



What's My Child Learning?

This is a review of the information your child is learning in Christ Our Life, Grade 5.

Unit 1: We Worship God as Catholic Christians

Goals

The children will come to a basic understanding and appreciation of Christian worship. They will become more familiar with the Sacraments of Initiation.

Chapter 1: We Are a Worshiping People

We praise God for his glory. We thank God for all he has given us. In fact, a life of joyful praise is our most fitting response to God's love. The children learn how prayer and service honor God, and they are encouraged to evaluate how well their words and actions give God praise.

Chapter 2: Jesus Calls Us to Worship

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, worshiped the Father by prayer, loving service, and the sacrifice of his life. The children learn that Jesus calls them to offer themselves with him in prayer and loving service. He gives them the grace to make their lives joyful sacrifices of praise through the sacraments.

Chapter 3: Baptism Unites Us with the Christian Community

In the Sacrament of Baptism, we share God's life, become children of God, and are initiated into the Christian community as members of the Church. Life for God in Christ and death to sin and self are the essence of Baptism. They are the essence of daily Christian living. The children learn more about the meaning of Baptism and the signs of the rite. They also learn how adults are initiated. They are encouraged to respond to God's great love for them by following Jesus faithfully.

Chapter 4: Confirmation Is the Sacrament of the Holy Spirit

In the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Holy Spirit strengthens the faith we received in Baptism. The children study both the significance of Confirmation and the actual rite. They are led to realize that confirmed Catholics are called to be witnesses of Christ, to serve others as he did, and to work for the growth of the Church. They are encouraged to begin preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation by living each day as Jesus would have them live it.

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Chapter 5: The Eucharist Is the Center of Christian Life

Our life in Christ, begun at Baptism and strengthened in Confirmation, is constantly nourished in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we share a sacred meal as God's holy people, and the saving acts of Christ are made present. Jesus gives himself to us totally and enables us to live united to him. The children see the Eucharist as our bread of life and consider the importance of this sacrament in their daily lives.

Chapter 6: Unit 1 Review

The children review the concepts presented in Unit 1, which focus on our call to Christian worship and on the Sacraments of Initiation. They participate in review activities and a prayer celebration. These activities motivate them to incorporate in their daily lives the unit concepts, practices of prayer, and good works.

Unit 2: We Celebrate the Eucharist

Goals

The children will be prepared for active participation in the Eucharist.

They will become more familiar with the Mass.

They will have a deeper love for the brothers and sisters with whom they are united in the Eucharist.

Chapter 7: We Come Together to Celebrate

Those who have been united to Jesus and to one another through Baptism come together to celebrate the total offering of Jesus to the Father in the Mass. The children study the Introductory Rites of the Mass, learning that these prayers and actions prepare them to hear God's Word and to celebrate the Eucharist. The children become aware that they form a community of faith and love when they gather together to worship God in the Mass.

Chapter 8: We Listen to God's Word

The Word of God acts powerfully in the lives of those who open themselves to it and strive to do whatever God asks. The children study the rites of the Liturgy of the Word and are led to a deeper appreciation of the message of Scripture when it is proclaimed to God's people in the eucharistic celebration.

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Chapter 9: We Praise and Thank God

The Eucharistic Prayer is the center and high point of the Mass because it is this prayer that makes Christ's redeeming actions present and enables the community to enter into them. The children study the rites of this most sacred part of the Mass and are encouraged to give thanks as they and the priest offer Jesus and themselves to the Father.

Chapter 10: We Receive Holy Communion

Receiving the sacred bread and wine that is the Body and Blood of Christ is both the sign and source of all unity among Christians. The children study the Communion Rite of the Mass and are led to see the reception of the Eucharist as the closest union with Jesus possible on earth.

Chapter 11: We Are Sent to Love and to Serve

Those who have recognized Jesus in his Word and in the sacred bread and wine must necessarily go forth to love and to serve the Lord and one another. The children study the rites that conclude the eucharistic celebration and that send the faithful out to show Jesus' love and concern to all. They come to realize that, by prayer and good deeds, they can spread Christ's love to those in mission lands as well as to those with whom they come in contact daily.

Chapter 12: Unit 2 Review

The Eucharist is the heart of our life as Christians. It unites us in Christ and strengthens us to take his love to the world. The children use what they have learned about the rites of the Mass to help plan a eucharistic celebration in which they participate as a community of faith and love. After taking part in this perfect sacrifice with a new understanding, the children should be more open to receiving the Lord's commission to go out to love and to serve in his name.

Unit 3: We Celebrate God's Healing Love

Goals

The children will better understand God's grace and reconciling love, incarnated in Jesus and continuing through his Church in the Sacraments of Healing.

They will learn to share God's grace and healing love with others.

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Chapter 13: God's Healing Love

God has given us freedom of choice and provides us with grace and a conscience to enable us to make right choices. God gives us reconciling love and forgiveness when we repent for choosing what is wrong. The children learn that they are responsible for their choices and the results of those choices. They are led to appreciate and follow the judgment of conscience and realize the need to form a right conscience. They learn more about sin, kinds of sin, and the healing love that Jesus gives us when we turn to him in sorrow. They are encouraged to show Christ's healing love to others by seeking reconciliation, by forgiving, and by asking forgiveness.

Chapter 14: Jesus Heals Us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Jesus has told us that he came not for the just, but for sinners. The story of Zacchaeus leads the children to a deeper appreciation of God's forgiving love. They are challenged to respond to this love as Zacchaeus did, by making up to God and others whom they have hurt by their sins.

Chapter 15: A Gift of Strength

Jesus spent much of his life caring for those who were sick and restoring them to health. He has called us to continue his work of healing. The children learn how the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick celebrates the Church's belief in Jesus' power to heal. They also learn how everyday expressions of support and concern bring God's healing love to those who are sick or suffering.

Chapter 16: Unit 3 Review

The children gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's healing love by participating in various activities and in a review of Unit 3. The children are challenged to live what they have learned in this unit: to celebrate God's healing love in their lives by sharing it with others.

Unit 4: We Follow Special Ways to Holiness

Goals

The children will become aware that God calls all Christians to holiness through special ways of life. They will understand and appreciate the different vocations and the sacraments related to them.

Chapter 17: God Calls Us to Be Holy

The Christian goal is to achieve holiness, and God calls us each to work toward that goal through a particular way of life. The children learn about vocations and how they can begin to discover and

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prepare for the way of life they are each called to live. They are led to realize that both clergy and religious are supported by the graces of God flowing from ordination or religious vows. They come to appreciate the single state as a way of dedicated love and service.

Chapter 18: Christian Marriage Leads to Family Holiness

The mutual love and fidelity promised in the Sacrament of Matrimony gives witness to the faithful love of God for his people. The sacrament, with its daily graces, is presented as the basis for Christian family life. The children are given opportunities to discover that unselfish love is the foundation for a happy marriage and a happy family.

Chapter 19: Holy Orders Is a Sacrament of Service

Christ continues living and working among his people through the bishops, priests, and permanent deacons. The children discover how a man shares in Jesus' ministerial priesthood through ordination, and they learn what his responsibilities are. They come to realize that the call to orders is a mission of special ministry and service and that bishops, priests, and deacons serve the Church by carrying out the ministry of Christ. They are led to appreciate the Sacrament of Holy Orders and to respect those who are ordained.

Chapter 20: Unit 4 Review

The vocations of married, single, or religious life and the priesthood lead to holiness. The children grow in their appreciation for different vocational calls and for the graces of the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony. They plan to follow God's call in daily life and to pray to know their vocations.

Unit 5: We Worship God by Living in Love

Goals

The children will better understand the Fifth through Tenth Commandments.

They will grow in respect for self and others and will see the need for justice and self-sacrificing love.

Chapter 21: Life Is Precious

All life is a gift from God and is, therefore, of great value and protected by the Fifth Commandment. Human life is of infinite value because each human being is created in God's image and is destined to live with God forever. The children grow in their appreciation for life and in their sense of responsibility for guarding and protecting every human life.

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Chapter 22: Christians Are Faithful in Love

God wants us to love him, ourselves, and one another with faithful love. The children learn more about the Sixth and Ninth Commandments and the chastity God requires of them. They are led to realize the need for relying on the grace of God, obtained through prayer and the sacraments, and they are encouraged to use the help available to be faithful and chaste.

Chapter 23: Christians Respect What Belongs to Others

Justice and Christian charity are the key virtues needed for living the Seventh and Tenth Commandments as Jesus taught us. The children learn that all created goods are gifts of God, and these gifts are to be used in a considerate and just way that respects the rights of all. The children are motivated to be concerned about the needs of others and to share generously with them.

Chapter 24: Christians Speak the Truth with Love

Jesus showed us how to live a truthful life, one that enables us to trust one another and be united in community. The Eighth Commandment, which obliges us to speak the truth with love, is presented as the basis for trust and unity. The children learn how to build Christian community with true and kind words and by keeping promises. They are led to trust in the Holy Spirit for the love and courage needed to be kind and truthful in their words.

Chapter 25: Unit 5 Review

Several times in his public life, Jesus mentioned that he had come not to be served but to serve. He also indicated that those who follow him will be recognized by their lives of service. The children ponder Jesus' example and are encouraged to follow this example. The children review the commandments with an emphasis on imitating Jesus' self-sacrificing love.