

Sadlier

# CHRIST IN US™

School Edition 6

## Lesson 1



The text and guides are found to be in conformity with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* by the U.S. Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee to Oversee the Use of the Catechism.



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#### **Prayer: Lectio and Visio Divina** **Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation**

• Throughout all of history God has made himself known to us. • Sacred Scripture is the Word of God. • Jesus is the fullness of Divine Revelation. • Sacred Tradition began with the preaching of the Apostles.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Dominic

**Mini-Task:** How do I know God through his covenants?

**At Home:** Using the Bible to pray

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#### **Prayer: Praise** **Isaiah 61:1**

• Jesus Christ is the fullness of Divine Revelation. • The Blessed Trinity continues the work of creation. • Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah. • The Church is called to bring the Good News of salvation to all people.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Ruth and Naomi

**Mini-Task:** How is God revealing himself to me?

**At Home:** Writing a mission statement

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#### **Prayer: Intercession** **Dei Verbum 3**

• We are created in God's image and likeness. • Faith is necessary for salvation. • Adam and Eve's choice to disobey affects all humanity. • At the Last Judgment, Jesus Christ will judge all people.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Columba

**Mini-Task:** How do I honor those who have died in Christ?

**At Home:** Praying for family members who have died

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#### **Prayer: Traditional** **The Mystery of Faith, Roman Missal** **Luke 1:30–33**

• Mary cooperated fully in God's plan of salvation. • In the Incarnation, Jesus, the Second Person of the Trinity, became man. • Jesus is the fulfillment of God's plan to save us from sin. • Jesus' Resurrection makes possible our own resurrection and eternal life with the Trinity.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Stephen

**Mini-Task:** How have I said yes to God?

**At Home:** Sharing ideas about who Jesus is

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#### **Prayer: Petition** **The Nicene Creed**

#### **1 Corinthians 12:12, 27**

• The Church is human and divine. • All salvation comes from Christ through the Church. • The Church has a missionary mandate to unite the whole world to Christ. • The pope and bishops succeed the Apostles.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Angela Merici

**Mini-Task:** How am I living as a member of the Church?

**At Home:** Visiting the diocesan cathedral



## Unit 2: How do we celebrate what we believe?

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##### Prayer: *Lectio and Visio Divina*

##### Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and Calendar, *Roman Missal*, 1:1

- Jesus leads his Body, the Church, in the liturgy. • The Holy Spirit prepares us to encounter Christ in the liturgy.
- The sacraments are signs of grace entrusted to the Church by Christ. • Sacramentals prepare us to cooperate with the grace we receive in the sacraments.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Joan of Arc

**Mini-Task:** How can I participate more fully in the liturgy?

**At Home:** Remembering our life's story

#### Lesson 7: How do we praise and thank God? ..... 81



##### Prayer: Meditation

##### Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and Calendar, *Roman Missal*, 1:17

- We celebrate and participate in God's work through the liturgy. • The feasts and seasons of the liturgical year connect us to the life of Christ. • Apostolic Tradition unifies the different celebrations in the worldwide Church. • Devotions enrich our faith and prepare us to celebrate the sacraments.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Leonard of Port Maurice

**Mini-Task:** How do I live out the liturgical year?

**At Home:** Marking the special feasts of the Church

#### Lesson 8: How do we become members of the Church? ..... 91



##### Prayer: Petition

##### *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*

- The Sacraments of Christian Initiation are the foundation of the Christian life. • The grace we receive in Baptism calls us to share in Christ's work as priest, prophet, and king. • Confirmation perfects baptismal grace. • The Eucharist unites us to the Paschal Mystery.



##### Isaiah 61:1–3

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Charles Lwanga

**Mini-Task:** How am I a prophet?

**At Home:** Thinking about being a prophet, priest, king



#### Lesson 9: How do we celebrate God's forgiveness and healing? ..... 101



##### Prayer: Praise

##### Matthew 9:2, 6–8

- The Sacraments of Healing celebrate God's forgiveness and mercy. • The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation invites us to respond to Jesus' call to conversion. • The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation reconciles us with God and the Church. • The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick continues Jesus' healing ministry.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Gianna Beretta Molla

**Mini-Task:** How can I share in God's healing and love?

**At Home:** Telling God about our burdens

#### Lesson 10: How are we strengthened for service to God and others? ..... 111



##### Prayer: Meditation

##### *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1534

- We are all called to serve the Church through the common priesthood of the faithful. • Men who are ordained in the Sacrament of Holy Orders serve the Church by teaching, leading divine worship, and governing the Church. • The Sacrament of Matrimony joins a man and a woman in a lifelong covenant of love with each other and God. • Our families are called to be the light of Christ in the world.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint John XXIII

