



The second-grade program of the *Christ Our Life* series, *God Cares for Us*, is designed to prepare the children for their first celebration of the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist.

Unit	Chapter	Theme	Scripture	CCC References
1 God Gives Us Life and Love The children will come to appreciate everything and everyone as a gift from God.	1. God Is the Giver of Gifts	We were made like God and given many gifts.	Psalms 139:14; Mark 16:15	299, 301, 355–358, 422
	2. Jesus Is God's Best Gift	God sent Jesus to give us new life.	John 12:23–24; John 15:5–7; John 3:16	457, 615–618, 2157
	3. Jesus Lives in His Church	Through Baptism, we become members of the Church and share in God's life.	Ephesians 2:19–22; 1 John 3:1; 1 Peter 2:10	551–552, 882, 1213, 1234–1243
	4. God Speaks to Us	Baptism is the beginning of a new way of life of service to others.	Mark 7:31–37; 1 Peter 2:9	102–105, 1503–1504
2 Jesus Calls Us to Give Ourselves in Love The children will desire to follow Jesus' laws of love.	5. Jesus Shows Us How to Love God Our Father	When we obey God's commandments and love God with all our hearts, we are happy.	Psalms 139:1–5; Mark 12:30; John 15:10–11; 1 John 2:3	1166, 2143–2144, 2173, 2599, 2765
	6. Jesus Shows Us How to Love Others	When we love others as Jesus did, we show our love for God.	Matthew 25:34–40; Mark 12:30–31; Luke 2:42–52; John 15:12	531, 534, 678, 1823–1827
	7. We Give Love to Others	We show love when we are kind, respectful, honest, and truthful.	Matthew 25:44–45; 1 John 4:16; 1 John 3:18	2318–2319, 2401, 2415, 2464
	8. Jesus Calls Us to Live in Love	When we love God, we follow Jesus and share his love with others.	Matthew 9:9; John 15:9–11; Psalm 119:18	1430, 2052–2055
3 Jesus Gives Us the Gift of Peace The children will be grateful for God's loving mercy in giving us the gift of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance). They will know how to celebrate this sacrament and express a desire to do so.	9. Our Friend Jesus Forgives Us	Jesus is a good friend who forgives us as he forgave Zacchaeus.	Luke 15:1–7; Luke 18:10–14; Luke 19:1–10; John 15:14, 16; John 15:15	1422, 1432, 1441–1442, 1446
	10. Jesus Leads Us to His Peace	After we have sinned, Jesus gives us peace through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	Luke 7:36–50; John 20:19–23; 1 John 1:9	1423–1424, 1443, 1468, 1486
	11. The Holy Spirit Helps Us	The Holy Spirit helps us examine our consciences and become better people.	John 14:16, 26; 1 John 4:12–13; Ephesians 3:16	1431–1433, 1454, 1695
	12. We Meet Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation	Jesus forgives us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation when we confess our sins.	Mark 2:1–12; John 20:19–23; Mark 1:15	1450–1451, 1454–1460
	13. We Become Better Persons	Through sorrow for sin and penance, we become better friends of Jesus.	Psalms 51:1–14; Luke 19:1–10; Psalm 138:3	1459–1460, 1465, 1491
	14. Jesus Calls Us His Friends	God's love brings us healing and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.	Luke 10:38–42; Psalm 138:7–8	1485, 1489–1490, 1496
4 Jesus Gives Us the Gift of Himself The children will be familiar with the parts of the Mass and be able to join in. They will be prepared to receive their First Holy Communion.	15. Jesus Promised the Gift of Himself	Jesus gives himself to us under the form of bread and wine.	John 6:1–15; John 6:35–38; John 17:22–23	1335–1336, 1359–1361
	16. We Celebrate God's Love	At the Eucharist, we offer Jesus and ourselves to the Father.	Exodus 1–14; Luke 22:14–20; John 13:1–15; John 6:51	901, 1164, 1337–1341, 1368
	17. Jesus Invites Us	At Mass, God's family gathers to worship and give thanks.	Luke 22:14–20; Psalm 100:2	1348
	18. We Listen and Pray	God speaks to us in the Mass readings, and we respond with a prayer of faith and prayers of petition.	Matthew 25:35–40; Luke 11:28	185–187, 195, 1100–1103, 1154–1155, 1349
	19. We Prepare Our Gifts	At the Eucharist, we offer ourselves to God and give praise and thanks.	1 Corinthians 12:7–11; James 3:14–17; John 6:35	1333–1334, 1350–1352, 1357
	20. Jesus Offers Himself	At the words of the priest, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, who offers himself to the Father.	John 19:1–23; Mark 14:22	1106, 1353–1354, 1361, 1375
	21. We Receive the Bread of Life	Jesus comes to us in Holy Communion and unites us with himself and with one another.	Matthew 8:5–13; 1 Corinthians 10:16–17	1355, 1384–1388
	22. We Share God's Love with Others	We live the Mass by glorifying the Lord, loving and serving him and one another.	Mark 16:15; Isaiah 61:1	1391, 1394–1397, 1416
5 The Church Celebrates God's Care The children will appreciate the roles of different members united in the Body of Christ, the Church.	23. We Are One in the Church	We who are united in the Body of Christ, the Church, try to bring others to Jesus.	John 10:14–16; 1 Corinthians 12:12	771, 782, 789, 795, 813
	24. Mary, Mother of the Church, Cares for Us	We love and imitate Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother.	John 2:1–11; John 19:25–27; Luke 1:49	721–726, 963, 2617–2619
	25. The Church Celebrates God's Love	The Church's mission in the world is to show Christ's love to all.	Ephesians 4:5, 11–16; Ephesians 4:15–16	772–776

