

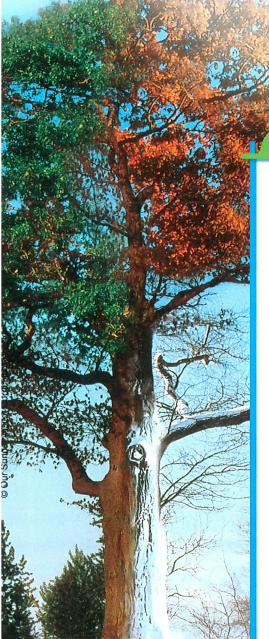


Leader: God, we thank you for the gift of love.

"May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you!"

Psalm 67:

All: God, we thank you for the gift of love. Amen.



## Activity Let's Begin

- Many Signs Signs are like clues.
  Leaves, flowers, ice, and snow are signs of some seasons. Some signs tell you what to do. Others may tell you how to think or feel.
- What are some signs of the season you are in now?

Draw a Sign Draw a sign or picture that stands for something else. See if your classmates can guess what your sign stands for.

## Signs of Love



How do you feel and see God's love?

ASTORY

### RICKY THE RACCOON

Ricky sat alone at the bottom of a tree. "What's wrong, Ricky? Where did your friends go?" Mama Raccoon asked.

"We were playing. I got a splinter," he said, and showed his paw to his mother. "When I cried, they all ran away."

"Don't be scared," she said. Mama Raccoon took Ricky's paw in hers and gently gave it a kiss. The pain went away and Ricky stopped crying.

Mama Raccoon said, "Ricky, if you ever hurt or you're alone, just think of me. I love you!"

What helps you remember your family's love?

### God's Love

Ricky had a sign of his mother's love. God gives you signs of his love, too.

You read about God's love in the Bible. You learn about God's love from Jesus. Jesus healed people as a sign of his Father's love.

The Holy Spirit fills you with God's love. When you show God's love to people, the Holy Spirit is in you.



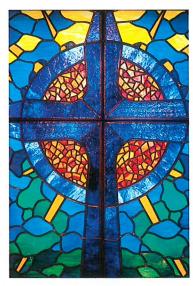
**Think:** What are some pictures or

items that remind you of God?

**Share:** Make a list with a partner of things you remember from

your church.

Act: As a class walk to the church and play "I Spy." Name the different signs of God in the church.



## **Special Signs**



Focus What is a Sacrament?

God's love is something to celebrate! Jesus teaches that God is always with you!

Jesus gave the Church special signs to help people celebrate that he is still here. These signs are called Sacraments.

### SCRIPTURE

John 14:18-19



## Jesus' Promise

esus wanted to remain with his followers even when he returned to God the Father. This is what he said to them.

"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live."

From John 14:18-19

When the How do you show that God's love is with you?



# Signs and Celebrations

Jesus gives us Sacraments so that we can always know his love and care. The Catholic Church has seven Sacraments.

The Sacraments are signs and celebrations. Every Sacrament has words and actions. When you celebrate the Sacraments, the Holy Spirit is there.

Sacraments of Initiation

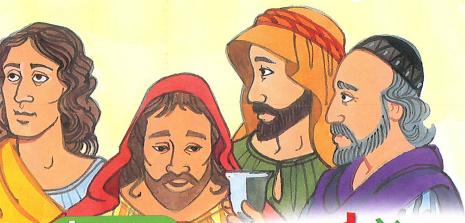
Sacraments of Healing

Sacraments of Service

- Baptism
- Confirmation
- Eucharist
- Reconciliation
- Anointing of the Sick
- Matrimony
- Holy Orders

# Words of Faith

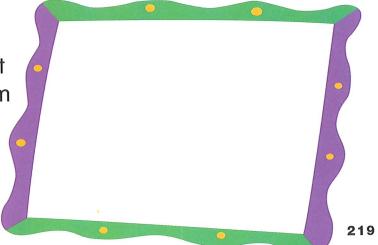
Sacraments are signs of God's love given by Jesus to bring you closer to God.