**Mini-Task:** How do I share in the mission of Jesus Christ?

**At Home:** Praying in new ways at mealtimes

## Unit 3: How do we live what we believe?

### The Faith Lived

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##### Prayer: Praise

##### Genesis 1:27

- God created us in his image to share in his life and love forever.
- Human dignity means that every life is sacred.
- Free will is the basis of moral responsibility.
- The natural law leads us to seek what is good.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Joan of France

**Mini-Task:** How do I show God's love to others?

**At Home:** Knowing family rules as natural law

#### Lesson 12: How do we respond to God's love? . . . 133



##### Prayer: Thanksgiving

##### Hebrews 9:15

- God's Law leads us to eternal happiness with him.
- The Word of God helps to inform our conscience and guide our moral choices.
- The virtues and the gifts of the Holy Spirit guide us to a healthy relationship with the Trinity.
- We are called to work for the common good.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Jerome

**Mini-Task:** How do I respond to God's love?

**At Home:** Asking God for spiritual strength

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##### Prayer: Meditation

##### Matthew 22:37–40

- God's laws help us stay faithful to him and his covenant.
- The Ten Commandments establish that God is our priority.
- The Ten Commandments guide our actions toward others.
- God's laws and the Church guide our moral choices.



##### The Ten Commandments

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Venerable Fulton Sheen

**Mini-Task:** How do God's laws lead me to happiness?

**At Home:** Focusing on one commandment

#### Lesson 14: What turns us away from God's love? . . 153



##### Prayer: Petition

##### Psalm 32:1–2

- Original Sin is passed down to all people.
- Sin harms human solidarity.
- Some sins can destroy our relationship with God.
- Committing sins repeatedly leads to vices, or capital sins.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Basil the Great

**Mini-Task:** What habits turn me away from God?

**At Home:** Thinking about how our actions affected others

#### Lesson 15: What turns us toward God's love? . . . 163



##### Prayer: Lectio and Visio Divina

##### Psalm 25:6–7

- God invites us to share in his life and work.
- God gives us the grace to live out our vocation.
- God freely offers us sanctifying grace.
- God restores our broken relationships with him and others after we have sinned.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Blessed Antoine-Frédéric Ozanam

**Mini-Task:** How do I discern God's call?

**At Home:** Considering how we respond to God's grace

## Unit 4: How do we become what we believe?

### The Faith Prayed

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##### Prayer: Praise

##### Saint Teresa of Calcutta

- Our hearts and minds are directed toward God in prayer.
- God has always drawn his people to himself in prayer.
- Prayer is communication between God and his people.
- Prompted by the Holy Spirit, we address our prayers to God the Father, in Christ's name.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini

**Mini-Task:** How and where do I like to pray?

**At Home:** Listening to music in prayer

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##### Prayer: Thanksgiving

##### Matthew 21:22

- Sacred Tradition explains the importance of prayer.
- Prayer strengthens our relationship with God.
- Constant prayer guides us on our journey of faith.
- The People of God are a people of prayer.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Francis de Sales

**Mini-Task:** Why do I pray?

**At Home:** Sharing favorite prayers



## **Lesson 18: How do we pray?** ..... 195



### **Prayer: Intercession**

#### **Laudis Canticum**

- The Holy Spirit teaches the Church to pray. • Our daily, personal prayer guides our journey of faith. • In the liturgy, we join with the Church to worship God.
- When we pray we life our minds and hearts to God.



### **Psalm 23**

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Catherine of Bologna

**Mini-Task:** How do I pray each day?

**At Home:** Praying with the Book of Psalms

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### **Prayer: Praise**

#### **St. Thérèse of Lisieux**

- The Church is strengthened by the witness of saints and holy people. • There are three sources of prayer. • We first learn to pray with our families, as the domestic church. • Faith directs our prayers toward God.

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Maximilian Kolbe

**Mini-Task:** How do traditional prayers speak to me today?

**At Home:** Preparing for Mass with the Readings

## **Lesson 20: Why is the Lord's Prayer called the perfect prayer?** ..... 215



### **Prayer: Lectio and Visio Divina**

#### **Pope Francis**

- The Lord's Prayer is a summary of the whole Gospel.
- In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus invites us into a relationship with his Father. • The Lord's Prayer helps us know and honor God. • The Lord's Prayer helps us place our trust in God.



### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Lesson Test:** Show What You Know

**Partners in Faith:** Saint Margaret of Scotland

**Mini-Task:** How do I live the will of the Father?

**At Home:** Saying "Amen!"

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# Your Spiritual Journey

## Your Grade 6 Saint: Saint Dominic

**Christ In Us** offers a saint for every grade. As you journey through each unit, remember to pray to your grade's saint. Ask him or her to help guide you to be closer to Jesus Christ.

**S**aint Dominic de Guzmán was born in Castile, Spain in 1170 into a wealthy and devout Catholic family with strong ties to the Church. His father was lord of the manor in his village, which meant that he owned most of the land. His uncle was an archbishop.

