

Chapter 5 **Light of the World**

What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race. *John 1:3b-4*

To the Parents:

In chapter 5, your child learned the following:

- God's love is made visible through Jesus.
- Jesus is present and active in the seven sacraments through the Holy Spirit and in the Church.
- Sanctifying grace is the gift of a deepened relationship with God.
- The sacraments have prescribed ministers, words, and actions.

Followers of Jesus are those who hear his voice, listen to his call, and follow him. Jesus speaks in various ways to those who listen carefully for his voice. This happens especially in the sacraments when believers encounter the Risen Lord through the signs and symbols that bring the presence of Jesus into their lives.

The Seven Sacraments are privileged moments of grace in the lives of Catholics. Grace is the gift of God's presence and the inspiration to respond to his presence. While there are many occasions in life when God's grace and presence is clearly experienced, the liturgical celebrations of the Seven Sacraments offer communities of faith opportunities for God's grace to flourish in a special way. These grace-filled moments provide the inspiration to become "sacrament" to others and to speak the voice of Jesus to those who need to hear it.

With Your Child:

1. Think of the sacraments that your child has received—Baptism, Penance, Eucharist, for example—and make a list of the people, words, and actions that made each celebration unique.
2. Talk about how each of the sacraments that you had listed brings one closer to God and to others in faith.
3. Together read about Saint Mechtild of Hackeborn on the Review and Explore page.