


# CGS FAMILY

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Volume II, Guide Number 25, May 15, 2022**



**As Jesus tells us to love one another,  
how do we share the love we  
receive at Mass so that all may come  
to know and love Jesus Christ?**

**[www.cgsgcc.church](http://www.cgsgcc.church)**



# Welcome

HELLO,  
CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD FAMILY!



Welcome to our weekly CGS Guide that helps our parish families to grow in knowledge of the faith and deepen our relationship with Jesus as his disciples. As we encounter Jesus, we come to know him, love him, and serve him so that we can be reasonably happy in this life and happy with him forever in heaven.



## This Week


**"Love one another. As I have loved you"**

This Sunday Jesus delivers his farewell address. We will hear in the second part of the Gospel of St. John the invitation he makes to his disciples to love one another in a new and challenging way... "as he has loved them." The question that immediately arises is how Jesus has loved us, and the answer we all know, TO THE EXTREME, to the last consequences, he laid down his own life for each one of us to reconcile us with God, the Father and by doing so, he opened the doors to heaven for us. The farewell address in the Gospel of John extends from chapter 13 to 17. Jesus is very clear that "The Hour" has come to him and He does not refer to "chronos" (measurable time), but to "Kayros" (time of God); to complete his mission, to suffer, die and rise from the dead. It is very strange, but often when a person is going to die, it is as if the person knows, even when he/she is not seriously ill. Oftentimes the person begins to say goodbye or gives important advice, gathers the family, etc. What is true is that the person does not waste his/her words, what they say is often very important and profound. They may ask for forgiveness, or they bless everyone, or they may ask that whoever needs to, reconcile, among other things. Jesus knows that his HOUR has arrived and the teaching we hear in the gospel has this tone, one of utmost importance. Loving one another is essential and fundamental in the Christian life and the challenge is even greater because Jesus invites us to love as He did. May God grant us the grace of longing and seeking to love everyone around us, as Jesus does.

**José Juan Valdez**

For questions, comments, and feedback, please contact us at

**DISCIPLESHIP@CGSCC.CHURCH**



## **The Holy Mass**

**The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed, at the same time, it is the font from which all her power flows. (Cf. SC #10)**

**Why go to Mass?**

**Christ the Good Shepherd Mass Schedule**

**Find Mass Anywhere**

This season, we are exploring the Big Idea

**How do we get to know and love Jesus Christ?**

### **Fifth Sunday of Easter readings and podcasts (Year C)**

from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

**First Reading: Acts 14:21-27**

**Psalms 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13**

**Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-5a**

**Gospel: John 13:31-33a, 34-35**

**Additional options for studying and discussing the Word of God:**

**Opening the Word by FORMED**

**Reflecting on the Sunday Readings**

**Sunday Connection by Loyola Press**

**Children's Liturgy of the Word by Catholic TV**

# WE LEARN & BECOME DISCIPLES TOGETHER

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## Question of the Week

As Jesus tells us to love one another, how do we share the love we receive at Mass so that all may come to know and love Jesus Christ?

### Opening Prayer

#### CONNECT with our GOD

- Let's start with the The Sign of Cross.
- In your own words, ask the Holy Spirit to be present as we gather so share our faith (Prayer to the Holy Spirit).
- Listen to the Lord speaking to you as someone reads out loud the Gospel for this Sunday (see previous page for links to Scripture readings for this week).
- Listen to each other as everyone shares what in the Gospel caught their attention.
- Pray the "Glory be..."

More on how to manage a group discussion.

Getting  
Started


How to use  
this Guide.

Why are we  
doing this?

### Step One

#### CONNECT with our daily LIVES

When and by whom have you felt deeply loved, accepted and valued? Share!



Using this Guide can be as simple or as "in depth" as you want. If you do only the opening prayer section, that's great! To go deeper, follow the steps as shown. For children, see "Resources," page 8.



# Step Two

## CONNECT with Scripture and Tradition

As a domestic church (your household) or Small Faith Group, pray and read through some of the following (you can select) Scriptures & Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) references as time permits.

