



Faith at Home

GUIDE



solutions for
home-based and
hybrid models
of catechesis





Faith At Home Guide

The quick transition from parish- to home-based catechesis during the Covid-19 quarantine period in the Spring of 2020 was a challenge for many catechetical leaders and families alike. Amid the uncertainty of the coming 2020-2021 catechetical year, OSV is providing catechetical leaders with a robust toolbox of solutions for home-based and hybrid models of catechesis. The following guide is organized based on age group and type of catechesis. Here you'll find solutions for:

- Elementary Grade Level Catechesis
- Early Childhood Catechesis
- Sacramental Preparation

The next several months will require creativity and flexibility. One option we are offering this year that we hope will help you to be flexible is the ability to get **free e-books with purchase of print books for all curriculum texts mentioned in this guide**. In addition, it is our hope that the tools found described below will assist you in meeting the needs of the families you serve in new and innovative ways.

Elementary Grade Level Catechesis

ALIVE IN CHRIST

With *Alive in Christ*, OSV offers you a straightforward, easy to use way to combine Home-Based age-specific sessions with whole family experiences. We've done the work for you without limiting your creativity and ability to tailor it to your parish.

Why This Works: *Alive in Christ* uses a spiral scope and sequence, allowing children to dive deeper into their Catholic faith each year. While each grade level provides unique content, the 7 unit themes of *Alive in Christ* are the same in every grade. These common doctrinal unit themes provide a framework for children of varying ages in a family to be focused on the same topic at the same time, at their own developmental stages. These unit themes become a logical connecting point for gathering families. For more details regarding the unit framework view the program Scope and Sequence here:

https://aliveinchrist.osv.com/parish/program_resources/pr_leaders/32

Program Resources

Additional materials geared specifically for catechists and Directors of Religious Education.

For Catechists

For Leaders

CATEGORIES

Alive in Christ Program Overview

Scope & Sequence

Scope & Sequence



Program Scope & Sequence
All Grades



Preview



Download

How This Works: One week a month gather families for a **Family + Faith Session**. (This can be done in a virtual or gathered setting. Everything described here is provided free with purchase of student books) Follow the unit theme the children will be focused on in their **Alive in Christ** books that month. The three remaining weeks the parents follow the **Home Session Plans**. These are fully designed lesson plans created for parents to make it easy for them to lead their children through the chapters. Upon completion of the chapter the children complete an eAssessment for each chapter. These are automatically graded and returned to a designated email. This provides a seamless method of accountability without additional work.

Let us show you how easy it is for parents to access the Home Session Plans.

Log on to: https://aliveinchrist.osv.com/family/in_the_home/grade_1/187

Once you are logged in make sure you are in the STUDENT & FAMILY section (green tab), IN THE HOME. Here you will see tabs for each grade level and chapter.

ALIVE IN CHRIST

Versión en español



PARISH



SCHOOL



ADOLESCENTS



STUDENT & FAMILY

STUDENT & FAMILY HOME

IN THE HOME

INTERACTIVE REVIEWS

SEND EASSESSMENT

GAMES

GLOSSARY

ADULT LEARNING

In the Home

Necessary resources for home-based catechesis.

Tour

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

Grade 8

CATEGORIES

Home Session Plans

Multi-Age Family Session Plans

Ebooks

Interactive Reviews

Send Eassessment

Video Playlists

Games

Glossary

People of Faith Activities

Home Session Plans



Chapter 1



Preview



Download



Chapter 2



Preview



Download



Chapter 3



Preview



Download



Chapter 4



Preview



Download



Chapter 5



Preview



Download



Chapter 6



Preview



Download



Chapter 7



Preview



Download

You can then preview or download the desired Chapter plan by clicking on the appropriate blue circle. Here is a quick snapshot of the Home Session Plan. To explore further, feel free to download a full session. You will notice that these are not simply “substitute catechist” lesson plans. These are designed specifically for parents to lead their children and in a way that forms the parents in their vocation of parenting. Parents are given the tools they need to live out their call to be the primary religious educator of their child while also growing in their personal faith.

ALIVE IN CHRIST GRADE 1 CHAPTER 1 Home Session Plan

Created By God

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 55, the Family + Faith page.

