

ALIVE ^{IN} CHRIST

GRADE 6

The Word of God in the Old Testament

aliveinchrist.osv.com



Our Sunday Visitor

Jesus Christ



Our Catholic Tradition

- During Old Testament times, God chose leaders for his People who were anointed as priests, or prophets, or kings. (CCC, 695)
- The Gospels in the New Testament proclaim that Jesus was also anointed by God to be priest, prophet, and king. (CCC, 783)
- Jesus Christ is the Messiah whom the prophets spoke of, and whom God promised to send to his People. (CCC, 436)

How do the kings and prophets help you to understand what God expects of you?



The prophet Elijah witnesses to God's glory on Mt. Carmel.

Leaders for God's People

Let Us Pray

Leader: Great and gracious God, be our leader. Lead us always to you.

“I will appoint for you shepherds after my own heart,
who will shepherd you wisely and prudently.”

Jeremiah 3:15

All: Shepherd us, O God. We are the sheep of your pasture.
Lead and we will follow. Amen.

Scripture

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I lack.
In green pastures he makes me lie down;
to still waters he leads me;
he restores my soul.
He guides me along right paths
for the sake of his name ...

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Indeed, goodness and mercy will pursue me
all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of the LORD
for endless days. **Psalms 23**

What Do You Wonder?

- Why did God choose a shepherd like David to be king?
- Why is Jesus called the Good Shepherd when he was not a shepherd?

Catholic Faith Words

anoint to use oil to mark someone as chosen for a special purpose. In biblical times, the priests, the kings, and sometimes the prophets were anointed as a sign of God's favor.



Fill in the chart below with the names of two more judges you find in the Book of Judges in the Old Testament.

A New Leader

How did Israel get its first king?

Good leaders are guides who give direction, urge caution when necessary, and manage change. Good leaders earn your trust and make you want to follow them. Moses had many of the qualities of a strong leader, but he died just before the Israelites entered the Promised Land. Who would be their new leader?

