

The Seven Sacraments

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 241,
the Family + Faith page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 483

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Recognize that God the Father sent his only Son, Jesus, as a sign of his love for all people
- Recognize that each of the Seven Sacraments are effective signs of God's life, instituted by Christ and given to the Church, so that Jesus can continue his saving work in the world
- Begin to develop and understanding that the visible signs and Divine actions in each celebration give grace and allow us to share in God's work
- Identify that the Sacrament of the Eucharist is at the heart of Christian life

Turn to Page 233,
The Seven Sacraments
Vivos en Cristo, Page 467

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

Parents, Consider This: *Signs and symbols are essentials of communication. Signs and symbols point to realities that are greater and richer than the symbols themselves. Sacraments bring about these spiritual realities. The Seven Sacraments are filled with symbols of many types: water, light, fire, darkness, washing, eating, and drinking. Through the Sacraments, believers are enveloped in the mystery of God. As you study this together, invite your family to see the Sacraments and their symbols with new eyes and to understand them afresh.*

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.

- We Come to the Table
- The Supper of the Lamb

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

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 the Seven Sacraments are signs of God's love for us.

Say: We bless God the Father for sending us his Son, who gave us the Seven Sacraments as powerful signs of God's love for us.



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 celebrate these signs with gladness, for we know that in our celebration, Jesus is present with us. In our celebration, we are made sharers in the life and love of God.

Invite your child to respond to the questions. Prompt what else they might wonder about blessings or the Sacraments.

DISCOVER: Learning God’s Truth

Turn to Page 234,
Present Through Time
Vivos en Cristo, Page 469

Read the opening question and the first two paragraphs. Encourage your child to memorize John 14:6-7 to help to remember that Jesus is the way to the Father.

Read the definition of **Incarnation** in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Ask: What are signs of God’s presence that you have seen today? What do those signs tell you?



Proclaim the Scripture. Ask your child to listen as you tell them about a special sign that God sent the whole world.

Turn to Page 235,
Visible Signs and Divine Action
Vivos en Cristo, Page 471

Read aloud the first paragraph. Ask your child to listen to find out how Jesus is present to followers today.

Have your child to silently read the second paragraph. Review the definition of the Catholic Faith Word, **Seven Sacraments**, on page 234.



Do the gold-star activity.

Call attention to the ribbon of Sacraments at the bottom of pages 234-235. Review the Seven Sacraments.

Activity

Do the Share Your Faith activity with your child. Share some of your experiences while celebrating the Sacraments.

Parents, Consider This: Your child's First Communion Day was an important day in your family. The mystery of God's Real Presence in the Eucharist is something beautiful and significant that, hopefully, continues to unfold in each of your lives. Pray for that for each person in your family.

Turn to Page 236,
The Eucharist
Vivos en Cristo, Page 473

Read the opening question and introductory paragraph.



Proclaim the Scripture in the Parchment Paper box.

Ask: Where have you heard these words of Jesus before?

Read aloud the last paragraph.

Turn to Page 237,
Act of Thanksgiving
Vivos en Cristo, Page 475

Read aloud the first paragraph. Tell your child to listen for the word Eucharist and what happens during the celebration of the Sacrament. Review the definition of **Eucharist** in the Catholic Faith Words box.

Ask your child if he or she knows what living the Eucharist means. Explain that Jesus is really present to his followers in the Eucharist and that he expects them to live in a certain way.

Read aloud the last paragraph. Ask your child to recall his or her First Communion and what they remember about that day.

Activity

Have your child complete the Connect Your Faith activity.

Parents, Consider This: The Eucharist unites us to Christ. "Living the Eucharist" means continuing Jesus' work in the world. The U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops calls Catholics to live every day "engaged and challenged, encouraged and empowered" in their faith. In your dinner conversation, or at bedtime prayer, ask your child one way he or she might bring Christ's love to the world.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 238,
Our Catholic Life
Vivos en Cristo, Page 477

Read aloud the opening question and the two paragraphs.



Do the gold-star activity.

Turn to Page 239,
People of Faith
Vivos en Cristo, Page 479

Read the paragraph about Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about your family's devotion to the Eucharist.

Activity

Have your child complete the Live Your Faith activity.

Turn to Page 241,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.
Vivos en Cristo, Page 483

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 (see Page 323), 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.