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

Parents, Consider This: *This first chapter begins at the beginning, explaining that all human beings are created in the image of God. We possess dignity because we are mirrors that reflect God's splendor and his goodness. It's easy to see, then, how you are your child's best teacher of faith. You see him/her with the eyes of God. You truly know how unique and good he/she is. When you teach your child this truth of our faith he/she will be able to recognize the preciousness of their own life as well as the value of the lives of others.*

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Identify the Bible as God's Word written by humans
- Appreciate that God made everything and all of creation is good

The e-assessment tab is in the same section of the website. This is a password-protected section. A catechist can initiate the e-assessment or the parent can facilitate the process. If parents are going to initiate the e-assessment, they'll need to create an account first by entering their first name/last name/email address and create a password – it's very simple.

ALIVE IN CHRIST Versión en español

PARISH SCHOOL ADOLESCENTS STUDENT & FAMILY

STUDENT & FAMILY HOME IN THE HOME INTERACTIVE REVIEWS SEND EASSESSMENT GAMES GLOSSARY ADULT LEARNING

Send eAssessment [Tour](#)

1 Select Grade 2 Unit 3 Chapter 4 Recipients

Select a Grade:

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

The parent then selects an e-assessment grade/unit/chapter. Then they enter the recipient's email address, which has to be a valid email address of a registered catechist. Parents can also check the box that says “Email results to logged in user” should they want to receive the e-assessment results.

Send eAssessment

1 Select Grade **2** Unit **3** Chapter **4** Recipients

E-Mail Recipient:

Enter Leader/Catechist Email Address.

Email results to logged in user.

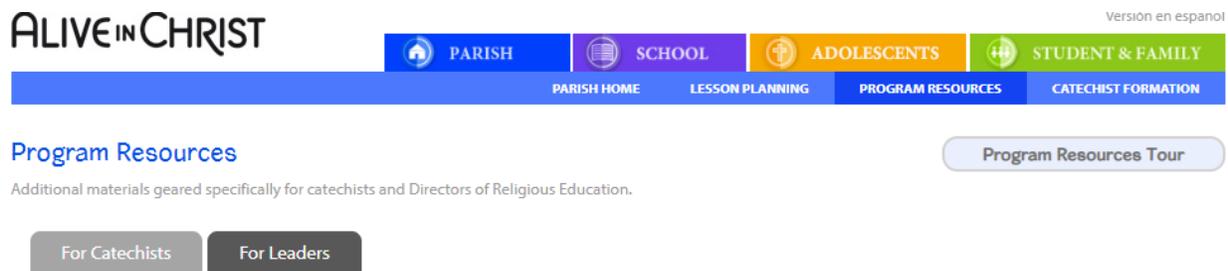


Now let us show you how easy it is to add a monthly **Family Gathered Session** to home-based catechesis using ***Alive in Christ***

Log on to : https://aliveinchrist.osv.com/parish/program_resources/pr_leaders/29

(You will need your credentials to access this password protected section of the website. If you have not yet registered on the website you will need to do this first.)

Once you have logged on, make sure you are in the PARISH section (blue tab) PROGRAM RESOURCES section in the For Leaders tab.



ALIVE IN CHRIST Version en español

PARISH SCHOOL ADOLESCENTS STUDENT & FAMILY

PARISH HOME LESSON PLANNING PROGRAM RESOURCES CATECHIST FORMATION

Program Resources

Additional materials geared specifically for catechists and Directors of Religious Education.

Program Resources Tour

For Catechists For Leaders

In the left hand column you will see the list of Family + Faith sessions by unit theme:

Family + Faith Sessions
Revelation
Trinity
Jesus Christ
The Church
Morality
Sacraments
Kingdom of God
Seasonals/CST

Open one of the unit themes and the first document that you will find to download is Family + Faith Sessions Overview. You will only need this once as it is the general overview for implementing Family Gathered Sessions.

Family + Faith Sessions Overview

Leader's Guide for Implementing Family + Faith Gathered Sessions

Preview

Download

It includes everything you need to get started. Here is a snapshot of the Table of Contents to give you an idea of all that is provided.