The Bible Research Team

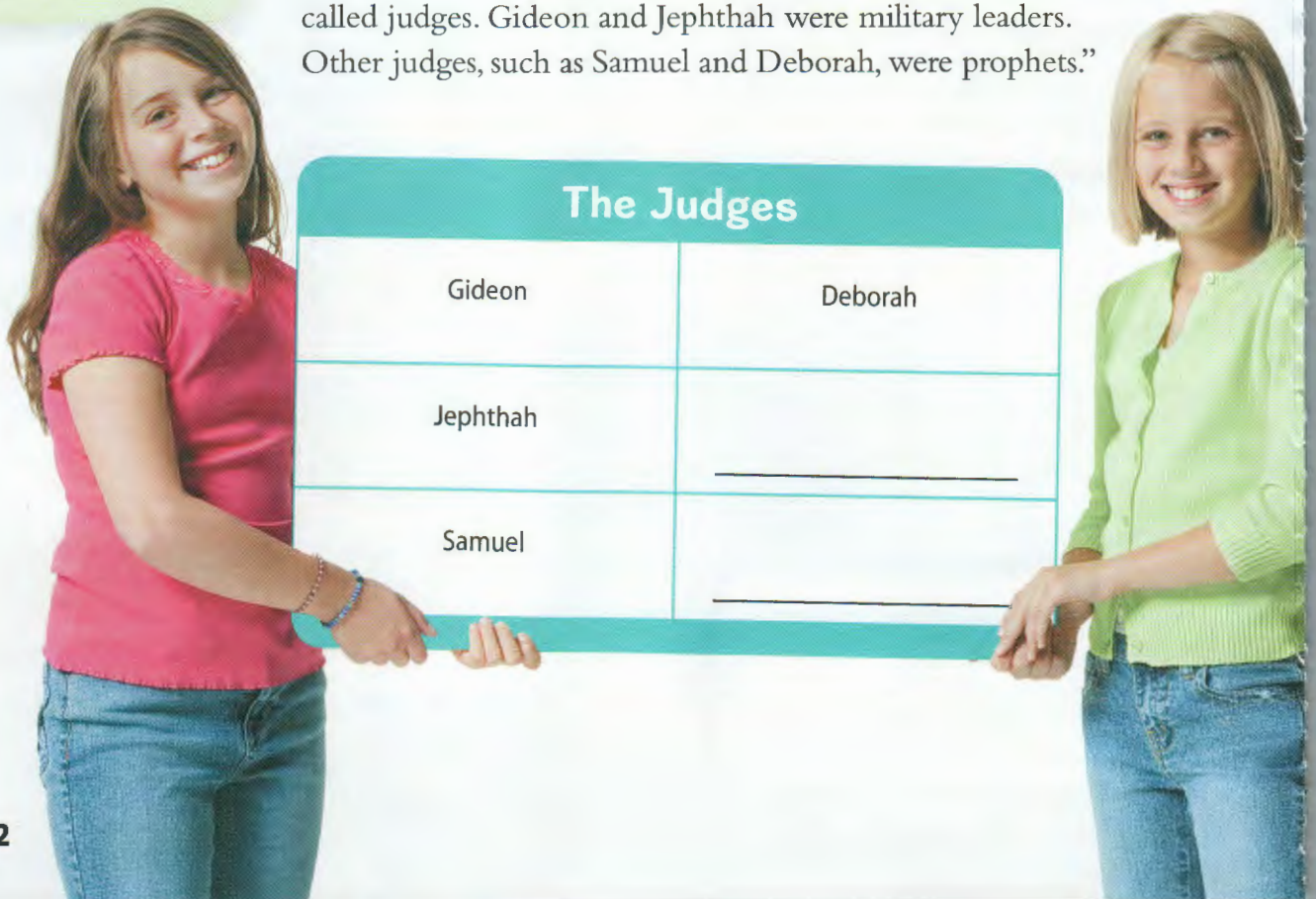
Ms. Gomez asked her class to read through the Books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings, and to tell who followed Moses as leader.

"I know!" said Jamal. "After Moses died, Joshua led the Israelites into Canaan. God chose Joshua because he was a good military leader and he trusted God." Jamal explained that under Joshua, the people fought the tribes of Canaan and defeated them. After Joshua's death, other heroes were chosen to lead the tribes.

The Period of Judges

"That's where I pick up," Shannon said. "These heroes were called judges. Gideon and Jephthah were military leaders. Other judges, such as Samuel and Deborah, were prophets."

© Our Sunday Visitor



The Judges	
Gideon	Deborah
Jephthah	_____
Samuel	_____

Gracie continued. "Israel wasn't governed by human power, but by God alone. But the people of Israel were not always happy about this. They wanted a human king."

Israel's First King

Justin added, "The last judge of Israel, the prophet Samuel, thought that the Israelites were very foolish to reject God as their only king. Samuel warned the people that the king they wanted would have power over them. But he knew that God would give his People the freedom to find out for themselves."

"So," said Eldon, "God sent Samuel to **anoint** Saul with oil as the first king of Israel. This anointing showed that God chose Saul to be king. Saul was strong, tall, and very handsome. He seemed to be the sort of king that the people of Israel were looking for."

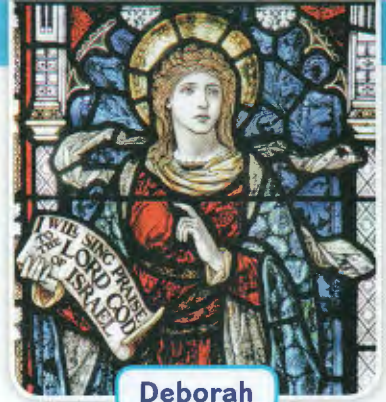
"Was Saul a good king?" Ms. Gomez asked.

"Saul became a great military leader," said Kelly. "But he didn't always obey God's commands, and soon his armies began to be defeated. Saul became angry and lost his popularity with the people."

