

ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 6

The Word of God in the Old Testament

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Our Sunday Visitor

Trinity



Our Catholic Tradition

- God invites all humans to friendship and love, and we respond with a journey of faith. (CCC, 142)
- The Old Testament reveals the way God acted in the lives of his People to show his saving love. (CCC, 122)
- God the Father continues his saving work by sending his Son, Jesus. Jesus teaches us to love as he loves. (CCC, 293)
- Jesus establishes a new covenant at the Last Supper, and by his Paschal Mystery fulfills the covenant established with the Israelites. (CCC, 613, 762)

What can Abraham and Moses' relationships with God teach you about your relationship with God?



Journeys of Faith

Let Us Pray

Leader: Lord of all faithfulness, keep us faithful to you.

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
on your own intelligence do not rely;
In all your ways be mindful of him,
and he will make straight your paths.”

Proverbs 3:5–6

All: Guide us, O God, on our pilgrimage of faith. Walk with us on our way. This we pray in Jesus’ name. In him, may our journey continue. Amen.

Scripture

Be strong and steadfast, for you shall bring this people into the land which the LORD swore to their ancestors he would give them ... It is the LORD who goes before you; he will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you. So do not fear or be dismayed. **Deuteronomy 31:7–8**

The Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, consecrated in 1890, rises above Philadelphia.

What Do You Wonder?

- How is faith like a journey?
- What is your favorite way to pray?

Abram and Sarai's Journey

Who is Abraham?

The risks involved in a journey are not so scary if you know that God is with you. Abram and Sarai learned that God was with them always. They remained faithful to God, and he blessed them in many ways.

Scripture

Abram's Call

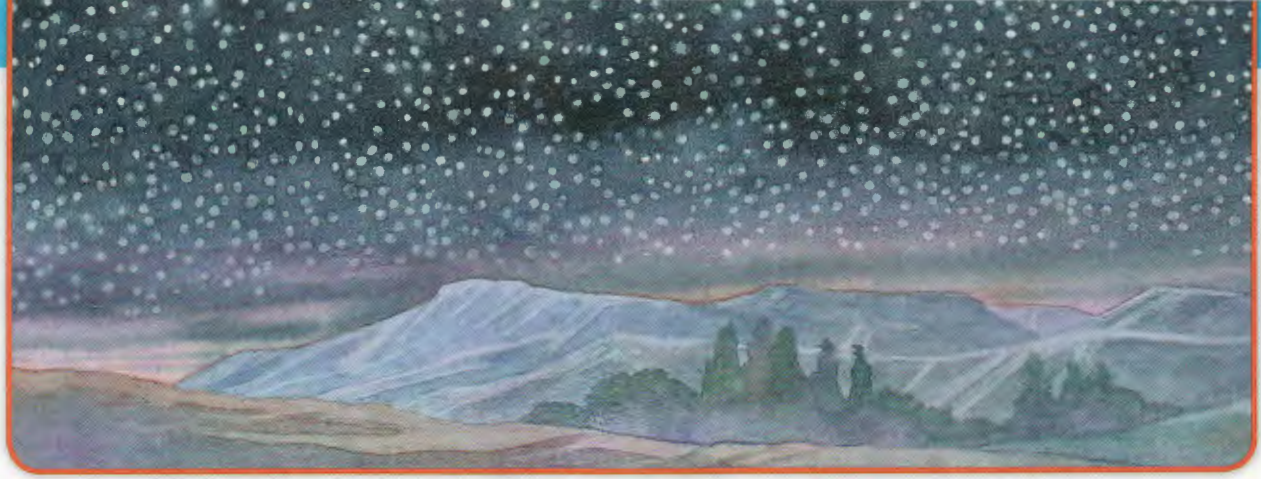
Abram and Sarai were getting old and had no children. One day God said to Abram, "Go forth from your land, your relatives, and from your father's house to a land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you."

As God directed, Abram and Sarai took all of their possessions and set out for the land of Canaan. After traveling through the land to a sacred place, Abram had a vision of God, who said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So Abram built an altar there to honor God and continued on the journey with Sarai.

Based on Genesis 12:1–9

➔ Why would God's words have surprised Abram and Sarai?





The Journey Continues

God appeared again to Abram and told him that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky and that they would have a land of their own. Although he still had no children, Abram put his faith in God. God changed Abram's name to Abraham and Sarai's name to Sarah as a sign of the covenant he made with them.