**Leader's Guide for Implementing
Alive in Christ Family + Faith
Gathered Sessions**

Family + Faith Sessions Overview	2
Section 1:	
Foundation for Family + Faith Sessions	3
Section 2:	
Family + Faith Parent Orientation	7
Section 3:	
Suggestions Regarding Hospitality	12
Section 4:	
Suggestions for Prayer Space and Habits	15
Section 5:	
Suggestions for Prayer in Lectio Divina Style	16
Section 6:	
Suggestions for Facilitating Group Discussion	19
Section 7:	
Suggestions for Using Media	21
Section 8:	
Suggestions for Session Transitions	23
Section 9:	
Church Documents and Scripture Support	24
Section 10:	
Additional Resources	28
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For each theme you will find plans for three distinct session plans A, B and C. Under Seasonal/CST you will find plans for 7 Liturgical Season Sessions and 3 Catholic Social Teaching Sessions. This is a total of 30 unique family gathered session plans. Here is an example from the Revelation unit:

CATEGORIES

Alive in Christ Program Overview
Scope & Sequence
Correlations
Music Resources
Jr. High Basic Lesson Plans
Family + Faith Sessions
Revelation
Trinity
Jesus Christ
The Church
Morality
Sacraments
Kingdom of God
Seasonals/CST
Summer Program Model
Family + Faith Pages in English

Revelation

	Family + Faith Sessions Overview Leader's Guide for Implementing Family + Faith Gathered Sessions		
	Family + Faith Sessions: Themes by Year		
	Revelation A: God Made Known Leader Preparation		
	Revelation A: God Made Known Leader's Guide		
	Revelation A: God Made Known Parent Pages		
	Revelation B: Scripture and Tradition Leader Preparation		
	Revelation B: Scripture and Tradition Leader's Guide		
	Revelation B: Scripture and Tradition Parent Pages		
	Revelation C: Our Response of Faith Leader Preparation		
	Revelation C: Our Response of Faith Leader's Guide		
	Revelation C: Our Response of Faith Parent Pages		

For each session you are provided 3 documents:

- Leader Preparation- a checklist of the preparation steps.
- Leader Guide- the step by step session plan that provides everything you need to lead the session, including but not limited to: recommended video links, pacing plan, hospitality tips, script, discussion prompts, prayer and activities.
- Parent pages- the handout for extending the session into the home or to use for the parent specific portion of the session.

Note: If quarantines continue throughout the 2020-2021 catechetical year, OSV will be adding and posting modified virtual family gathered sessions to make it possible for you to host family gathered sessions online.

HOME SESSIONS FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN IN MULTIPLE GRADES

During the Covid-19 quarantine period in the spring of 2020, many parents reported feeling overwhelmed with all of the new educational tasks they were given as schools and religious education programs closed. One common issue was that parents with children in multiple grades found it difficult to schedule home instruction for each child around their other parenting responsibilities. We know how important it is for parents to talk with children about their faith, but we don't want to make doing this so difficult or time consuming that they can't do it. For this reason, we are providing you with Multi-Age Family Session Helpers, which

families can use to guide multiple children in the family through discussion and action on what they have learned in their text that week – all in one family meeting. (Available in English and Spanish)

ALIVE IN CHRIST UNIT 1 – Revelation
Multi-Age Family Session Helper Chapter 2

Unit 1, Revelation – Chapter 2

Grade	Key Concept for Chapter Two
1	God's world is a gift to you. You can learn about God and His love by looking at the world He made.
2	God sent His beloved Son, Jesus, to bring all people back into His friendship, Jesus is the Savior and the Good Shepherd.
3	The Bible is the Word of God written in human words. The Church is the community of all baptized people who believe in God and follow Jesus.
4	God's covenant with Abraham reveals that God is always faithful to His People. Sin is present in the world because of human choice.
5	True happiness can come only through communion with God. Religion expresses our relationship with God through beliefs, prayers, and practices.
6	The accounts of creation from the Book of Genesis reveal that God alone created the universe. God created man and woman in His own image to live in harmony with Him for all eternity.
7	God speaks to us and tells us about Himself and His plan for us.
8	God reveals His love to us, and we are free to respond in faith by what we say and do.