### In the HOLY SCRIPTURE we read:

- The New Law resumes in this: Believe in Jesus Christ and love one another as He has loved us. **1 John 3:23**
- This is the new commandment: Whoever loves God, loves his neighbor as well. **1 John 4:21.**
- This is the kind of love that God expects from us. **Isaiah 58: 6-7**

### In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we read:

- Christ's Love, charity, the New Commandment: **CCC #1823**
- Christ dies out of love for us: **CCC #1825**
- Love to our neighbor is inseparable from the love of God: **CCC #1878**

### Discussion Questions

- In what way does the Eucharist deeply unite us with our triune God and with our neighbor?
- What relationships in my life are centered around my relationship with God? How does this affect those relationships?

**Want more? Go Deeper!** \_\_\_\_\_

### Reflection Question

Perhaps many people in our community or our neighborhood are aware that we attend the Catholic Church. How do we show them that we are disciples of Jesus? How do we show love for each other, both in our community and in other communities?

## RESOURCES FOR ALL AGES

For related information, activities, and age-appropriate resources, turn to the *Resources for All Ages* section of this Guide. You may use as many or as few as you want to. Adapt to your situation and your household. You can even spread these activities over the span of the entire week. There is no wrong way to do this!



# Step Three

## **CONNECT with OTHERS...**

### **Living the Gospel with commitment & action.**

What is one thing you are willing to change in your life so that you start loving others as Jesus has love you?

## **Practical Activities**

*For the Individual*

### **From the Eucharist to Life**

Take a moment to reflect on whether your preparation and participation in the Eucharist reflects well the deep bond to which you have been called.

*For Couples*

### **Your closest neighbor!**

Your closest neighbor is your spouse. Together, talk about new ways to express your love and your devotion to one another so your relationship can keep growing.

*For the Domestic Church*

### **Finding witnesses of love**

As a family, read or watch a video about the life story of Mother Teresa, Dorothy Day or someone else who during their lifetime, committed to making changes in the area of social justice. Take a moment and reflect on how he or she lived the commandment to "love one another."