Scripture

Abraham's Visitors

One day three men visited Abraham and Sarah. The couple quickly prepared a meal for their guests. The men told Abraham that Sarah would have a son, as God had promised. Sarah was listening and laughed to herself because she was too old to have children. But within a year, Sarah did give birth to a son and named him Isaac, which means "one who laughs." **Based on Genesis 18:1–14; 21:1–6**

➔ How did God keep his promise to Abraham and Sarah?

Share Your Faith

Reflect Think about important virtues that people of faith share. Unscramble the letters below to discover three of them.

1. F I T A H _____ 2. O P E H _____ 3. V E L O _____

Share With a partner, talk about how Abraham and Sarah showed these virtues. Choose one and write one way this virtue is important to us today.

God's Plan of Salvation

What does it mean to have faith?

The journey that began with Abraham continued with his son Isaac and Isaac's son Jacob. These three men are the patriarchs, the male ancestors of Israel who appear in the Book of Genesis both before and after the flood. It is from Jacob that the nation of Israel would take its name. In Genesis, Jacob was renamed *Israel* after wrestling with an angel. The name means "one who struggles with God."

Catholic Faith Words

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

Seven Sacraments effective signs of God's life, instituted by Christ and given to the Church. In the celebration of each Sacrament, there are visible signs and Divine actions that give grace and allow us to share in God's work.

faith the Theological Virtue that makes it possible for us to believe in God and the things that he has revealed to us. Faith leads us to obey God. It is both a gift from him and something we choose.

Scripture

The Story of Joseph

Jacob became the father of twelve sons, but Joseph was his favorite. Joseph's brothers were jealous of him and plotted to get rid of him. They sold him to a caravan of travelers, and Joseph became a slave. Because he could interpret dreams, Joseph saved Egypt from starvation during a great famine. Joseph's brothers arrived in Egypt to buy food and were reunited with Joseph, who forgave them and invited them to settle there.

Based on Genesis 37-45

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The twelve tribes of Israel are often represented by symbols in art.

God Invites

As seen through the faith stories of Abraham, Sarah, and their descendants, God keeps his promise of **salvation**, of forgiveness of sins and restoration of friendship with him.

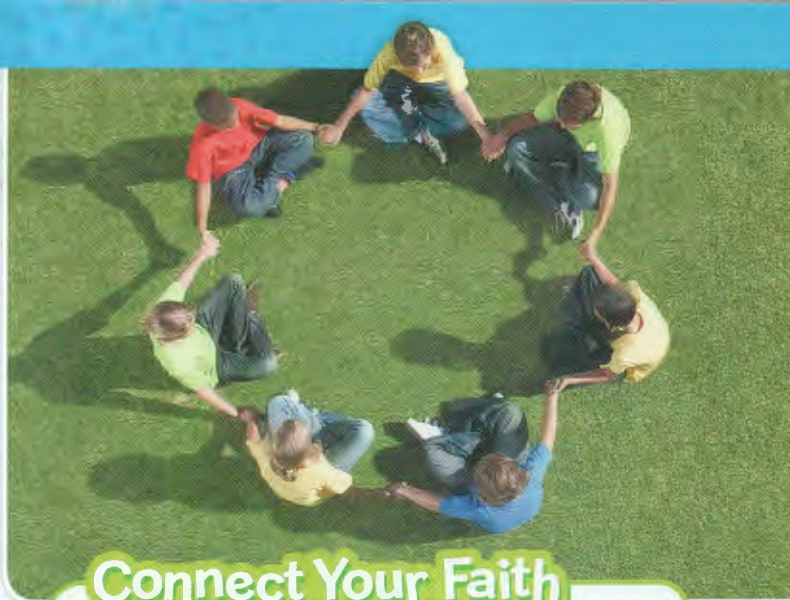
You encounter God today through the Bible, the **Seven Sacraments**, and the Church. God's Son, Jesus, is the way of salvation for you. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help you on your faith journey. Wherever you go, God the Father is with you.

God invites you to respond to him in the same way that Abraham and Sarah did—with **faith**. This means that you freely choose to believe in God and all that he has revealed. When you respond to God with faith, you offer your heart and mind to him. You begin your own journey of faith, as Abraham and Sarah did. You have faith that God will guide you and keep his promises to you.

Faith and Prayer

God still speaks to people today, and people can communicate with God. This is done through prayer. Prayer begins and ends with listening to God. You can strengthen your faith with prayer, using one of these forms: blessing and adoration, petition for your own needs, intercession (praying for the needs of others), thanksgiving, or praise. You can pray at any time.