For more information about Catholic teachings on these points, as well as insights into how children your child's age typically understand these concepts, please see the blue Family Faith page, found at the end of the chapter.

Beginning the Family Discussion:

Pray with Scripture. Use the Invite pieces from the first page of Chapter 2 in one of the children's books. For more information on how to use the pieces with your children, see the Scripture Reflection Process video at osv.com/familyfaith.

After each child has completed working on Chapter 2 in their online or print books, ask each child in the family what they learned about how God created himself as we from working on chapter two this week.

Alive in Christ: Multi-Age Family Session Helper—Chapter 2 osv.com/familyfaith

ALIVE IN CHRIST

Check to see if they mention the key concept for their grade level found on the previous page. Note their answers below:

Consolidating the Conversation:
Ask your children to name something from the Live section of their chapter that the family could put into practice this week. Note their suggestions here:

Close with a prayer. You might wish to use the prayer at the end of one of the children's chapters before the Family Faith Page, or try a spontaneous prayer, such as having each family member name something they are thankful for, or a traditional prayer, such as the Our Father. Note any special family prayer requests here:

Alive in Christ: Multi-Age Family Session Helper—Chapter 2 osv.com/familyfaith

These two-page plans include the Key Concept (or main point) of that week's chapter for each grade level, and a framework for a family meeting that includes prayer, discussion of Catholic teaching, and planning for family action.

USING FLIPGRID WITH *ALIVE IN CHRIST* and *VIVOS EN CRISTO*

Flipgrid is another option for providing parents everything they need for home-based catechesis. You can create meaningful connections with this simple to use, free social learning platform. Flipgrid, originally designed for teachers, is a website that allows users to create "grids" to facilitate learning and video discussions. Each grid is like a message board where teachers can pose questions, called "topics," and their students can post video responses. OSV listened to the needs of catechetical leaders and realized that Flipgrid would be a powerful tool in a ministry setting too. To make it easy for our customers we created grids for each chapter of *Alive in Christ and Vivos en Cristo* to assist in your efforts to provide support for families engaged in home-based catechesis. Each grid provides everything a parent needs, including links to the Home Session Plans, Digital Books, Videos, Interactive Reviews and optional e-assessments. You will be able to share these already created grids to your own Parish grids and then customize. Catechists can post a video introducing the topic and children can respond with a video about what they learned or how they will apply it to their lives. It is an ideal way to foster missionary discipleship, keep the children connected to the parish, guide parents and make it easy for everyone involved. We will show you how! Here is a quick snapshot of one grade level grid.

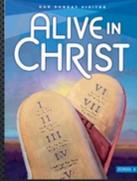
Microsoft | aliveinchristgrade4

Flipgrid

OSV

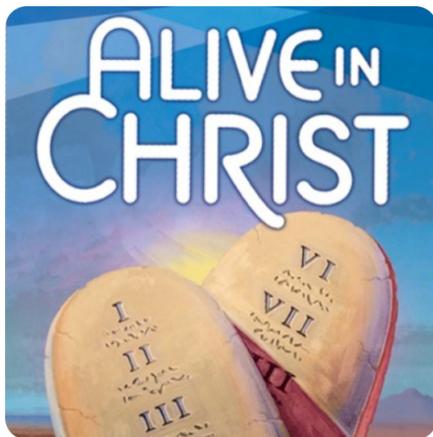
Grade 4

+1 Mike Hoyt, Tasha Foust, Valerie Vogel, and more



Alive In Christ Grade 4 - Chap 1
May 27, 2020

21 Topics



Alive in Christ Grade 4 - Chap 5



Jun 5, 2020

Flip Code: [23194ec2](#)

[Add Topic Guests](#)

[Watch Video](#) Catholic Social Teaching

[Digital Student Book](#)

[Home Session Plan](#) (for parents)

[Interactive Review](#)

Optional E-assessment (post your customized link here)

Post a video response (student):

Explain how love of neighbor and love of God are connected.

We also created grids for families with children in multiple grades. Parents will only have to open one grid for each chapter to find everything they need to connect meaningfully with all of their children. The simplified family lessons will include a session guide for parents, digital book access for self-directed learning for the children, interactive reviews and video prompts for a family response. You will also be able to customize these to your parish once you share them to your grid. Remember, we will show you how!