In 1191, Spain was devastated by famine. At that time, Dominic was studying to become a priest and was not as affected as other families by the hunger and suffering. He did understand the suffering felt by other people and decided to give away his money and sold his clothes, furniture and books to help feed the hungry. Dominic's fellow students asked him why he would do something that left him without almost all he owned. Dominic said, "Would you have me study off these dead skins, when men are dying of hunger?" The "dead skins" Dominic mentioned referred to the clothing people wore, since animal skins were often used to make the clothing, such as coats and hats.

Soon after Dominic was ordained a priest, he saw a need to help preach God's Word in Europe's growing cities. Dominic believed that a new kind of spiritual organization in the Church would help minister to its members through an example of poverty and a system of education. Together with six followers, Dominic began his mission in Toulouse, France.

Dominic believed his group's mission to preach the Gospel depended on a new kind of spirituality for his followers. It was one based on a life of contemplative prayer and penance.

In 1216, Church leaders recognized Dominic's religious organization as The Order of Preachers. They are more commonly known today as the Dominicans.

How can you show others that you are a follower of Jesus Christ?





**W**elcome to **Christ In Us**, an exciting way to grow in your Catholic faith!

Each one of us is on a journey to love and know Jesus Christ. Imagine if every person who met you knew you were a friend of Christ!

Together in this program

we will **ENCOUNTER** Jesus Christ

we will **ACCOMPANY** him in our lives

we will **WITNESS** to our faith.

You will use this book as well as your online digital portal as you discover and grow closer to Jesus Christ.

As you journey in your faith, you can think about these questions:

*"I myself am the bread of life.  
No one who comes to me  
shall ever be hungry, and no  
one who believes in me shall  
ever thirst."*

*John 6:35*



Why is it important  
to have Christ live  
in you?

What would happen  
if you did not have  
Jesus in your life?

How does your faith,  
the Church, and your  
family help bring you  
closer to God?



Every lesson has four **Spiraling Main Ideas**.  
Here is an example.

Each lesson has one or more **Faith Words** to help you understand the important words we use as Catholics.

Be sure to look at all the wonderful photos and beautiful art found in the pages of your book.

As you explore this question, you might be asked to stop and think more about it and then do a short **Activity** to answer it better.

You will be asked to **Show What You Know** by writing the answers to some short questions pertaining to the lesson.

#### Mary cooperated fully in God's plan of salvation.

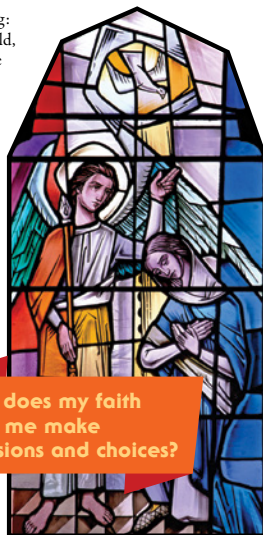
Long ago, there lived a young woman named Mary in a town called Nazareth. Mary, who was a virgin, was engaged to a man named Joseph. One day, the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary. He greeted her with the words "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you" (Luke 1:28).

At this event, called the Annunciation, Gabriel continued by saying: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, . . . and of his kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1:30-33).

Mary asked the angel: "How can this be?" The angel replied: "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God" (Luke 1:35). Out of all women everywhere and at all times, God had chosen Mary to be the mother of his divine Son. God had been preparing Mary for this role in salvation history ever since the very moment of her conception in the body of her mother. Mary is unique among all people in that she was conceived without the stain of Original Sin. We call this the **Immaculate Conception**. Mary also remained pure from all personal sin throughout her life.

#### Faith Word

**Immaculate Conception** see p. 257



How does my faith help me make decisions and choices?

#### Did You Know?



Mary is with us today.

#### Activity

The first part of the Hail Mary prayer recalls the Annunciation. Explain in your own words what each line means.

Hail Mary \_\_\_\_\_

Full of grace \_\_\_\_\_

The Lord is with you \_\_\_\_\_

Blessed are you among women \_\_\_\_\_

And blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_

Now, tell the account of the Annunciation to a friend, using the words you wrote above. Then, pray the Hail Mary together.



You will not be alone as you journey through **Christ In Us**. You will have lots of **Partners in Faith**—saints and other holy people who lived amazing lives—walking with you.

Along with Saint Dominic, here are some other Partners in Faith whom you will meet throughout the book!



*Ruth and Naomi*



*Saint Stephen*



*Saint Joan of Arc*



*Saint Charles Lwanga*



*Saint John XXIII*



*Archbishop  
Fulton Sheen*



*Saint Frances  
Xavier Cabrini*



*Saint Francis de Sales*

Next, you will be asked to go to your **Portfolio** to creatively share how you can bring Christ to the world.

Each lesson ends with a **Mini-Task** that invites you to show ways you can live out your faith as a missionary disciple of Christ.

Finally, you will be given ways to think and talk with your family **At Home**.


**Lesson 1**  
**Portfolio**

How do I know God through his covenants?