*Missionary Mindset*

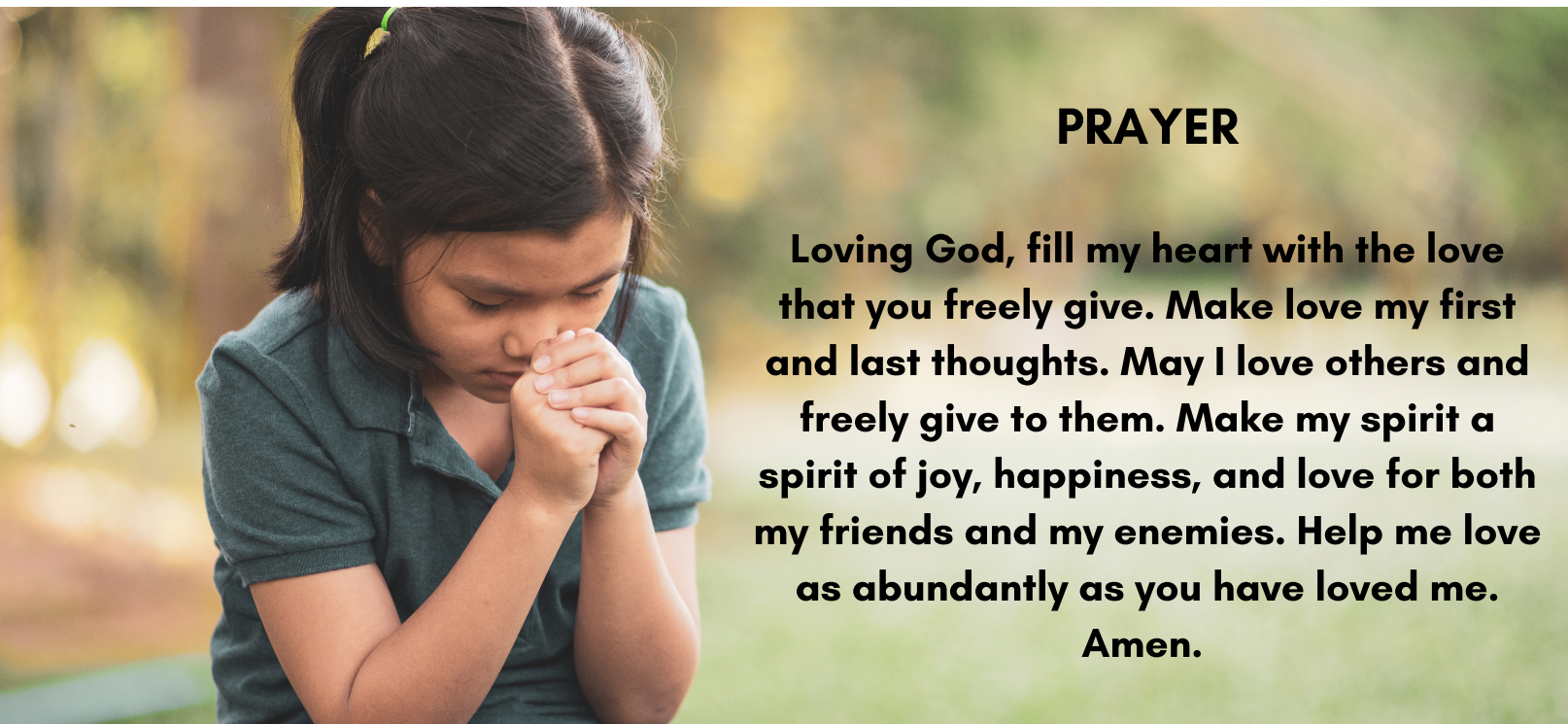
### **Fundraise for a great cause!**

Organize an ecumenical walk or something like that with the aim of raising funds for a food bank or for an organization that works for the poorest and most vulnerable in our society.



# Closing Prayer

- We sign ourselves with the Sign of Cross.
  - According to what we reflected on, or whatever is in my heart share a petition, at the end we all say: **Lord hear our prayer.**
  - Then we can pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and the Glory be...
  - As we finish, let us share a sign of peace with each other.
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## PRAYER

**Loving God, fill my heart with the love that you freely give. Make love my first and last thoughts. May I love others and freely give to them. Make my spirit a spirit of joy, happiness, and love for both my friends and my enemies. Help me love as abundantly as you have loved me.  
Amen.**

## AT THE END OF THE LESSON OR END OF THE WEEK

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From what you have learned, how would you now answer the Question of the Week?

**As Jesus tells us to love one another, how do we share the love we receive at Mass so that all may come to know and love Jesus Christ?**



# RESOURCES FOR ALL AGES

## POINTS OF UNDERSTANDING

Clear statements of the Church's teachings AND where they come from and ways to use them.

### 1. Age-Specific Resources

#### HELPFUL TIPS!

Create a prayer table or space.  
Faith Groups at CGS

#### Early Childhood (Ages 3-5)

**Question:** Jesus gives us a new commandment: to love one another. How do we feel and see love at Mass?  
**"Seeds"** by Pflaum Publishing.

Together at One Altar // Purpose of the Mass--information and discussion questions.

**Learn along WITH your child. Learn to foster and feed their natural curiosity. Very good article: Ten Must Do's in your Catholic Preschool.**

#### Childhood (Elementary, Grades 1-5)

**Question:** In the gospel today, Jesus gives us a new commandment: to love one another. How do we feel and see love at Mass?

Grades K-1: **"Promise"** by Pflaum Publishing and

Grades 2,3 & 4: **"Good News"** by Pflaum Publishing.

Together at One Altar // Purpose of the Mass--information and discussion questions.

#### Early Adolescence (Jr.High, Grades 6-8)

**Question:** In the gospel today, Jesus tells us to love one another. How do we take that message of love we hear at Mass to others?