- ➔ **When and where are you most comfortable praying?**
- ➔ **What helps you listen for God's voice?**



Connect Your Faith

Map Your Journey On the path below, describe, with words or images, some key events in your life of faith. Include people who helped you, special memories, and when they happened.

Our Catholic Life

What are some ways to develop your prayer life?

An important way to develop your prayer life is to pray the types of prayers found in the Bible. Because the Bible is God's Word to humans, it contains teaching on prayer that will help you grow as a Catholic. The following examples of prayer will help strengthen your prayer life.



In the space provided, tell when each prayer form is used during the Mass.

Forms of Prayer

Praise Through this form of prayer, you acknowledge that God is God, giving glory not for what he does, but simply because he is.

- When you praise God, in prayer and in song, you give glory to God as his children.
- You give God praise for his friendship, his kindness, and his goodness.
- _____

Intercession You use this form of prayer to pray for the Church or the whole world.

- You ask God to help someone else.
- You intercede on behalf of others as Jesus intercedes for you with his Father.
- _____

Petition In times of need, you turn to God, ask for his help, and acknowledge that you need him.

- You might pray for God's mercy, forgiveness, and guidance when you are sad, sick, troubled, confused, or in a state of sin.
- You also ask God to help others.
- _____

Blessing and Adoration You bless God, who blesses you. You also bless others who are made in God's image.

- A blessing is a prayer of response to all of God's gifts to us.
- Adoration is giving respectful homage to God by honoring the greatness of the Lord.
- _____

Thanksgiving You express your gratitude to God for the good things in your life.

- When you experience some special cause for rejoicing, such as good grades or restored health or a wonderful day, you thank God for it.
- _____



People of Faith

August 27

Saint Monica, c. 331–387

Saint Monica lived in North Africa. She was a woman of great faith, and many members of her family became Christian because of her example. Monica had a son named Augustine. In his youth, Augustine led a disgraceful life. Monica wanted him to be baptized, but he refused. For many years, Monica prayed constantly for his conversion. Finally, after much persistence, her prayers were answered. Augustine realized the truth of Christianity and turned his life around. He became a priest and then a bishop as well as one of the great teachers of the faith. Both he and his mother are honored as Saints.



Discuss: Talk about a time when God answered your prayer.