Microsoft | aliveinchristfamily

Flipgrid

Simplified Family Lessons

+1 Mike Hoyt, Holly Lutten, Tasha Foust, and more

Chapter 1
Jun 10, 2020

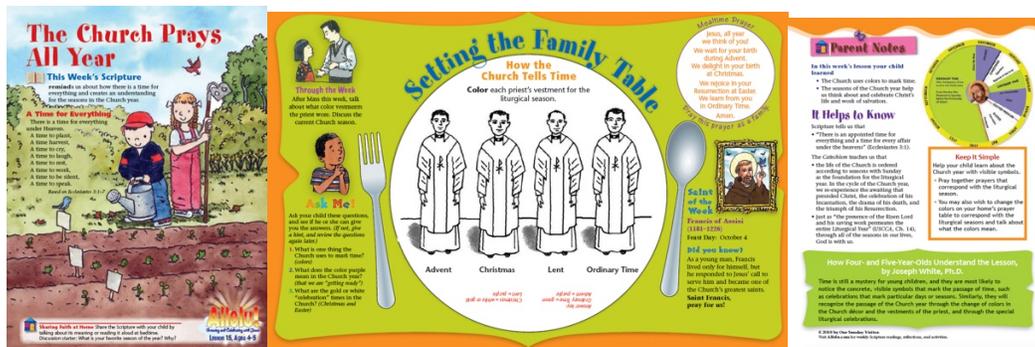
21 Topics



Early Childhood Catechesis



The *Allelu* early childhood program has three levels, for children in prek-3, prek-4, and kindergarten. Each level comes with a weekly Child and Family Activity page (available in English and Spanish), which engages the family in faith conversations and activities at mealtimes. This resource, available in both physical and a digital, Flipbook format, includes a summary of the Bible story for the week, a placemat for the family meal that includes a mealtime prayer, Saint of the Week, questions for parents to ask their children, and simple ways the family can live the faith, and a parent page that presents the primary doctrinal points from Scripture and the Catechism, as well as providing a summary of how children their child's age understand the concepts.



In addition to these family pages, OSV has provided Home Session Plans (currently available in English and coming soon in Spanish) that help parents teach the *Allelu* session at home. The *Allelu* storytelling magnets and soundtrack for each grade are also sold separately and can be additional resources to parents teaching *Allelu* in the home.

Finally, *The Allelu Show* on YouTube provides children with virtual *Allelu* lessons. This web series began in the quarantine period in the spring of 2020, and will continue in the fall during periods of quarantine. You can access all episodes here: [The Allelu Show on YouTube](#).

Sacrament Preparation



Our *Encounter with Christ/Encuentro Con Cristo* sacramental preparation series for Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation (restored order) is designed to be implemented in a variety of ways, including two formats that might be especially conducive to a home-based or hybrid program of faith formation: parent-led sessions in the home and catechist-guided parent-child sessions.

To use parent-led sessions in the home, you will need the Child Book (print or e-book version) and the Parent Guide (also available in print or digital version). You will also find online videos, games and activity downloads for all three sacraments.

An additional option for Reconciliation and Eucharist preparation are the Guided Parent-Child sessions. These sessions are facilitated by the catechist, and assist parents in teaching the material from the program to their children. They can easily be adapted to an online format using Zoom or a similar webinar platform.

Additional Resources



In addition to the complete programs described above, we have also made a number of individual resources available in e-book format, including the following:

- *Faith Fusion* Elementary
- *Faith Fusion Jr. High*
- *Fusión en la Fe Jr. High*
- *Fusión en la Fe* Elementary
- *Call to Celebrate Reconciliation & Eucharist* Intermediate
- *Call to Celebrate Reconciliation & Eucharist* Bilingual Intermediate

- *Call to Celebrate Confirmation Bilingual*
- *Call to Celebrate Confirmation Older Adolescent*
- *Alive in Christ Young Adolescents Faith Guidebooks*

Catechists and leaders using these resources might wish to lead sessions using Zoom or a similar webinar-based platform.

Check back at osv.com/FaithAtHome for additional updates through the summer and early fall!