.



Make a commitment to follow this plan for two days this week. How did your reading and prayer apply to your life?

### A Simple Reading Plan

**Obtain a list** of the Church's Scripture readings for each day from your parish bulletin. Look up the readings for the day.

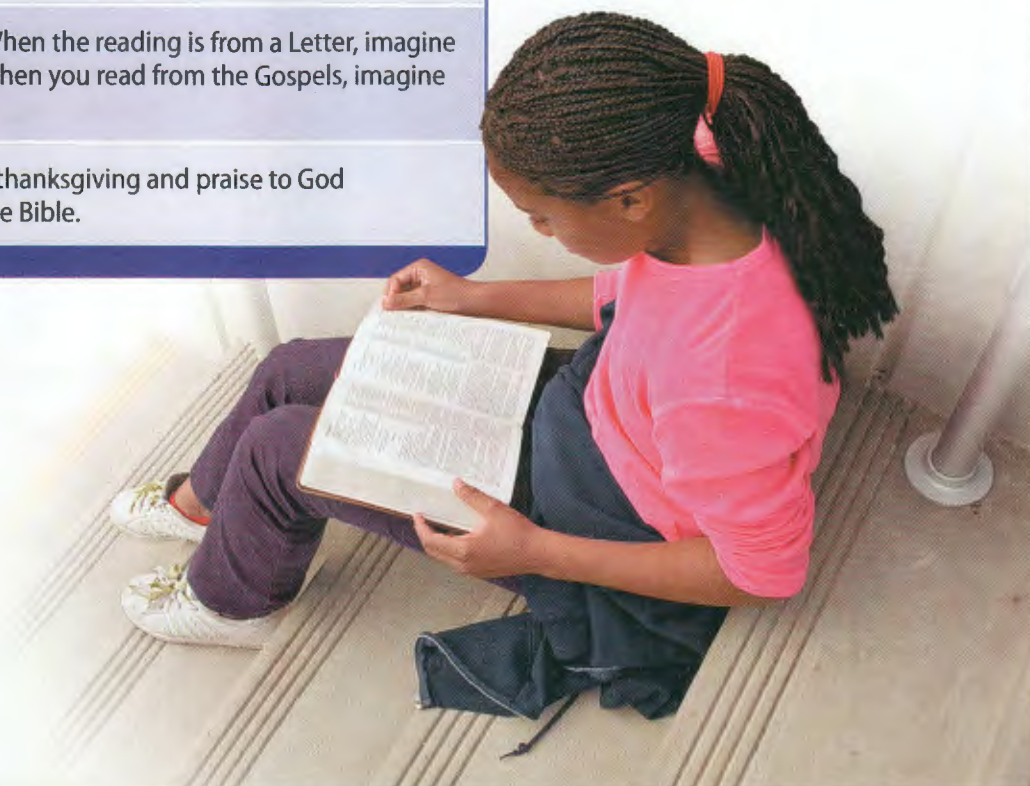
**Begin** your time with God with a short prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you.

**Open the Bible to the passages indicated for the day.**

- The first reading during the week may be from the Old Testament, the Acts of the Apostles, one of the letters in the New Testament, or Revelation.
- On Sundays, the first reading is usually from the Old Testament and the second reading from one of the Letters.
- The final reading is from one of the Gospels. It will tell you about Jesus. Choose one of the readings.

**Put yourself** into the reading. When the reading is from a Letter, imagine that the Letter is written to you. When you read from the Gospels, imagine that you are a part of the scene.

**End your time** with a prayer of thanksgiving and praise to God for what you have learned from the Bible.

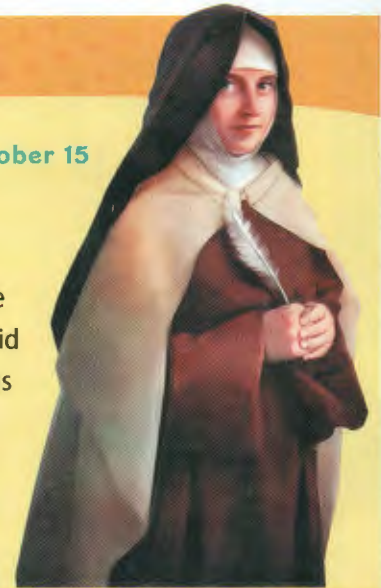


# People of Faith

October 15

## Saint Teresa of Ávila, 1515-1582

Saint Teresa was born in Spain. After she had been a nun in a Carmelite monastery for twenty years, she dedicated herself to reforming many Carmelite convents, which were not as holy as they could be. One of the first things she did was write new rules based on God's Word in Scripture, particularly the teachings of Jesus and the Commandments. Teresa understood that it was important to listen and learn from God's Word in order to lead a good and holy life. She was serious about God, but also knew it was important to laugh and have fun. She used to dance in the convents to make the other sisters happy.