The children should

- come to realize God’s loving care for them, especially through the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist.
- respond to God’s call to give themselves in loving service to him and to others.

Prayer in this grade

- Act of Faith, Hope, Love (adapted)
- Act of Contrition
- Prayer to the Holy Spirit (adapted)
- Morning Prayer
- Meal Prayers
- Act of Consecration to Mary

Catholic Social Teaching Themes	Words Learned	Saints and Holy People*
Life and Dignity, God’s Creation	Trinity	Saint Bernadette
Solidarity	disciple	Saint Peter
Family and Community, Solidarity	bishop, Confirmation, faith, Original Sin, priest, sacrament	Saint Pius X
Solidarity	New Testament, Old Testament, saint	Saint John Bosco
	commandments, Lord’s Day, Ten Commandments	Moses, Saint Luke
The Poor and Vulnerable	Great Commandment	Tabitha (Dorcas), Saint Matthew
The Poor and Vulnerable		Saint Catherine of Sienna
Solidarity		Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus
Family and Community		Zacchaeus, Saint Vincent Ferrer
	reconciliation, Sacrament of Reconciliation, sin, temptation	Saint Martin of Tours
Solidarity		Saint: Francis of Assisi, Kateri Tekakwitha
	confession, penance	Saint Katharine Drexel
	absolution, contrition	King David, Zacchaeus, Saint Nicholas
		Mary, sister of Martha; Saint Martha
The Poor and Vulnerable	Holy Communion, miracle	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton
Family and Community	Last Supper, Passover, sacrifice	Saint: Tarsicius, Teresa of Ávila
	altar	Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro
	ambo	Saint Mark
		Saint Miguel Febres Cordero
	Body and Blood of Christ	Saint Joseph
	holy	the Roman soldier, Saint Julie Billiart
The Poor and Vulnerable, Solidarity	Blessed Sacrament, tabernacle	Saint Martín de Porres
Solidarity	deacon	Saint: John Bosco, Pius X, Theodore Guerin
		Mary, Saint: John Bosco, Philip, James
		Saint Charles Lwanga

* Information on more saints can be found in Saints and Feast Days, beginning on pages T473–T478.