**Mini-Task**

Have you ever made a promise to a friend or family member? Did you keep your promise? A covenant is a solemn promise, or agreement of faithfulness, between God and his people. God's covenant with his people endures forever.

Use the space below to create a timeline of events that shows God's covenant promises. Start with the covenants he made with Israel's patriarchs and kings. End with the New Covenant made through Jesus' Body and Blood on the Cross, with which we are united every time we celebrate the Eucharist.

 **Want to do more? Go to your Portfolio to continue this activity.**

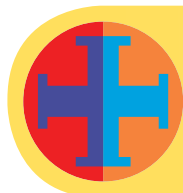
**At Home**

With your family, hold your Bible and let the pages fall open randomly. Place your finger on the page and begin reading. Use this passage to pray together as a family.

26 **WITNESS**

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**Christ In Us** features an online portal filled with exciting media and activities to go with the lessons in your book. If you see one of these icons below in your book, you know it's time to visit the student portal for more. (Note: Not every icon will appear in your book.)



Participate in lesson prayers, whose words are online and downloadable

Learn more about the lesson's **Did You Know?** topic by watching an interesting video and doing an activity



Learn more about the lesson's **Partner in Faith** by watching an online video and completing the activity that follows

Listen to Scripture verses and Catholic prayers and learn them by heart







Find fun activities to share and recall what you have learned

**Show What You Know** by completing online assessments



Read and remember the **Faith Words** definitions

Complete projects and tasks in the online **Portfolio** or *Portfolio Workbook*



Listen to the songs for your grade level and sing along!

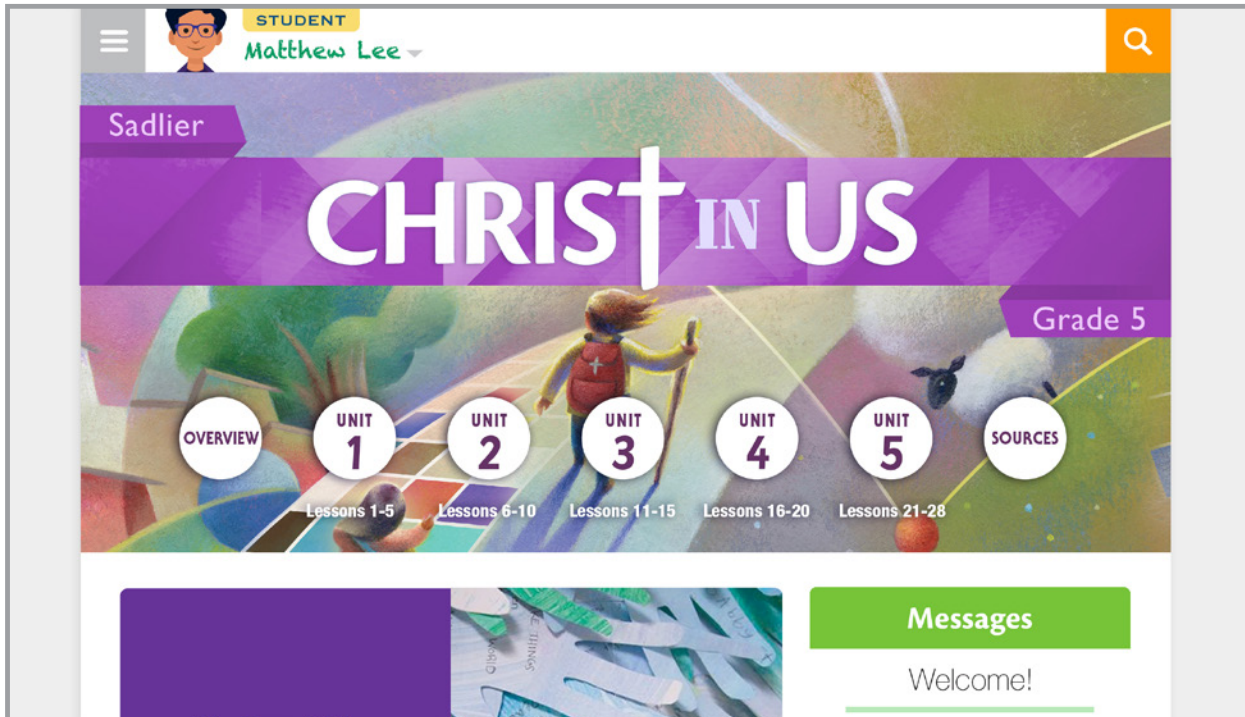
## Your Songs for Grade 6

Unit Songs	Liturgical Catechesis Seasonal Songs
<b>Unit 1:</b> “We Have Been Told,” David Haas	<b>Advent:</b> “Christ, Circle Round Us,” Daniel Schutte/OCP
<b>Unit 2:</b> “Light of Christ,” Tom Kendzia/OCP	<b>Christmas:</b> “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” PD
<b>Unit 3:</b> “I Send You Out,” John Angotti	<b>Easter:</b> “This Is The Day,” Tom Kendzia/OCP
<b>Unit 4:</b> “Here I Am, Lord,” Daniel Schutte/OCP	<b>Pentecost:</b> “Holy Spirit Come Now,” Manibusan/OCP
<b>Unit 5:</b> “We Are Called,” David Haas	

## Your journey continues with your login to *Christ In Us* Digital!

Here you can explore all the exciting resources that blend together with your textbook.