"Then what happened?" the teacher asked.

"God told Samuel to find someone new to anoint as king," replied Kelly. "I think that's where we ended our research."

- ➔ Who was Israel's first king?
- ➔ How was he selected?



Deborah



Gideon



Jephthah

Share Your Faith

Reflect Look up one of the following passages. Then write the qualities of the leader you read about.

Judges 4:1–16 (Deborah) _____

Judges 6:1–24 (Gideon) _____

Judges 11:11–28 (Jephthah) _____

Share With two other students, discuss why the Israelites followed their leaders.

A Line of Kings

Why is Jesus called the Son of David?

God sent Samuel to Bethlehem to look for a king who would replace Saul. Here is the story of how the new king was chosen.

King David

Jesse's seven oldest sons were impressive, but Samuel rejected them all. God had told him not to judge from appearances.

Jesse's youngest son, David, was a humble shepherd, poet, and harp player. Jesse thought David was too young to be chosen as king, but Samuel asked to see him anyway. When the boy arrived, God told Samuel that David was the one who would be king.

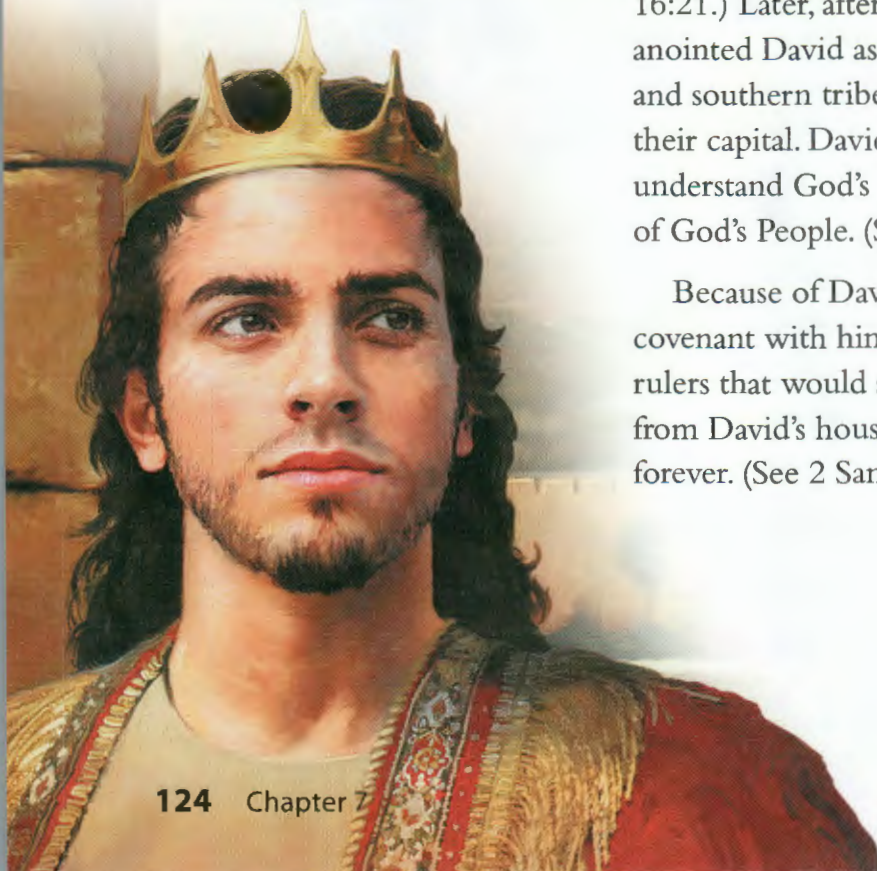
Scripture

Samuel anoints David

Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed him in the midst of his brothers, and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David. **1 Samuel 16:13**

David became a leader in Saul's army. (See 1 Samuel 16:21.) Later, after the death of Saul, the men of Judah anointed David as their king. David united the northern and southern tribes under his rule and made Jerusalem their capital. David was a great king who tried to understand God's will. He was a model for other leaders of God's People. (See 2 Samuel 2:1–7.)