**Discuss:** When do you listen and learn from God's Word?



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

## Live Your Faith

**Think** about a truth you've learned from the Bible that has helped you know more about who God is or how he wants you to live. Explain, with words or illustration, how knowing this makes a difference in how you act with family or friends.



 Let Us Pray

## Celebrating the Gift of God's Word

As we begin this new year, we celebrate the gift of God's Word to us in Scripture, an ancient and precious gift that is alive in our lives today.

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

**Leader:** We gather to celebrate one of God's gifts to us: his Word written to us in Scripture. **Based on Psalm 19:8-11**

**Reader 1:** Our treasure is wrapped in brown paper to remind us that this is an old book, one that spans three thousand years. Some parts are so old that they were told even before people knew how to read and write. We wonder what the stories inside this book meant to the first people who heard them. What do the stories in our Bible mean for us today?

**Reader 2:** Let us praise God for this treasure and its stories of our faith.

**All:** We do praise and thank God for our Bible.

**Reader 3:** We think of gold as the most valuable thing there is, but this treasure is more valuable than gold because it is God's Word and guidance for our lives. Even gold cannot buy these things.

**Reader 4:** Let us praise God for this valuable treasure.

**All:** We do praise and thank God for our Bible.

**Leader:** We gather to celebrate one of God's great gifts to us: his Word written to us in Scripture.

Read Matthew 13:1-9.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Sing "Your Words Are Spirit and Life"

## YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explains Divine Revelation and that the Bible reveals God's plan of goodness and salvation for us, a plan fulfilled by Jesus.

### Scripture



Read **Psalm 33:4–9** to find out about God's Word and what it means to and for us.

### Catholics Believe

- God reveals himself and his plan of salvation through Sacred Scripture, the inspired Word of God written by humans.
- A very important truth of both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition is that God is faithful and wants you to live with him forever.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #51–55, 214 at [uscce.org](http://uscce.org).

### People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Teresa of Ávila, who was very practical in establishing rules for her convents, based on God's Word.

## CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

**How They Understand Sacred Scripture** Your child is able to understand that Scripture is the inspired Word of God written in human language. His or her growing understanding of history and culture assists your child in placing Scripture in context, and when children this age know about various biblical writers, they are able to see how personality, circumstance, and literary form influenced the style of each book of the Bible.



## CONSIDER THIS >>>

When did you last need someone to save you from a situation that you created?

Whatever our age, our words and actions can sometimes get us into situations we cannot fix alone. We need to ask for help. As Catholics, we know that "each of us inherits Original Sin, but it is not a personal fault of ours" (*USCCA, p. 70*). Because of the unity of the human race, everyone is affected by the sin of our first parents [Adam and Eve], just as in turn, humanity is restored to a right relationship with God by Jesus Christ [our Savior].

## LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to describe ways God makes himself known to us in our lives.
- Discuss ways your family connects with Sacred Scripture in your parish community and at home.

## LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Teresa, pray for us that we may follow your example of listening and learning from God's Word, in our hearts and in our homes. 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 1 Review

## A Work with Words Complete each statement.

1. The Bible writers used different \_\_\_\_\_ to tell the truth God wanted to share.
2. Scripture and \_\_\_\_\_ contain truths that guide your life.
3. Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition are the sources of God's \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The names of Naomi's two daughters-in-law are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. What are some ways in which God reveals himself?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## B Check Understanding Circle True if a statement is true, and circle False if a statement is false. Correct each false statement.

6. The process by which God makes himself known to people in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition is called Divine Revelation. **True/False**  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. The story of Ruth's saving action is found in the Bible. **True/False**  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Many stories in the Bible were passed down orally from generation to generation before they were written. **True/False**  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. One way to make the Bible part of your life is to have daily prayer while fasting. **True/False**  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. The Holy Spirit helps you open your mind and heart so that you can live the truths of Sacred Scripture and Tradition. **True/False**  
\_\_\_\_\_

