

The Body of Christ

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 149,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 299

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Recognize that, with the help of the Holy Spirit, members of the Church continue Jesus' work here on Earth
- Identify the Church as the Body of Christ of which Christ is the head
- Recall that all the baptized use their gifts and talents to serve others
- Name stewardship as the way we appreciate and use God's gifts, including our time, talent, and treasure and the gift of creation

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

Parents, Consider This: *Saint Paul uses both the Body of Christ and the human body to convey the oneness of Christ and the Church. The different parts of the body contribute to our ability to function as a person in life. The Body of Christ is most alive when we each share the gifts we are given for the good of all. Pray to know the gifts of each person in your family. Encourage and invite each person to share his or her gifts for the good of others.*

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 lesson.
- *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.

- Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo/We Are the Body of Christ
- Share the Light

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 141,
the Body of Christ
Vivos en Cristo, Page 283

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 each person who is baptized becomes part of the Body of Christ.

Say: Jesus has a plan for you. When you live according to his plan, you will honor God for his gifts and bring peace to the world. Listen to these words from Saint Paul.



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: We have all been given different gifts from the Holy Spirit. We must use these gifts and talents to love God and serve others. We continue Jesus work on Earth by doing so.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about gifts from the Holy Spirit and using them to love God and serve others.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 142,
We Each Have a Role
Vivos en Cristo, Page 285

Read aloud the question and the first paragraph.

Have your child find the highlighted words **parish** and **Body of Christ** and read their definitions in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Read the next three paragraphs.

★ **Do** the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 143,
Doing Jesus’ Work
Vivos en Cristo, Page 287

Read aloud the paragraphs on this page.

Activity

Have your child complete the Share Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: *Jesus clearly told us that we will be judged on how well we love God by how well we love others. When you think about the Corporal Works of Mercy, think of one way your family can feed the hungry or visit the sick and plan such a service activity to do together this week. Help your child relate your service to what he or she learns in this chapter. Our faith grows and develops when we are able to connect what we do in life with what we believe in.*

Turn to Page 144,
Sharing in Jesus’
Work of Helping Others
Vivos en Cristo, Page 289

Read the opening question and discuss it together. Read the first paragraph.



Proclaim the Scripture story “The Appearance to Mary Magdalene.”



Do the gold-star activity.

Ask: How can you help Jesus by helping someone else? *(We are all part of the Body of Christ. When we help someone we are helping someone who is part of the Body of Christ.)*

Turn to Page 145,
Share Your Gifts
Vivos en Cristo, Page 291

Read the definition of the word **stewardship** in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Read the three paragraphs on this page and discuss the question at the bottom of the page.

Activity

Have your child complete the Connect Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: *People use their gifts and talents to serve God and others. We serve God when we serve our neighbor. Your child has probably used his or her talents to help others. When you see your child using his or her gifts and talents to help others, praise and affirm them. Surprise your child by leaving a note on their bed, in their lunch box, or at the dinner table to reflect the good you see them do. In your prayer, thank God for the goodness of your child.*

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 146,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 293

Read aloud the question and the first and second paragraph.



Do the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 147,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 295

Read the paragraph about Blessed Joseph Vaz.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about some things you can do to help others know God.

Activity

Have your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: A “charism” is a grace given by the Holy Spirit to a person or a group for the good of the community. It is more than a personal gift or talent. A charism is a call to live in a particular way that will serve the church’s mission, the continuation of the work of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit generously bestows charisms on all members of the Church. Have you thought about what your charisms might be? Those of your family? We each have gifts given by God to share that will build up the community, the Body of Christ. What gifts do you and the members of your family bring to the Church?

Turn to Page 149,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let’s Pray
prayer on this page.

Vivos en Cristo, Page 299

Parents, Consider This: It’s important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Hail Mary (see Page 321), during your night prayer this week.



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student and Family section of aliveinchrist.osv.com.