Because of David's faithfulness, God renewed the covenant with him. God promised to establish a line of rulers that would start with David. One day, someone from David's house would sit on the royal throne forever. (See 2 Samuel 7:8–17.)



Jesus, Son of David

A thousand years after David ruled, Jesus was born and fulfilled the promises made to David. Christians proclaim Jesus is the King of Kings, and that his reign will last forever.

Jesus was like David in many ways, although David sinned and Jesus was without sin. Jesus' foster father, Joseph, was a descendant of David. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, where David had lived when God called him through Samuel. Like David, Jesus was a shepherd to God's People and called himself the Good Shepherd.

Both David and Jesus were anointed. In fact, the title **Christ** means "anointed one." God the Father anointed his Son with the Holy Spirit to be prophet, priest, and king. Both David and Jesus were great kings, but only Jesus is king for all eternity.

➔ **How is Jesus a shepherd to those who follow him?**

Men of Prayer

Both David and Jesus were men of prayer. David is credited with writing some of the **psalms** you sing today in the Responsorial Psalm during the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. This psalm is called responsorial because the assembly sings a response after each verse. Jesus prayed often to his Father and taught his followers how to pray. The Lord's Prayer that Jesus taught is one of the first prayers all Christians learn today.

Connect Your Faith

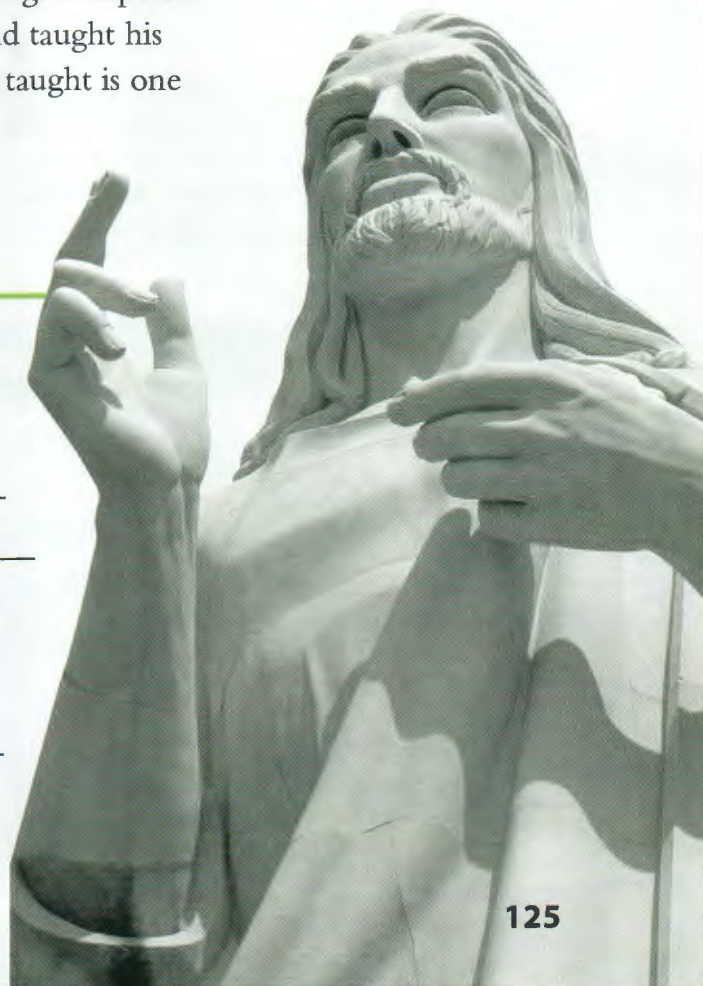
Identify Leadership Qualities What qualities of good leaders did David and Jesus have in common?

Which qualities do you see in yourself? Which would you like to strengthen? Why is it important to have strong Catholic leaders?

