

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter describes how God uses signs to communicate with us, and explains the Seven Sacraments as effective signs of God's life, given by Christ to the Church.

Scripture



Read **2 Corinthians 6:16** to find out about God's presence among us.

Catholics Believe

- One way God communicates his love is through signs.
- Through the visible signs and Divine actions in each Sacrament, we receive grace and are helped to share in God's work.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #774, 1084, 1147, 1152 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child learned about Saint Benedict, the founder of Western Christian monasticism. Benedict's Rule of Life emphasized both work and prayer.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand the Sacraments Children at this age are approaching the age when children become more able to understand signs, symbols, and other abstract content. Some children this age are still very concrete in their thinking, yet others are more capable of imagining hypothetical situations and understanding analogies. The Sacraments are both concrete and abstract, sensory and mystical. Because of this, it's important that children this age have a clear sense that there is "something more" to the Sacraments than what we experience with our senses, even if that understanding will still need to unfold over time.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

If you were separated from someone you love, how important would it be to communicate with them?

Most of us have missed someone enough to count down the days until we would see them again. We may have written letters or emails as a way to communicate while they were away. Until we are with God in Heaven, God communicates with us through the Sacraments. As Catholics, we know that "as we come to understand the Sacraments, it is important to recognize that the Sacraments have a visible and invisible reality, a reality open to all the human senses but grasped in its God-given depths with the eyes of faith... The invisible reality we cannot 'see' is God's grace" (*USCCA p. 168*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to explain how God communicates through signs.
- Have each family member share how he or she recognizes God's presence.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Benedict, pray for us that we may always find time for work and prayer, as well as rest and play. Amen.



Visit aliveinchrist.osv.com for additional resources and activities.