Take a look at your personalized online dashboard.  
Everything you need is at your fingertips!



- Think of your portfolio as your digital backpack! Here you can get your assignments, see reminders, send emails, and even talk to your catechist.
- Interactive Mini-Tasks enable you to share exciting activities with others. You will be able to get hands on and creative by making videos or interactive posters.
- Listen with your heart and pray the prayers of *Lectio* and *Visio Divina*, praise, petition, intercession, traditional, thanksgiving, and meditation from your lesson.
- Track your progress with digital quizzes and tests.

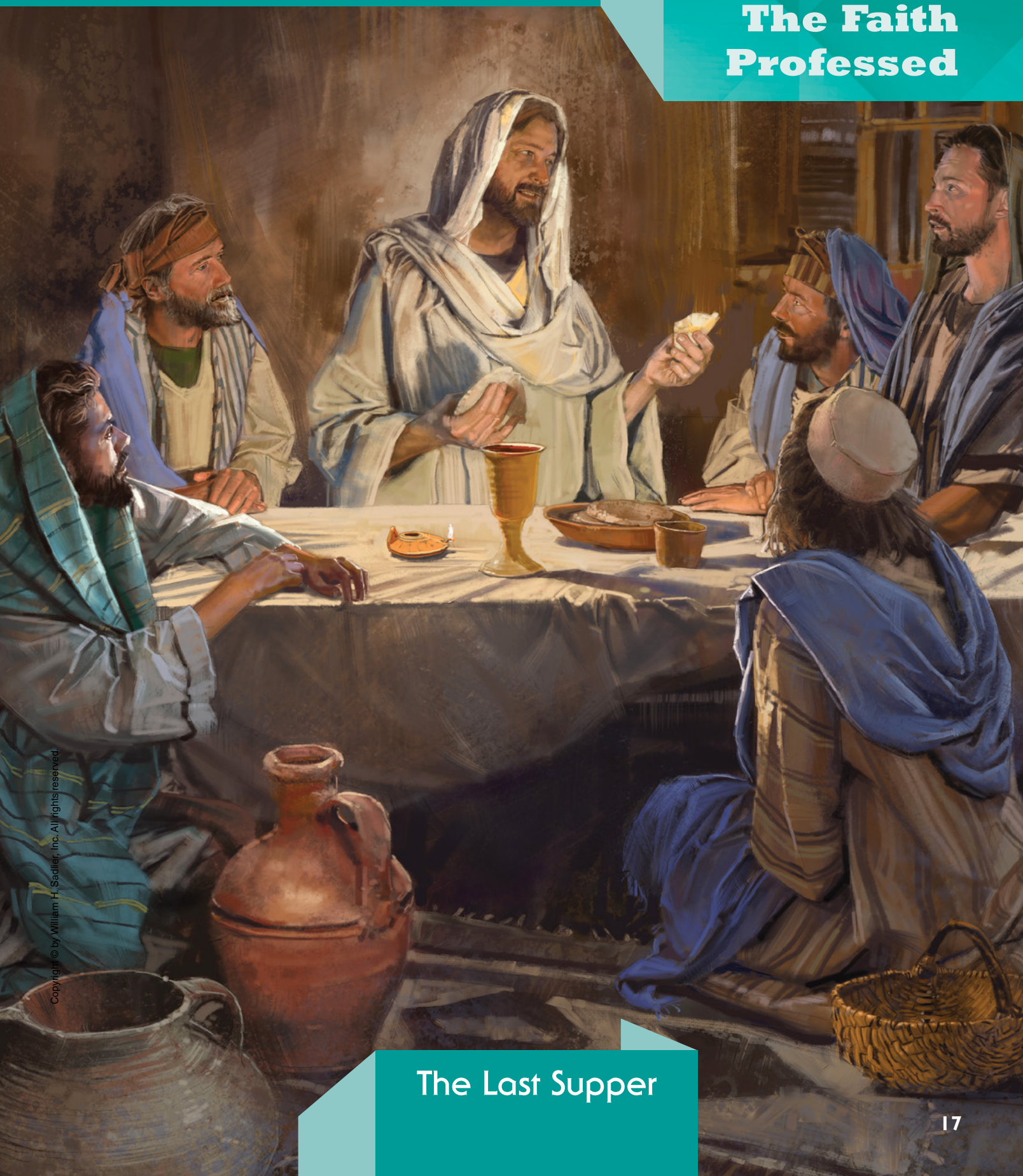
**Have a wonderful year!**



What do we believe?

# Unit 1

## The Faith Professed



The Last Supper



## Unit Prayer

**Leader:** Saint Dominic believed that through a life of prayer, study, preaching, and community, we would be able to live his prayer: “We must sow the seed, not keep it for ourselves.” He lived so that others might know and understand God’s presence. By doing small things in Christ’s name, we can change the world. We, too, become evangelists!

Let us listen to how Jesus’ love and presence is made know through modern evangelists among us. Listen to the stories of missionary disciples among us.

**Leader:** Let us pray:  
Lord Jesus, help us to know you in our daily lives. We want to be living witnesses of your love for us and to be evangelists! Teach us to live just as Saint Dominic taught us to share your love in our world.

**Reader:** For the time and place for daily prayer:

**All:** O God, help us to sow your seeds in the world.

**Reader:** For the gift of your Word in Sacred Scripture that feeds us with wisdom:

**All:** O God, help us to sow your seeds in the world.

**Reader:** For the strength to act and speak as you have taught us:

**All:** O God, help us to sow your seeds in the world.

**Reader:** For the gift of those who love us:

**All:** O God, help us to sow your seeds in the world.

*(End the Unit Prayer by singing the song for this unit.)*



**Unit Song:** “We Have Been Told,”  
David Haas

## Missionary Discipleship

**C**an you think of a time when you had to do the right thing? Have you ever had to “stand up” for someone who was being bullied or made fun of? How did you feel?



# How do we know God?

**T**hroughout all of salvation history, God has never stopped inviting us to know him and to share in his life and love. God has revealed himself to us through his Son, Jesus. We also come to know God through the Church, to whom Jesus entrusted the power and authority to teach the faith.



Go to the digital portal for a *Lectio* and *Visio Divina* prayer.

*"You are indeed Holy, O Lord,  
and from the world's beginning  
are ceaselessly at work,  
so that the human race may become holy,  
just as you yourself are holy."*

*Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation*



### Throughout all history God has made himself known to us.

Gradually, God, in his goodness and wisdom, revealed himself to us. Throughout history, God has made known his loving plan of salvation. Salvation history is the account of God’s enduring love for us as he reveals who he is in stages and invites us to respond.

God’s Revelation began when he created the world and everything in it. We can know who God is through the things that he has made. God is the origin and the end of everything.

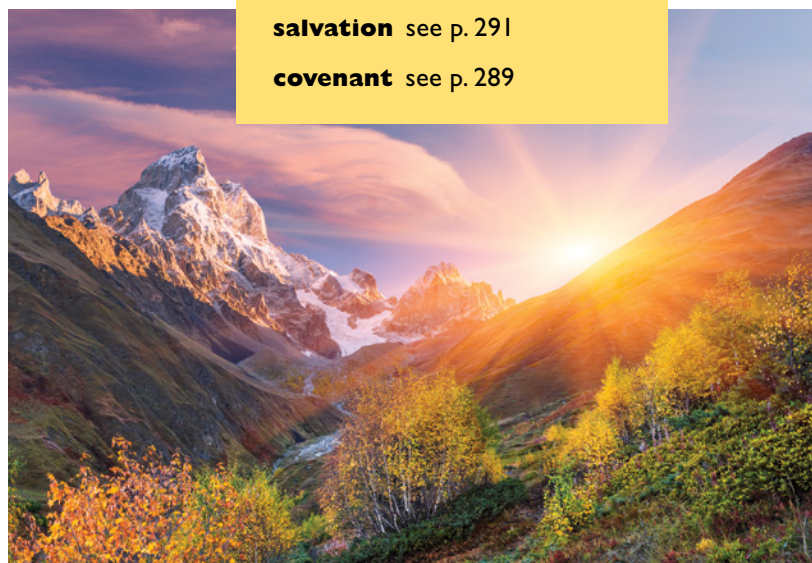
“See, days are coming—oracle of the LORD—when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. . . . I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

Jeremiah 31:31–33

## Faith Words

**salvation** see p. 291

**covenant** see p. 289



God created our first parents, Adam and Eve, in his own image and likeness. From the very beginning, God revealed himself to them. He invited them into relationship with him. Even when they sinned and turned away from him, God never stopped loving them. God’s love was so great that he promised them **salvation**. Salvation is the forgiveness of sin and the restoration of friendship with God. He also offered them his **covenant**, a solemn agreement of faithfulness between God and his people.

The covenants of the Old Testament lead to Jesus. He is the new and everlasting covenant who will bring us to salvation.

## Activity

The Bible tells us about our ancestors in faith. Complete the following chart using the information in your book and what you already know. Discuss with a partner.

Ancestor in faith	Covenant/ Promise	Truth about God	Result for humanity	How Jesus completes this for us
Noah				
Abraham				
Moses				



## Sacred Scripture is the Word of God.

God's covenant with Noah and with all living beings promised that God would never again destroy the world with a flood (see Genesis 9:9–17). This covenant will remain in effect for as long as the world lasts. God also made a covenant with Abraham and his descendants. Through this covenant, God formed the Chosen People into a great nation (see Genesis 17:1–2). God's covenant with Moses established his personal relationship with the Israelites and revealed his law to them (see Exodus 19:4–6).

The word *Scripture* means “holy writings.” Sacred Scripture is the Word of God expressed in human words. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, human writers put down on paper what God wanted us to know about himself. They shared the account of God's plan to bring us back to him through Christ Jesus. God is the true author of Sacred Scripture because he inspired its human authors.

Another name for Scripture is the *Bible*. The word *bible* comes from a Latin word meaning “books.” The Bible is not just one book but a small library of sacred, or holy, books. The forty-six books of the Old Testament and the twenty-seven books of the New Testament reveal the truth about God's love for us.

In the Old Testament, we learn about God's relationship with the people of Israel. The New Testament contains the story of Jesus, his mission, his first followers, and the beginning of the Church.

The biblical writers used literary forms to help us to learn about God. A literary form is a type of writing used to get a message across. The Bible contains histories, novels, short stories, wise sayings, codes of law, letters, prophecy, visions, poetry, hymns, and many other types of writing, all of which helped Israel live as a covenant people.



**What is one way I have been faithful to a promise in my life?**

## What Makes Us Catholic?

**N**ot all Bibles are alike. Catholic Bibles have seven more books than other Christian Bibles. These books are called *deuterocanonical*. They are all in the Old Testament and contain accounts of God's interactions with the people of Israel. At first, all Christians used the same books. Then some Christians left these books out of the canon, or the official list of the books of the Bible, because they were not written in Hebrew. Catholics kept them in, believing them to be inspired by the Holy Spirit. These seven books are Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Sirach, Baruch, 1 Maccabees, and 2 Maccabees.





We learn about God through the accounts in Sacred Scripture. The Church has the task of interpreting and teaching Scripture. The task of authentically interpreting the Word of God has been entrusted solely to the Magisterium, the teaching authority of the pope and the bishops in union with him. Their authority is exercised in the name of Jesus Christ. The Magisterium teaches the faithful “the truth to believe, the charity to practice, the beatitude to hope for” (CCC, 2034).



Many people support the Magisterium in its work of interpreting the meaning of Scripture. Some of these people are biblical scholars who translate and study ancient texts. Others are archaeologists. Their work helps us to understand how people lived in biblical times.

### The Old Testament

- The *Pentateuch* is the first five books of the Bible. These books tell the story of Creation and of God revealing himself to his Chosen People and establishing a covenant with them.
- The historical books are sixteen books that tell of how God’s people lived the covenant. Sometimes God’s people did well, and sometimes they fell short.
- The wisdom books contain wise teachings about the covenant with God. There are seven wisdom books.
- The prophetic books contain the words of the prophets. These eighteen books call God’s people to be faithful to the covenant. They also remind the people that God has always been faithful to them.

### The New Testament

- The Gospels have at their center Jesus Christ. In the four Gospels, we encounter the mystery of Christ’s life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension.

- The Book of the Acts of the Apostles recounts the events of the early Church.
- The New Testament letters, also known as the thirteen Epistles, were written by Saint Paul. In them, we read about the Christian faith and how to live as followers of Jesus.
- The Catholic letters are eight additional letters that teach about our faith.
- The Book of Revelation is the final book in the Bible. It anticipates the end times and encourages Christians to remain faithful to God, even when it is difficult or dangerous to do so.

## Activity

Your class will be organized into two groups: one to discuss the Old Testament and one to discuss the New Testament. Work with your group to create clues about your section of the Bible. Write the clues on index cards, and use them to play a trivia game with the whole class.

## Did You Know?



**The Bible is available online and in apps.**



### Jesus is the fullness of Divine Revelation.

After the Fall, when Adam and Eve turned away from God, he did not give up on humanity. Instead, God began to gather his people to himself. The covenants God made with Noah, Abraham, and Moses were God's response to the chaos caused by sin. God told his people: "I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God; and you will know that I, the LORD, am your God" (Exodus 6:7).

In a new stage in God's relationship with humanity, God formed a special family to be the Chosen People. We call this formative period the age of the patriarchs.

The four Old Testament patriarchs are Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, and Leah were important women during this period. These men and women lived from 1900 B.C. to about 1650 B.C. Their contributions to the history of salvation are set forth in chapters 12–50 of the Book of Genesis.

The People of Israel often struggled to keep God's covenant. Through his prophets, God challenged his people to be faithful and assured them that even though they often failed him, he had a plan for their salvation. A **New Covenant** would replace the old. This New Covenant would last forever.

*"Listen, that you may have life.  
I will make with you an  
everlasting covenant,  
the steadfast loyalty promised  
to David."*

*Isaiah 55:3*







In the Gospels, we encounter Jesus Christ, who tells his disciples at the Last Supper: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you” (Luke 22:20). Jesus is the fullness of Divine Revelation. Through the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Father fulfilled his plan of salvation and established his everlasting covenant.

God the Father revealed his Kingdom to us in the words of Christ, in the actions of Christ, and in the very presence of Christ among us. In fact, the things that Jesus said and did comprise the fullest revelation of who God is and of how God loves us. The ways we speak, act, and live our faith show our belief in God the Father’s only Son, Jesus Christ.

After Christ’s Resurrection, the Church was planted like a seed in the world. As members of the Church, our mission is to bring forth the fruits or signs of the Kingdom of God. The singular sign of the Kingdom is love (see 1 Corinthians 13:13).

## Activity

Even though God’s people turned against him, he did not turn against them. Instead, he made a covenant with them and promised to send a Savior to bring them back into his friendship.

In a small group, talk about a situation in which a person or group might feel disrespected or hurt. Discuss how people feel when they try to get back at those who hurt them. Does it make them happy? Does it accomplish anything positive? Role-play a situation in which the person or group chooses to seek peace instead. Does seeking peace make things better? What does it accomplish for both sides?





## Sacred Tradition began with the preaching of the Apostles.

Imagine yourself as one of Jesus' followers. Throughout Jesus' ministry, you have walked the roads with him. You have listened, watched, prayed, and had engaging conversations.

Jesus' teaching and presence have touched you deeply. Jesus has totally changed your life. You know, in a very deep way, that you have met the Lord. Your life is different now because you know Jesus. How would others, in the centuries to come, be able to have the same experience?

As we know, Jesus fulfilled the Father's plan of salvation for us through his life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension. God continues to offer his salvation to the world through his Church, the Body of Christ. In order for this to happen, Christ commanded his Apostles to preach the Gospel. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, they communicated the message of salvation through their preaching and in writing.

The Apostles would, in turn, hand on to their successors the preaching and teaching that Christ had entrusted to them. This process of passing on the Gospel message, from Christ to the Apostles to their successors, is called Sacred Tradition. The Apostles entrusted the Church with the responsibility to profess and guard the **deposit of faith** contained in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. From the time of the Apostles, the Church has passed on the Good News of salvation in her life, teaching, and worship. The Church will continue to carry out this sacred mission until Christ returns in glory.



## Activity

Make a storyboard with posters to retell one of the following Gospel passages:

Matthew 14:22–33

Mark 2:1–12

Luke 15:11–32

John 6:1–14



Young pilgrims during a prayer service at the 2016 World Youth Day in Brezegi, Poland

## One Church, Many Cultures



**C**atholics of all ages have a responsibility to share and celebrate our faith. Young people can do their part by sharing their faith with one another and with the wider world. Every year, the Church celebrates World Youth Day in a different city, usually over the summer. Catholic young people from different cultures and backgrounds all over the world join together to pray and to learn more about their faith from priests, catechists, youth leaders, and even the pope. They learn from one another, too.

Together, Scripture and Tradition are “one sacred deposit of the word of God” (*Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation*, 10). This means that the Church does not rely on Scripture alone as she professes God’s revealed truth to every generation of believers. Rather, the Church equally accepts, honors, and reveres both Scripture and Tradition (see CCC, 82). The Holy Spirit guides the Magisterium as she passes on the truth that God has revealed to us and that is necessary for our salvation.

From the time of the Apostles, the Church has carried forward the Good News about the gifts of God in her life, teaching, and worship.

## Partners in Faith

### Saint Dominic

Saint Dominic was born in Spain. He lived about the same time as Saint Francis of Assisi. When he was about 25 years old, he became a priest. Several years later, he and six other priests began traveling and preaching the Gospel. They became known as the Order of Preachers. Today, we call them Dominicans, after Saint Dominic. Dominic said that it was important to study and pray as well as preach.



**Learn more about the life of Saint Dominic.**





*Lectio and Visio Divina*

Faith		Words	
salvation	covenant	New Covenant	deposit of faith



## Show What You Know

Explain each term in your own words.

1. deposit of faith

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2. covenant

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3. salvation

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4. New Covenant

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## Live Your Faith

What Scripture verse or passage inspires you to live God's covenant faithfully?

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What is a promise you can make to God right now?

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## Mini-Task

Have you ever made a promise to a friend or family member? Did you keep your promise? A covenant is a solemn promise, or agreement of faithfulness, between God and his people. God's covenant with his people endures forever.

Use the space below to create a time line of events that shows God's covenant promises. Start with the covenants he made with Israel's patriarchs and kings. End with the New Covenant made through Jesus' Body and Blood on the Cross, with which we are united every time we celebrate the Eucharist.



**Want to do more? Go to your Portfolio to continue this activity.**



With your family, hold your Bible and let the pages fall open randomly. Place your finger on the page and begin reading. Use this passage to pray together as a family.

Sadlier

# CHRIST IN US

