

# Sacraments at the Service of Communion

## Preparation for the Session

**Turn to Page 251,**  
the Family + Faith page.  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 503

**Read** the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

**Parents, Consider This:** *In Baptism, God calls us, as Christians, to holiness and to mission. Whether single, married, or religious, lay or ordained, all of us share in this common priesthood. No Sacrament is an end in itself. Matrimony and Holy Orders call those members into a particular lifestyle of service. In family discussions, point out those ways you see married couples and those in religious life serving God. Remind your child that God gives each of us a unique way to live a vocation of service.*

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Understand that vows are sacred promises made to or before God
- Explore serving God and community through the Sacraments at the Service of Communion
- Describe Holy Orders as the Sacrament in which baptized men are ordained as deacons, priests, or bishops
- Identify Matrimony as the Sacrament that joins a baptized man and a baptized woman in Christian marriage to serve God

**Read** these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the chapter.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



**Let's Sing:** These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

- All That God Wants You to Be
- For the Fruits of this Creation

## INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

**Turn to Page 243,**  
Sacraments at the  
Service of Communion  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 487

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



**Let Us Pray** Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

**Explain** that doing kind and helpful things for others is part of the life of a disciple.

**Say:** We should always be looking for ways that we can be of service. Listen to what Saint Paul told the people who lived in Galatia.



**Guide** your child through the Preparing for God’s Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God’s Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

**Invite** your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

**Say:** Serving God and each other is such a necessary part of the life of a baptized Catholic that Jesus gave us two Sacraments to give us the help we need. In the Sacraments of Matrimony and Holy Orders, God calls us to honor him by serving others.

**Invite** your child to respond to the questions. Prompt what else they might wonder about Sacraments at the Service of Communion.

### DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

**Turn to Page 244,**  
Learning about Service  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 489

**Read** aloud the opening question and paragraph.

**Read** “The Wedding Story” as a play. Have your child read Samantha’s parts and have a parent(s) read the parts of the parents.

**Point** out that all families suffer through difficult times. Family members can help one another through the hard times.

**Ask:** What are some good memories of weddings of family members you have?

**Review** the definition for the highlighted word, **vows**, in the Catholic Faith Words box. Discuss the difference between a vow and an agreement.

**Turn to Page 245,**  
Sharing Wedding  
Memories  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 491

**Read** the story, “Sharing Wedding Memories,” as a play. Have your child read Samantha and Jeremy’s parts and have a parent(s) read the parts of the parents in the story.

**Note** the highlighted words, **priest** and **deacon**, and their definitions in the Catholic Faith Words box.

## Activity

**Complete** the Share Your Faith activity as a discussion between you and your child.

**Turn to Page 246,**  
Serving God's People  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 493

**Read** aloud the opening question and paragraph.

**Review** the Catholic Faith Word, **Sacraments at the Service of Communion**, and its definition in the Catholic Faith Words box.



**Do** the gold-star activity.

**Parents, Consider This:** *Serving others in life is the work of the entire Christian community. Our children will ultimately be prepared to make a life commitment to some kind of service if they learn, while growing up, to serve others and not expect to be rewarded for that service. Develop an environment in your family that encourages joyful and generous service in your home and in the community.*



**Proclaim** the Scripture in the Parchment Paper box.

**Turn to Page 247,**  
Sacraments of Service  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 495

**Have** your child silently read the paragraphs.

**Review** the “Sacraments of Service” chart. Have your child read the “Action” of each Sacrament and you read the “Effects.”

## Activity

**Have** your child complete the Connect Your Faith activity.

**Parents, Consider This:** *Invite your child to interview a married couple or a priest. Help your child to arrange this. Consider what questions would be appropriate and would help your child to understand the Sacrament. Encourage your child to ask how the Sacrament of Marriage has helped the couple serve God, or ask the priest how the Sacrament of Holy Orders has helped them serve God.*

## LIVE: Living Our Faith

**Turn to Page 248,**  
Our Catholic Life  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 497

**Have** your child silently read the opening question and the three paragraphs. Ask your child to tell you some of the main points of the section.

**Ask:** When you serve others, should you be thinking of how it will help you or how it will help the ones you are serving? (**how it will help the ones you are serving**)

**Read** aloud the captions for each photograph. Between each caption, invite your child to give his or her impression of what's going on in the photographs.

**Turn to Page 249,**  
People of Faith  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 499

**Read** the paragraph about Saint Jean-Baptiste de la Salle.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about how your family has served the poor.

## Activity

**Have** your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

**Parents, Consider This:** *Those who are ordained live out their common ministerial priesthood in service to the entire Church, proclaiming the Good News in Word and Sacrament. Consider how your family has been served by this unselfish commitment to the faith community. Discuss some of the concrete ways—presiding at Eucharist, hearing confessions, wisdom shared in homilies, baptizing family members, being visited when sick—your pastor has helped your family.*

**Turn to Page 251,**  
Family + Faith Page and  
conclude with the Let's Pray  
prayer on this page.  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 503

**Parents, Consider This:** *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray Holy, Holy, Holy Lord during your night prayer this week.*

### **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student and Family section of [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).