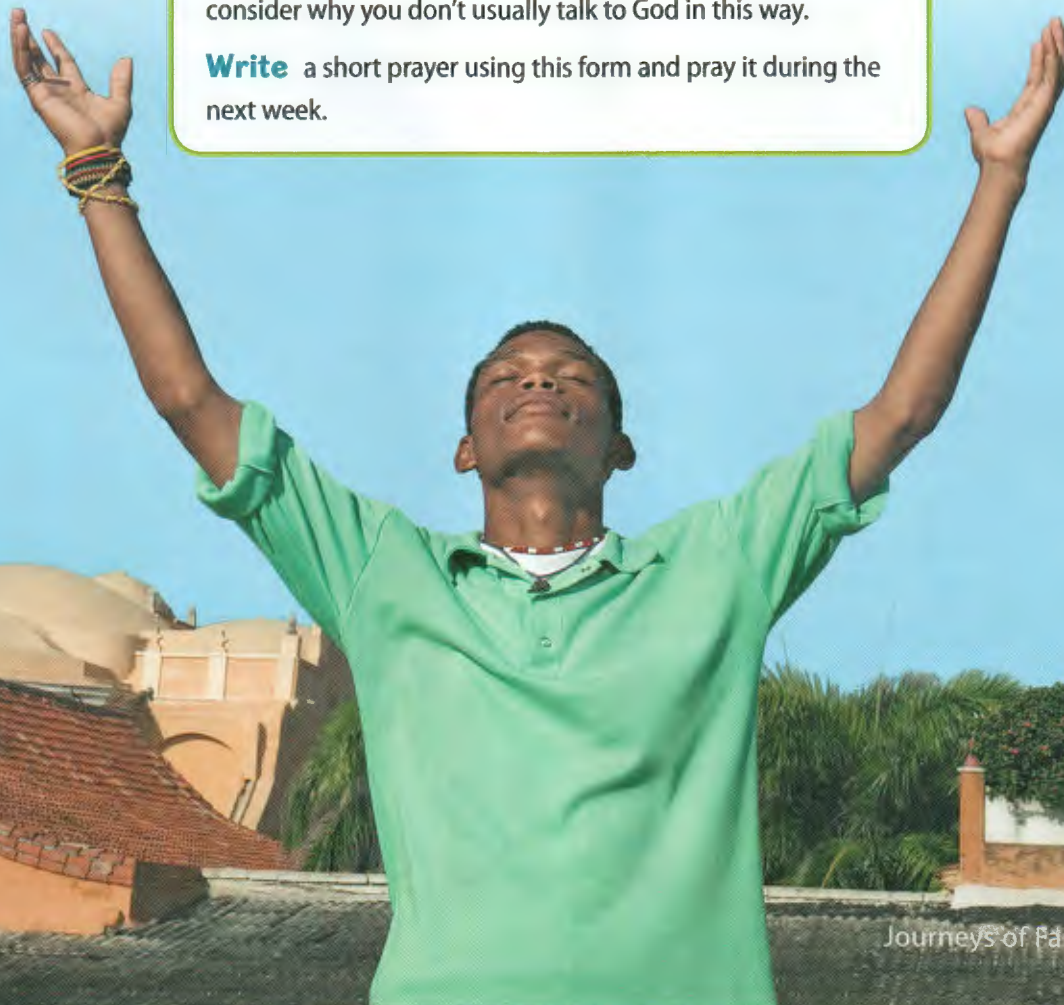


Learn more about Saint Monica at aliveInchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Think about which type of prayer you don't pray often, and consider why you don't usually talk to God in this way.

Write a short prayer using this form and pray it during the next week.




Let Us Pray

Guided Reflection

This is a guided scriptural reflection, during which we remember an event in Jesus' life or one of his teachings. We can imagine ourselves in the story.

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: We gather today in prayer, attentive once again to God's Word.

Read John 10:14–17, 27–29.

The Word of God is a living word. Although it was written long ago, the Holy Spirit makes God's Word come alive in our own hearts this very day. And so we pray,

All: Holy Spirit, guide us.

Leader: Let us close our eyes, be very still, and imagine.

After the guided reflection:

This Scripture passage reminds us of the care that Jesus gives to those who are on the journey of faith. Let us continue to pray.

Side 1: We thank you, Jesus, the Good Shepherd,

Side 2: for your unceasing care and loving guidance.

Side 1: We trust you.

Side 2: We will always follow you.

All: Thank you for keeping us close to you, in your hands, as one family. Amen.



YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explains how prayer can deepen our faith, and help us trust in God during our journey, just as Abraham and Sarah did.

Scripture



Read **Deuteronomy 31:8** to find out who will walk with us on our faith journey.

Catholics Believe

- God calls you on a journey of faith toward salvation.
- The path toward salvation is paved with prayer, which allows the Holy Spirit to lead you away from sin.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #176–184, 2558–2565 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Monica, whose persistent prayer eventually led to the conversion of her famous son, Saint Augustine.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Prayer Your child is probably remarkably more verbally articulate than when he or she was younger, and more capable of true conversation. The implication of this for prayer is that children's ability to use spontaneous, conversational styles of prayer grows if they have been taught how to do this. Because prayer is essentially "conversation with God," children who have been well-formed in prayer can really grow in their prayer lives during this time.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

Where do you spend the most time in prayer: in thanksgiving, asking, or praise?

While we may find our prayer is frequently petition, or asking, prayer is necessary to grow in relationship with God. Using a variety of ways to pray, we can express to God what is in our hearts. As Catholics, we know "the Holy Spirit taught the Church the life of prayer and led her to deeper insights into basic ways of praying: adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise" (USCCA p. 467).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Have your child describe how prayer and the Sacraments are part of our faith journey.
- Share with your child an experience in your life that helped you grow in faith.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Monica, help us follow your strong example of faith and constant, persistent prayer, especially for members of our family. Amen.



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

Chapter 4 Review

- A Work with Words** Complete each sentence with the correct term from the Word Bank. Terms may be used more than once.

Word Bank

.....

faith	Monica	twelve	salvation
covenant	prayer	Sarah	Isaac
Jerusalem	Joseph	Egypt	

1. Abraham's wife was named _____.
2. Of Jacob's twelve sons, _____ was his favorite.
3. _____ was sold into slavery in _____ by his jealous brothers.
4. _____ is the Theological Virtue that makes it possible for us to believe in God and all that he has revealed.
5. God continues to speak to us today, and we communicate with him through _____.

- B Check Understanding** Complete each statement.

6. God promised that he would make a great _____ from Abram and his descendants.
7. Sarah gave birth to a son whose name was _____.
8. Jacob received the name _____, which means "one who struggles with God."
9. The journey that God calls you to make is a journey of _____.
10. Blessing and adoration, _____, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise are all forms of prayer.