Catholic Faith Words

Christ a title for Jesus, the One anointed by God as Messiah

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.



Our Catholic Life

How does the Church celebrate Jesus as King all year long?

Catholics everywhere think of Jesus Christ as their king and leader. Jesus' kingship is so important that the Church celebrates the feast of Christ the King on the last Sunday of the liturgical year, just before Advent begins.

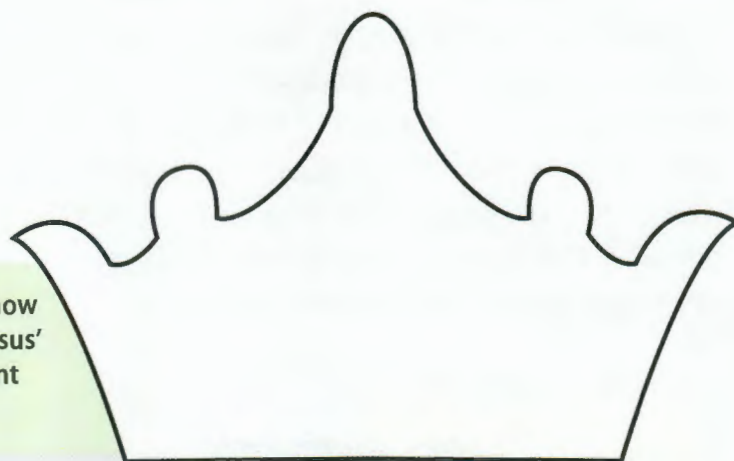
Honoring Christ as King

A flag has been designed to honor Christ the King. The design includes a blue panel with a gold star, a red panel with a gold cross, and a white panel with a gold crown. These symbols represent Christ's birth, Death, Resurrection, and kingship.

We all need to follow the example of Christ the King. As one of the King's subjects (one who is under his authority), you can follow his example in your attitudes, words, and actions by living according to his teachings all year long. Jesus shows us the way to true happiness and tells us the way to live in God's Kingdom now and always.



In the crown, write how you can celebrate Jesus' life during the current liturgical season.



The Liturgical Year

Advent the four Sundays of Advent before the Christmas season begins

Christmas includes Christmas Day, the Feast of the Holy Family, and the Feast of Epiphany

Ordinary Time I the Sundays between Epiphany and Ash Wednesday

Lent includes Ash Wednesday, the five Sundays of Lent, and Passion (or Palm) Sunday

Triduum includes Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday

Pentecost occurs fifty days after Easter

Easter includes Easter Sunday, the second through seventh Sundays of Easter, and Pentecost Sunday

Ordinary Time II the Sundays between Pentecost and the first Sunday of Advent

People of Faith

August 25

Saint Louis IX of France, 1214 –1270

Jesus is the King of Kings, but earthly kings still rule countries. One king who was both a good ruler and a holy man was King Louis IX of France. King Louis believed that he was the “lieutenant of God on Earth.” This meant that he felt responsible for ruling the way he thought Jesus would rule. Among the things he did was to send soldiers to the Holy Land to try to protect the places where Jesus lived and died. He gave a great deal of money to the poor and built a beautiful church to honor God.



Discuss: When you are a leader, how should you act?



Learn more about Saint Louis IX at aliveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Design a Help Wanted Ad God needs wise men and women to lead his People in every age. Design a Help Wanted ad to let others know what qualities a person must have to be a good leader today.



 Let Us Pray

Psalm Prayer of Praise

This psalm prayer from the Old Testament helps us reflect on and gratefully praise God's wonders and works.

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: In gratitude, awe and love, we gather, knowing we are in God's presence.

Side 1: Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good. God's love endures forever.

Side 2: Give thanks to God of gods. God's love endures forever.

Reader 1: To God who alone does great wonders,
who by his understanding made the heavens,
his love endures forever.
Who spread out the earth upon the waters,
who made the great lights—
his love endures forever.

All: Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good. God's love endures forever.

Reader 2: To God who brought Israel out from Egypt
with a mighty hand and outstretched arm;
his love endures forever.
To him who led his people through the wilderness;
and gave them land as an inheritance,
his love endures forever.

All: Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good. God's love endures forever. **Based on Psalm 136**



Sing "Give Thanks to the Lord"

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter examines the Israelites' request for an earthly king, describes anointing to mark someone as chosen by God for a special purpose, and shows how Jesus is the Anointed One, our King of Kings.

Scripture



Read **Psalm 23** to find out why the Lord is described as a shepherd.

Catholics Believe

- In Old Testament times, God chose leaders like Saul and David, who were anointed kings.
- God the Father anointed his Son Jesus with the Holy Spirit to be prophet, priest, and king.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #60–64, 218–220, 695 at usccb.org.

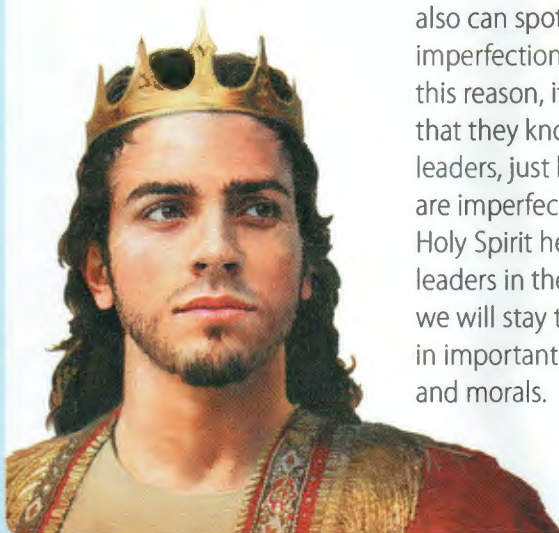
People of Faith

This week, your child learned about King Louis IX of France. A zealous defender of the faith, Saint Louis sponsored two Crusades to the Holy Land.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Leadership Many children want to be leaders. Your child is old enough to recognize the responsibilities that go with leadership in addition to the

privileges. Children this age also can spot hypocrisy and imperfections in leaders. For this reason, it is important that they know that Church leaders, just like all people, are imperfect, but that the Holy Spirit helps to guide our leaders in the Church so that we will stay true to God's will in important matters of faith and morals.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

Have you ever considered that you were chosen by God to parent your child?

God gives you the grace to raise children in faith. As Catholics, we know that "parents are the primary educators in the faith. Together with them ... all members of the family play [a] part in the education of the younger members.... The family is defined as a 'domestic Church,' that is, in every Christian family the different aspects and functions of the life of the entire Church may be reflected: mission; catechesis; witness; prayer etc. Indeed in the same way as the Church, the family 'is a place where the Gospel is transmitted and from which it extends'" (GDC 255).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to tell you who King David is and what he and Jesus have in common.
- Talk about leaders, both youth and adults, in your parish who set good examples for the community.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Dear God, watch over our leaders. Help them follow the example of leadership of Saint Louis IX of France to make decisions that are in accord with your will. Amen.



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

Chapter 7 Review

A Work with Words Complete each sentence with the correct term from the Word Bank.

Word Bank

Bethlehem Joshua psalms Spirit
forever Samuel "anointed
one"
good Judges Jerusalem poor

1. After the death of Moses, _____ led the people of Israel into the Promised Land of Canaan.
2. At the time of the _____, Israel was a nation ruled by God alone.
3. Christians believe that _____ fulfilled the promises made to David.
4. The last judge of Israel was _____. He anointed both Saul and David as kings of Israel.
5. The birthplace of both David and Jesus was _____.
6. Many sung prayers in the Bible are called _____.
7. The word Christ means _____.
8. "Blessed are the _____ in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
9. God promised David that someone from his house would sit on the throne _____.
10. After Samuel anointed David, the _____ of the Lord was with David.