# Activity Connect Your Faith-

### Draw a Sacrament

Think of a Sacrament that you have taken part in. Draw something from the celebration.



## **Words and Signs**



Focus What signs are used to celebrate the Sacraments?

The Church celebrates seven Sacraments. Each Sacrament uses words and signs to show God's love.

Sacrament	Sign	
Baptism	Water God gives new life in Jesus.	
Confirmation	Holy oil The gifts of the Holy Spirit are given.	
Eucharist	Bread and wine The Body and Blood of Christ are present.	
Penance and Reconciliation	Outstretched hands God forgives those who are sorry.	
Anointing of the Sick	Soothing oil God helps heal our bodies and spirits.	
Matrimony	Wedding rings God blesses the love of a man and a woman.	
Holy Orders	Holy oil God calls men to lead and serve the church.	

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What signs of the Sacraments have you seen?

## Activity Live Your Faith -

Match the Signs Draw lines to match each Sacrament with its sign.

**Baptism** 

**Eucharist** 

Penance and Reconciliation

**Matrimony** 

**Holy Orders** 











## **Prayer of Thanks**



Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: For Baptism's refreshing water,

All: Thank you, Jesus.

Leader: For holy oil that blesses,

All: Thank you, Jesus.

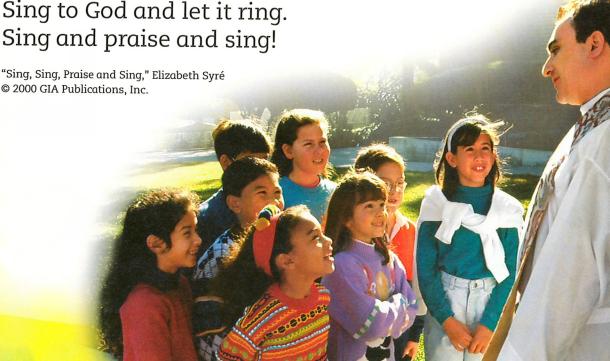
Leader: For the gift of your life in the holy

Bread and Wine,

All: Thank you, Jesus.



Sing, sing, praise and sing! Honor God for ev'rything. Sing to God and let it ring. Sing and praise and sing!



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Work with Words Fill in the letter sentences.	ers to complete the	
<ol> <li>The Catholic Church has</li> </ol>	Sacraments.	
2. Sacraments are signs of God's	·	
3. A sign of Baptism is		
<b>B</b> Check Understanding Circle th	e correct answers.	
4. What are the Church's seven s	igns of God's love?	
commandments	Sacraments	
5. God is with you in the sacrame	nts.	
Yes	No	
6. What do all Sacraments have?		
bread	words	
7. What did Jesus do for people?		
hurt them	healed them	
8. What are the Sacraments?		
celebrations	stories	
9. What Sacrament has bread and wine?		
Eucharist	Baptism	

### **Catholics Believe**

- The Church has seven Sacraments. They are signs of God's love.
- Jesus gave the Sacraments to remind people that he is with them always.



### SCRIPTURE

Read Matthew 9:27-31 to learn about Jesus' power to heal.



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For weekly scripture readings and seasonal resources

### Activity

### Live Your Faith

Make "Helping Hands" Have each family member draw the outline of his or her hand on art paper. Then write a loving message on each hand. Save your hands, and give them to a family member if he or she is having a bad day.





A Mary, first century

### People of Faith

One day God gave Mary a message. "You will have a son. You will name him Jesus." Mary was confused. She said, "How can this be done?" God's messenger said, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you. Your son will be the Son of God." Mary did not know why God had chosen her to be the mother of his Son. She trusted in God's love. Mary became the loving mother of Jesus. She is the greatest of saints.



### Family Prayer

**Blessed Mother**, pray for us that we may always believe in God's great love for us. Amen.

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