We recommend all Catholic youth have their own youth bible.

Grades 5 & 6: **"Venture"** by Pflaum Publishing and Grades 7 & 8: **"Visions"** by Pflaum Publishing.

Together at One Altar // Purpose of the Mass--information and discussion questions

LifeTeen // Why Mass - Blog

Ascension Presents // Love is an Ability -video (3:58)

#### Adolescence (High School, Grades 9-12)

**Question:** In the gospel today, Jesus tells us to love one another. How do we take that message of love we hear at Mass to others?

Together at One Altar // Purpose of the Mass--information and discussion questions.

Ascension Presents// How to Grow in Love with Jesus - Video (8:02)

Ascension Presents// Speak Your Neighbor's Love Language - Video (7:56)

Ascension Presents // Learning Love from the Bible - Video (8:53)



Age-specific materials for early childhood through 9th grade are now available for your use together with this Guide. They are easy to use and the cost is \$25.00 per set, per year. Reserve and pick up your copies by contacting Jackie Coba in the parish office or by email. 346.236.6459 ex. 342 or jcoba@cgsc.church  
Want samples? Need help? Just ask! Learn more at the Gospel Weeklies Website for Parents!



## FEATURED:

### Ten Ways We Can Grow in Love with the Eucharist.

## Adulthood

Catholic Exchange // [Ten Ways We Can Grow in Love with the Eucharist](#)--article.

Jeff Hines // Jesus offers himself to us and we offer ourselves to him in Mass--article.

US Catholic // [Jesus is Still With Us](#)--article.

Together at One Altar // [Purpose of the Mass](#)--information and discussion questions.

## 2. General Resources

### The Holy Bible

[Online Bible via the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops \(USCCB\)](#)

If you don't know much about the Bible or want to learn more: [Scripture Support](#)

Catholics use the **New American Bible Revised Edition** (NABRE) as the translation for Mass readings. There are many acceptable versions of NABRE ([learn more](#)) as well as [other approved translations](#). You may purchase from any vendor and we do have some basic editions on hand at the parish office at no charge—available upon request.



#### Recommended Print Bibles

These are all by St. Mary's Press: Order directly from the publisher or search online for other vendors.

[Catholic Family Connections Bible](#)  
(digital version available).

[Catholic Youth Bible](#) (Adolescents & College)  
["Breakthrough"](#) (Early Adolescents // Jr. High)  
[Catholic Children's Bible](#)

### The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)

[Online Catechism](#) via the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

NEW! [Simplified version of the Catechism of the Catholic Church](#)

If you don't know much about the Catechism or want to learn more: [Catechism Support](#)

### Formed

Our parish subscribes to a library of online resources called Formed. It is excellent and it is free for you to use. Register at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) - Need help? Watch this video.



## Prayers and Praying

Catholics are still celebrating the Easter Season: Hallow // [Easter Prayers](#)--resource

## Common Prayers and Formulas to Learn by Heart

[Familiar prayers](#) and a [chart showing at what age level they should be learned](#).

## Counseling, Grief Support & Spiritual Direction

- Our parish offers [Rejoice Counseling](#) for individuals and families for a variety of issues and needs. You may use this [online form](#) to contact them directly.
- We also offer [Grief Support](#) ministry for those who have lost loved ones and [Spiritual Direction](#) for anyone interested. Follow the links or inquire through the parish office.

## Music to Move You

Music of the Mass | 14 Hymns & Music for Catholic Mass

Healing Instrumentals Relaxing Hymns Harp Church Hymns Harp Music

Pentatonix - Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) (Official Video)

## Sacred Art to Inspire You!

All Sacred Art Currently on Formed (parish subscription free to our parishioners--register once, get access to all content) All Sacred Art - FORMED

Lance Brown on Fine Art America // [Worship the Holy Spirit](#)

Fred Matthews // [Thank God](#)

Ilse Kleyn // [The Great Commission](#)

## 3. Sacramental Resources

Visit the **sacraments section** of our parish website to find everything you need to get started with any sacrament. Additional information is being added and continually updated. Contact our parish office if you have a question.



