

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> Reconciliation 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 Are Made in God's Image	<p>Chapter 1: in God's image, Son of God, goodness of creation</p> <p>Chapter 4: trust in the Father, prayer</p> <p>Chapter 6: Holy Trinity</p>	<p>Chapter 1: image of God, Holy Trinity, creation</p> <p>Chapter 4: the Holy Trinity, communion of love, mystery</p>	<p>Chapter 4: image and likeness of God</p> <p>Chapter 5: Holy Trinity, communal life</p>
Session 2: We Live in Covenant with God	<p>Chapter 2: original sin, savior, the Good Shepherd</p> <p>Chapter 9: forgiveness, mercy, virtues, prodigal son</p>	<p>Chapter 8: Paschal Mystery</p> <p>Chapter 17: healing, forgiveness, Sacraments of Healing, sin</p>	<p>Chapter 2: God's faithfulness, original sin, covenant</p>
Session 3: We Are Called to Forgiveness	<p>Chapter 7: Ten Commandments, Great Commandment, New Commandment</p> <p>Chapter 8: conscience, moral decision making</p>	<p>Chapter 13: choose love, Beatitudes, New Commandment</p> <p>Chapter 15: conscience, conversion</p>	<p>Chapter 3: Ten Commandments</p> <p>Chapter 6: conscience, conscience formation, moral decision making</p> <p>Chapter 7: Beatitudes, peace, blessings</p>
Session 4: We Come to Reconciliation	<p>Chapter 11: contrition, parts of Rite of Penance, Act of Contrition</p>	<p>Chapter 15: Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation</p> <p>Chapter 17: Sacraments of Healing</p>	<p>Chapter 16: parts of Rite of Penance, Reconciliation</p>
Session 5: We Confess and Do Penance	<p>Chapter 8: mortal and venial sin, mistakes</p> <p>Chapter 11: parts of Rite of Penance</p> <p>Chapter 13: Kingdom of God</p>	<p>Chapter 8: Kingdom of God</p> <p>Chapter 15: sin</p>	<p>Chapter 4: mortal and venial sin</p> <p>Chapter 8: virtue, Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy</p>
Session 6: We Are Forgiven and We Forgive	<p>Chapter 9: forgiveness, mercy, virtues, prodigal son</p> <p>Chapter 11: parts of Rite of Penance</p>	<p>Chapter 9: Body of Christ, stewardship</p>	<p>Chapter 16: parts of Rite of Penance, reconciliation</p>