

We Belong to the Body of Christ

Scripture Focus: 1 Corinthians 12:14–18, 27

Lesson Goals

- to identify that we become members of the Body of Christ through Baptism
- to state that the Church is made up of different people with different gifts
- to discuss that the Church benefits when everyone shares their unique gifts

Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1808 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 Corinthians 12:14–18, 27).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

Get Ready! (10 minutes)

Pray the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.

Ask your child to share some signs that two people or a group of people are united.

Tell your child that today's lesson explores what it means for the members of the Church to work in unison, or to be united.

Dive In!

Read the Featured Story on page 1808 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 Corinthians 12:14–18, 27).

Ask your child these questions:

- How does the job of each part make it different from other parts of the body? (*The job of an eye is to see, the job of an ear is to hear, and so on. No other part of the body sees or hears, and so on.*)
- Why is it important for each part to do what it is supposed to do? (*Each part of the body plays an important role in making sure our body is working.*)
- How is the body like Christ's Body? (*Each of us is its own role in making the body work.*)

Read the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1809 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet. *Answers: 1. think, 2. speak, 3. love, 4. touch, 5. look, 6. listen, 7. walk*

Discover! (10 minutes)

Read the article on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words, and ask the review questions.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 1 activity booklet. *Answers: child playing—child sitting alone; person cooking—hungry person; priest—sick person*

Go!

Choose one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet to complete this week.

Encourage your child to complete the puzzle handout on the third page of this home guide chapter. *Answer: We are the Body of Christ.*

Conclude by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.





Chapter 1

One of a Kind, Created by God

What makes you “one of a kind”? Is it a physical quality? Is it a rare or unusual talent? God made each of us **unique**—or one of a kind. We have different talents and different personalities. We look different, and we act and react differently.

Each of us is a child of God, but we become part of the **Body of Christ** at our Baptism. The Body of Christ is just another name for our Church—and Jesus Christ is our head! Our priests, our families, our saints, and everyone who is baptized are all part of the Body of Christ.

Just like our body needs each part to work properly, the Body of Christ needs each of us to work the way it should. The Body of Christ is **diverse**

because it is filled with unique people who can do many different things well. Diversity makes the Church better because each of us has an important place in the Church. No one else can serve in exactly the same way. By using our gifts and becoming the best people we can be, we help make the Body of Christ strong.

Remember: We are Church all the time, not just in Sunday Mass. When you are kind to someone on the playground, when you tell the truth, or when you help your family with chores, you are doing what Jesus wants you to be and do in the world. How can you serve Jesus as a member of his Body this week?

Key Words

Body of Christ The Church; all baptized people everywhere.

diverse Filled with unique people who can do many different things.

unique One of a kind.

Review

1. When do we become part of the Church, the Body of Christ?
2. Why is each person in the Body of Christ different?
3. Why is each of us important to the Body of Christ?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “The Word Church,” page 6
- “The Church Is the Body of Christ,” page 7

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child’s understanding.



Handout

Part of the Church

Use the code to write the correct letters on the lines below to find the secret message. Then transfer the circled letter in your final answer to the space marked with the number 1 on the back of your folder.

A #	B ..	C *!	D ()	E {+	F #!
G ^	H <	I >	J /	K "	L @
M (.	N =	O :	P }}	Q \	R ?
S **	T %	U ...	V [.]	W ;.	X ~
Y ?.	Z &				

;. {+ # ? {+
 % < {+ .. : () ?.
 : #! *! < ? > ** %

