

Using *Encounter with Christ* and *Alive in Christ*

The USCCB Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis calls for doctrinally and pastorally sound catechesis for the Sacraments that is both preparatory and lifelong, that leads “to a personal encounter with Jesus Christ,” and that is “integrated into a comprehensive catechetical program” (*Sacramental Catechesis: An Online Resource for Dioceses and Eparchies*, pp. 15, 16).

The Subcommittee on the Catechism, in granting conformity to Sacrament preparation text as supplemental to basal, has requested that publishers develop materials that are to be used in conjunction with, not in lieu of, basal religious education texts. In other words, the assumption is that preparation

for the Sacraments takes place along with a comprehensive and systematic catechetical program. To this end, the Subcommittee developed a review instrument specifically for Sacrament preparation materials.

The development of *Encounter with Christ*, which has been found to be in conformity with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, takes this directive to heart, and “focuses primarily on the symbols, rituals, and prayers contained in the rite for each sacrament” (*Sacramental Catechesis: An Online Resource for Dioceses and Eparchies*, p. 16). The correlation on the following page indicates where more in-depth catechesis on session topics takes place in *Alive in Christ*.



Topics Treated in Both Programs

For further background or coverage on session topics presented in *Encounter with Christ*, see the noted chapters in *Alive in Christ*.

<i>Encounter with Christ</i> Eucharist Child Book	<i>Alive in Christ</i> Grade 2	<i>Alive in Christ</i> Grade 3	<i>Alive in Christ</i> Grade 4
Session 1: We Belong	<p>Chapter 6: the Holy Trinity, Holy Spirit, discipleship</p> <p>Chapter 10: Seven Sacraments, Sacraments of Initiation, Rite of Baptism</p>	<p>Chapter 4: the Holy Trinity</p> <p>Chapter 11: Communion of Saints</p> <p>Chapter 16: Sacraments of Initiation</p>	<p>Chapter 5: the Holy Trinity, communal life</p> <p>Chapter 17: the Seven Sacraments</p>
Session 2: We Gather	<p>Chapter 14: parish life, ministries</p> <p>Chapter 16: liturgical roles, elements of the Introductory Rites</p>	<p>Chapter 9: parish life, the Body of Christ, service</p> <p>Chapter 18: ministers, serving one another</p>	<p>Chapter 9: worship, honoring God, keeping the Lord's Day</p> <p>Chapter 10: vows, states of life, laity, liturgical ministries</p>
Session 3: We Listen and Respond	<p>Chapter 3: the Bible, Old and New Testaments, Jesus' stories about the Father</p> <p>Chapter 17: parables, elements of the Liturgy of the Word</p>	<p>Chapter 2: the Bible, understanding God's Word</p> <p>Chapter 4: creed</p> <p>Chapter 5: liturgy, the Mass</p>	<p>Chapter 1: Divine Revelation, Scripture and Tradition</p> <p>Chapter 17: the Sacrament of Eucharist</p>
Session 4: We Accept and Offer	<p>Chapter 18: Liturgy of the Eucharist, Eucharist as memorial and sacrifice</p> <p>Chapter 19: Lamb of God</p>	<p>Chapter 8: Paschal Mystery, sacrifice</p>	<p>Chapter 16: Paschal Mystery</p> <p>Chapter 17: active participation</p>
Session 5: We Give Thanks and Receive	<p>Chapter 18: Liturgy of the Eucharist, Last Supper, Consecration</p> <p>Chapter 19: Real Presence, Holy Communion, Blessed Sacrament, Tabernacle</p>	<p>Chapter 5: Last Supper, Blessed Sacrament, Tabernacle</p>	<p>Chapter 17: Eucharist, Last Supper, active participation</p>
Session 6: We Share	<p>Chapter 20: Concluding Rites, mission</p>	<p>Chapter 14: Light of the World, virtue, vocation</p> <p>Chapter 20: mission of the Church</p>	<p>Chapter 9: worship, the Lord's Day</p>