*[Thank God](#)*  
by Steve Matthews

# WE ARE THE CHURCH

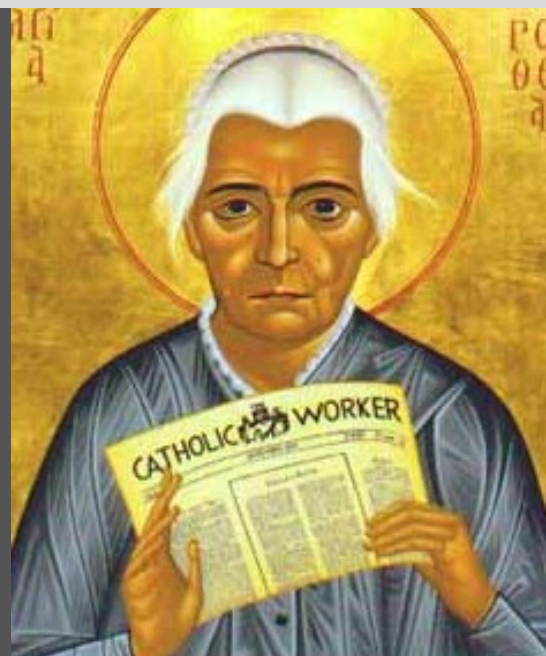
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## What Makes us Catholic?

A richness from our catholic faith are the Saints... on the commandment we hear today: love one another as I have love you.

Dorothy Day is an amazing example of how to live it.

Dorothy Day (8 November 1897 – 29 November 1980) was an American journalist turned social activist. A pacifist and a devout member of the Catholic Church, she advocated distributism and was a co-founder, with Peter Maurin, of the Catholic Worker movement. She authored several books and spoke often in public about faith and social justice.



## HOW HAVE YOU SEEN GOD PRESENT AND ACTIVE IN YOUR LIFE THIS WEEK?

### Word of the Week - KAIROS = GOD'S "TIME"

Kairos is an ancient Greek word meaning 'the right, critical, or opportune moment'. In the Bible it refers to an "opportune presentation" in rhetoric and a "spiritual opportunity". In John's Gospel Jesus uses the term "the hour" to refer to this opportune moment when something big is about to be revealed or manifested.

**Saints of the Month**   add **LINKS**

**Book Suggestions**

### More for your Domestic Church

A Domestic Church is your household of believers in Jesus Christ. View a short video on what is the Domestic Church. See also this reference in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: CCC 1655-1858 and our Glossary of Terms. There is so much at CGS for your Domestic Church! See our website, social media pages, YouTube, and this week "**FLOCKNOTE**" for all things CGS!

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### "Faith Groups" on our Website

Find resources for your family, including how to use this Guide, family traditions from other parishioners, FAQs, how to use the Points of Understanding, a Glossary of Terms and more. Visit [cgscdohg.org/faith-groups](http://cgscdohg.org/faith-groups) OR scan the QR code on the right with your smart phone.

Join a small Faith Group in our parish. Contact [discipleship@cgscchurch.org](mailto:discipleship@cgscchurch.org)







Our Mission as a Roman Catholic Community is to proclaim the teachings of Jesus Christ as declared in the scriptures and shown in the sacred tradition of the church. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to know, love, and serve God and our neighbors.

## **WE WANT OUR PARISHIONERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS GUIDE!**

How is this Guide working for you and your family?

Show us what your family is doing with these Guides!

Share an idea, a resource or picture/video of what you are doing in your Domestic Church.

**DISCIPLESHIP@CGSCC.CHURCH**

**BECOMING OUR "BEST PARISH EVER!"**



Text CGS to 84576 to join us on Flocknote  
You will receive emails & texts from CGS



**CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**



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Very Reverend James Burkart, Pastor

The contents of this Guide are in accordance with the teachings of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Curriculum Framework for Lifelong Faith Formation of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston under the pastoral care of Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop.