

ALIVE IN CHRIST

GRADE 6

The Word of God in the Old Testament

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Our Sunday Visitor

Sacraments



Our Catholic Tradition

- The mission of the Church is to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed to all people. (CCC, 849)
- The Sacraments of Initiation give Catholics new life and the strength to accomplish their mission of loving God and serving others. (CCC, 1212)
- The Sacraments at the Service of Communion—Holy Orders and Matrimony—help bishops, priests, deacons, and married couples live out their mission by following their vocation of service to others. (CCC, 1534)

How do the Sacraments of Initiation set you on the path of your vocation?



Baptized for Mission

Let Us Pray

Leader: You summon us to mission, Lord. Call us on account of your reign.

“Your reign is a reign for all ages,
your dominion for all generations.
The LORD is trustworthy in all his words,
and loving in all his works.” **Psalm 145:13**

All: You summon us to mission, Lord. Call us on account of your reign.

Scripture

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps. **1 Peter 2:21**

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What Do You Wonder?

- What does Baptism have to do with marriage or priesthood?
- How will you know what God wants you to do with your life?

Catholic Faith Words

conversion the continual process of becoming the people God intends us to be through change and growth. It is a response to God's love and forgiveness.



1. Underline what Philip shared with the Ethiopian.
2. Circle how the Ethiopian responded.

The Apostles' Mission

How did the Apostles carry out Jesus' mission?

The word *mission* comes from a Latin word meaning “to send,” and includes the idea of being sent to accomplish specific tasks. Jesus told his Apostles to continue his mission. He kept his promise and sent the Holy Spirit to them at Pentecost. Then they were ready to carry out Jesus' mission. One day, God sent an angel with a message to the Apostle Philip. This is his story.

Scripture

Philip and the Ethiopian

The angel instructed me to set out walking from Jerusalem. Soon I spotted a chariot, and the Spirit told me to catch up with it.

In the chariot, I saw a man from Ethiopia who was reading from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. “Do you understand what you are reading?” I asked the man.

“How can I, unless someone instructs me?” the man answered, gesturing to me to climb into the chariot. When I sat down with the man, I saw that he was reading a passage about the Servant of the Lord. I explained that the Servant of the Lord was Jesus. I told the man the Good News of Jesus.

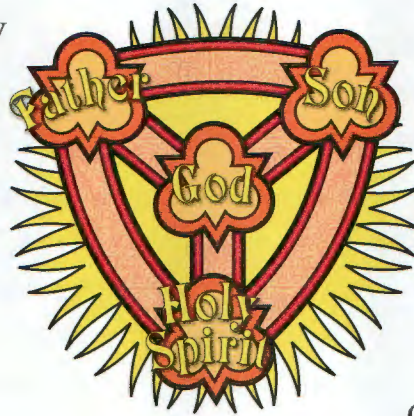
When we came to a pool of water, the man cried out, “Look, there is water. What is to prevent my being baptized?” So I baptized him in the pool. Then the Spirit led me away. The Ethiopian continued on his way, praising God.

Based on Acts 8:26–39

God's Mission for You

The story of Philip and the Ethiopian offers an example of continuing Jesus' mission. Like Philip, you are called to take any opportunity to share the Good News. Through Philip, the Ethiopian experienced **conversion**, a process of change and growth. After being baptized, he began his own mission, "rejoicing and praising God."

Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to help us on our mission. Through the liturgy and Sacraments of the Church, you experience Jesus' presence and receive God's grace. The Holy Spirit is with you on this mission, which has the ultimate goal of life and happiness with God. The Kingdom of God is already present, but its fullness will come at the end of time.



Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we put on Christ and become members of his Church. In the early Church, Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist were celebrated together. A person was baptized and sealed with the Spirit, and then joined the assembly at Eucharist for the first time. These Sacraments are called the Sacraments of Initiation because they mark the entry into the Christian life. Celebrating these Sacraments together has again become the norm for adults and for some children entering the Church today.

The Church baptizes in the names of the three Divine Persons of the Holy Trinity. Those who are baptized enter into the very life of God, who is love. All of the Sacraments offer a share into the mystery that is God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Share Your Faith

Reflect Imagine that you have been asked to explain *mission* to a friend. What would you say?

Share Use the letters in the word *mission* to begin a word or phrase that explains what you would tell someone about our faith.

M	_____
I	_____
S	_____
S	_____
I	_____
O	_____
N	_____

Catholic Faith Words

evangelization giving witness to the faith by proclaiming the Good News of Christ through words and deeds in a way that invites people to accept the Gospel

Eucharist the Sacrament in which Jesus gives himself and the bread and wine become his Body and Blood

transubstantiation the process by which the power of the Holy Spirit and the words of the priest transform the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ

Real Presence the phrase used to describe that Jesus is really and truly present in the Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity

Tabernacle the special place in the church where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved after Mass for those who are ill or for Eucharistic Adoration

Sacraments of Initiation

How do you carry out the mission of Jesus today?

People of Jesus' time heard many stories involving water and new life. At creation, the Spirit moved over the waters. At the time of Noah and the great flood, water brought about a new beginning. When Moses and the Israelites crossed the Red Sea, their passage was a sign of their delivery from slavery.

In the Gospel according to Mark, Jesus began his ministry by being baptized by John with water. This was not the Sacrament as you know it today, although it had some of the same elements. Then, as now, it was a sign of conversion. Jesus submitted to John's baptism to show the people the importance of conversion.

Baptism

Baptism marks the beginning of your mission as a disciple of Jesus. This Sacrament gives you a permanent and unrepeatable seal that marks you for Christ. Baptism takes away Original Sin and all personal sin, and makes a person a child of God and a member of the Church. You are called by your Baptism to **evangelization**, or proclaiming and sharing the Good News. You are called to give witness to your faith through your words and actions.

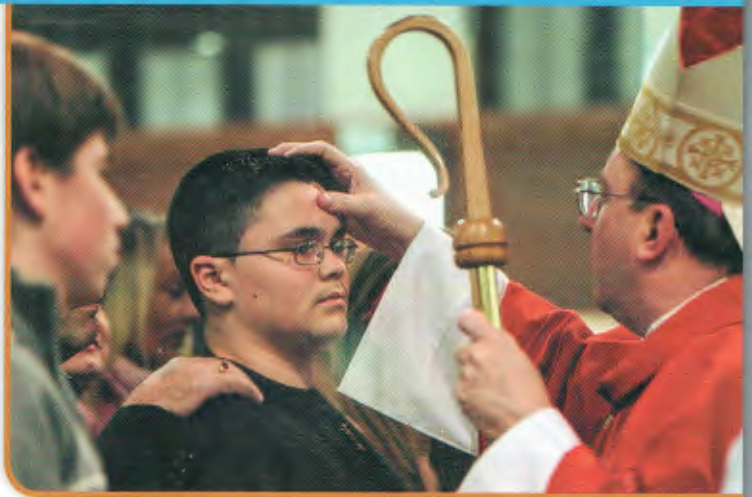
➔ **Why is Baptism the beginning of our Christian mission?**

Confirmation

Confirmation perfects the grace of Baptism. You are given the strength to carry out your mission of sharing the Good News in word and action. Confirmation does this by an outpouring of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, which seals or confirms you in Christ and unites you more closely with Jesus and the Church.



In Confirmation, a bishop, or sometimes a priest, anoints your forehead with Sacred Chrism. This anointing is combined with the laying on of the bishop's or priest's hand and the words, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit." Confirmation, like Baptism, gives you a permanent spiritual mark. For this reason, you celebrate each of these Sacraments only once in your life.



Eucharist

The final Sacrament of Initiation is the **Eucharist**. In the Eucharist, we remember, give thanks for, and share in the life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus. At the altar, you are united with the People of God. You offer yourself to God and participate in Jesus' sacrifice. Responding to Jesus' assurance that his Body and Blood give life, you receive him in the Eucharist. The power of the Holy Spirit and the words of the priest transform the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus through **transubstantiation**. The Bread of Life nourishes you for your mission to announce the Good News and give glory to God. The Eucharist foretells eternal life in Heaven. Catholics show love and respect for the **Real Presence** of Jesus by receiving Holy Communion with reverence. Outside of Mass we honor and respect the real presence of Christ by visiting and praying before the Blessed Sacrament in church. The Body of Christ, not consumed in the Mass, is reserved in the **Tabernacle**.

Connect Your Faith

Learning More In each of the boxes, write something new you learned about the Sacrament.



Baptism



Confirmation



Eucharist

Our Catholic Life

How can you be an agent of love for God?

God asks you to be an agent of his love. You will be working with the people and communities who surround you every day. The goal of your mission is to communicate the truth about God's love. Here is how to accomplish that mission.

1. Learn as much as you can about God's love and how to recognize it. Become familiar with the story of salvation revealed in the Bible. The Bible will be your map and your compass.
2. Get to know other people involved in mission. The Church gathers daily to celebrate the Eucharist. If you can, go to Mass one day during the week. At the next Sunday Mass, make a special effort to introduce yourself to others.
3. Identify your God-given gifts and talents and ways they can be used to share God's love with others.

4. Work closely with your guide, the Holy Spirit. You won't accomplish your mission without him. Pray to him frequently because he can provide what you need to complete your mission.
5. Learn as much as you can about Jesus, the person who is sending you on this mission. Jesus gave his life to save all people from the power of sin and everlasting death. He is still active in this mission today through the Holy Spirit.



List some of your interests and talents above.

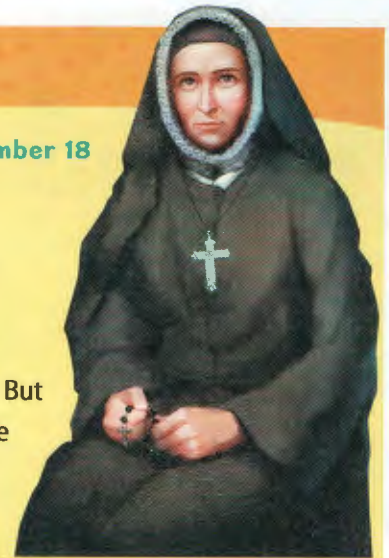


People of Faith

November 18

Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, 1769–1852

Rose Duchesne lived her baptismal call as a religious sister. Born in France, she cared for those who were sick, educated children who were neglected, and sheltered priests during the French Revolution. In 1818 she left France for the United States. She established convents and schools in Missouri and Louisiana. But she wanted to work with Native Americans. Finally, when she was quite old, she went to the Potawatomi tribe at Sugar Creek, Kansas. They called her “woman who prays always” because she spent so much of her free time in prayer.



Discuss: How does prayer help you participate in Jesus’ mission?



Learn more about Saint Rose at aliveinchrist.osv.com

Live Your Faith

Choose one thing you do well from the list you made of your interests and talents, and write or draw how you will use that God-given ability this week to accomplish your mission and to benefit others.

Let Us Pray

Celebration of the Word

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: Through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, Jesus sends us on a mission of evangelization. Listen as Jesus sends his disciples on such a mission.

Reader 1: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Read Luke 9:1–6.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader 2: The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
release to the prisoners,

Reader 3: To announce a year of favor from the LORD
and a day of vindication by our God;
To comfort all who mourn. **Isaiah 61:1–2**

Leader: Let us pray.

Bow your heads as the leader prays.

All: Amen.



Sing "Go Make a Difference"

Go make a diff'rence.

We can make a diff'rence.

Go make a diff'rence in the world.

Text: Based on Matthew 5:13–16. Text and music

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YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter defines evangelization and explains how the Eucharist nourishes us to announce the Good News.

Scripture



Read **1 Peter 2:21** to find out what Jesus commissioned the disciples to do.

Catholics Believe

- The mission of the Church is to announce the Good News of God's Kingdom.
- Through the Sacraments of Initiation, Catholics are given new life and are called to spread the Good News.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #849–856, 1212–1213, 1285 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, who was called “woman who prays always” by the Potawatomi tribe she served.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Mission Many sixth-graders have not considered themselves “missionaries,” but the Church teaches that all baptized persons are called to spread the Gospel to others. Your child will most often do this by example, but may at other times need the words to articulate what he or she believes and why. Developing these skills and connecting them with the Sacraments of Initiation is a way to strengthen the positive identity of your child at a time when identity development is becoming more important.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

How do you feel when you witness your child doing something loving?

Perhaps a parent's greatest reward is seeing our children live what we have been trying to teach them or model for them. As Catholics, we know that “God's people also share in Christ's role as prophet. This means both teaching and witnessing God's Word in the world. A real prophet, by teaching and good example, leads others to faith. St. Francis of Assisi once wrote, ‘Preach always. Sometimes use words’” (*USCCA, p. 117*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to tell you how the Sacraments give us a mission and how they help us accomplish it.
- Share with your child a story from the day of their First Communion.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Rose, pray for us that we may be courageous in living out our mission to share the Good News of Jesus with others. Amen.



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

Chapter 16 Review

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

1. The Sacraments of _____ are the foundation for Christian living.
2. Jesus really and truly present in the Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity is called _____.
3. Through the Sacrament of _____, a person begins the mission of a disciple.
4. _____ is blessed oil used for anointing in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders.
5. Giving witness to your faith by proclaiming the Good News of Jesus is called _____.
6. Like Baptism, _____ gives the recipient a permanent spiritual mark.
7. The _____ is a foretaste of eternal life in Heaven.
8. The special place in the church where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved for those who are ill or for Eucharistic Adoration is called the _____.
9. The power of the Holy Spirit and the words of the priest transform the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus through _____.
10. Through the Seven _____ of the Church, we experience Jesus' presence and grace.

Word Bank

Tabernacle

Baptism

evangelization

Sacred Chrism

Confirmation

Real Presence

Initiation

Sacraments

Eucharist

transubstantiation

