

CGS FAMILY

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Volume III, Guide 40, August 27, 2023



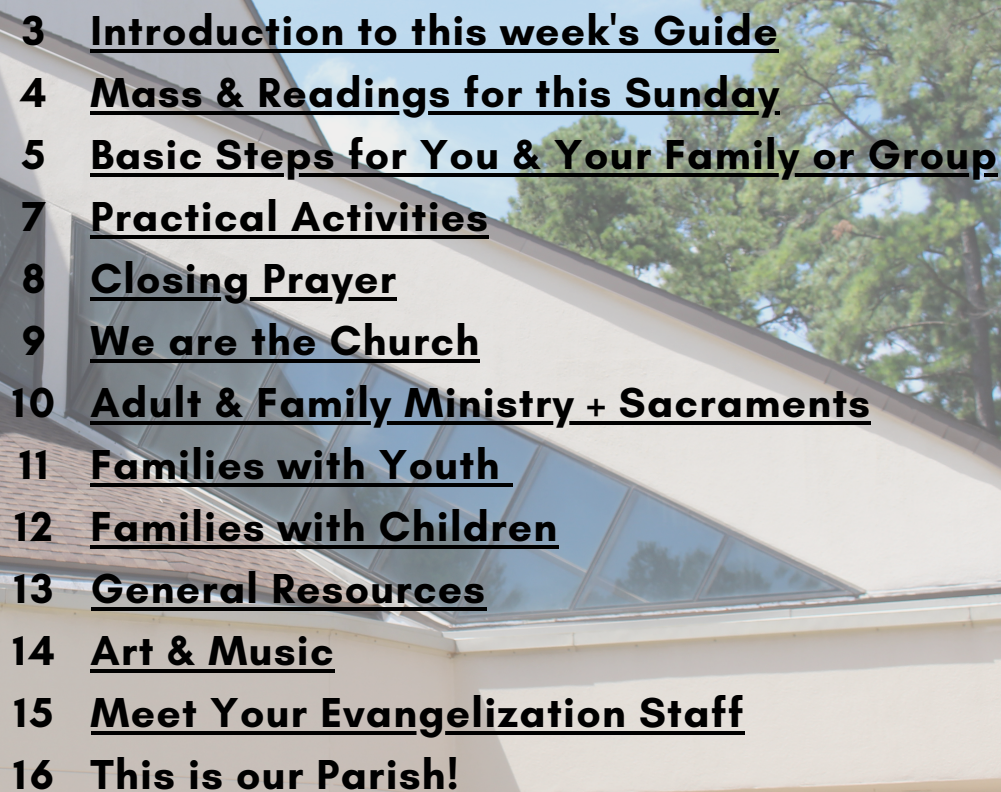
Who do you say I am?

*Horner
93*

www.cgscs.church



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**All underlined text in
this Guide is linked!
Just click!**



How is this Guide working for you and your household or small group?

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

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

discipleship@cgscc.church

Welcome

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.



And you, who do you say that I am?

In this Sunday's Gospel we find what has been called the "Fundamental Christological Question" and most Bible commentators agree that the passage revolves around the identity of Jesus.

As in our times, apparently in the time of Jesus and also in the time when Matthew's Gospel is written (75-85 A.C.) to a Judeo-Christian community, the concept or idea of Jesus among non-hostile people oscillated between: "a very or the most special person sent by God, who has come to prepare the messianic age" (similar to the role of John, the Baptist). It was even thought that he was someone reserved who would not die or that if he died, he would revive.

Then, we heard the answer of Simon, son of John (Bar-Jona), who declares that Jesus is the expected Messiah, and it is Jesus himself who ratifies it by declaring that this confession has come to him from the Father.

C. S. Lewis in the first half of the twentieth century, in his work "Mere Christianity", presented us with the famous "trilemma" regarding the identity of Jesus that is usually summarized as follows: Considering him as a "Lunatic, Liar, or Lord". It can be stated like this: Lunatic, meaning that Jesus was not God, but he believed that he was. Liar, meaning that Jesus was not God, and he knew it; or Lord, meaning that Jesus really is God.

What about us? The question is still up in the air... in our days, there are many varied opinions about who Jesus is. This week, it is important for each one of us to reflect on this. So I ask you, "Who is Jesus for you?"

Jose Juan Valdez

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



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

We come to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

readings and podcasts, Year A


United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)


First Reading: Isaiah 22: 19-23

Psalms 138: 1-2, 2-3, 6, 8

Second Reading: Romans 11: 33-36

Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20





PAULUS MEDIA & CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH
PRESENTS

This Week's Gospel Message from Anna Spalding

Reflecting on the Sunday Readings

Sunday Connection

WE LEARN & BECOME DISCIPLES TOGETHER

Getting Started

Why are we doing this?

How to manage a group discussion.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE



Question of the Week

Who do you say I am?

CONNECT with our GOD through Prayer

- Let's start with the The Sign of Cross.
- As we gather to share our faith, ask the Holy Spirit to be present. Use your own words or offer a Prayer to the Holy Spirit.
- As someone reads out loud the Gospel for this Sunday, listen to the Lord speaking to you.
- Listen to one other as everyone shares what in the Gospel caught their attention.
- Pray the Collect--opening prayer of Sunday Mass.

Family life is the first place where children learn how to pray as the Church. Through family prayer, children experience the first witness of Christ's living memory.

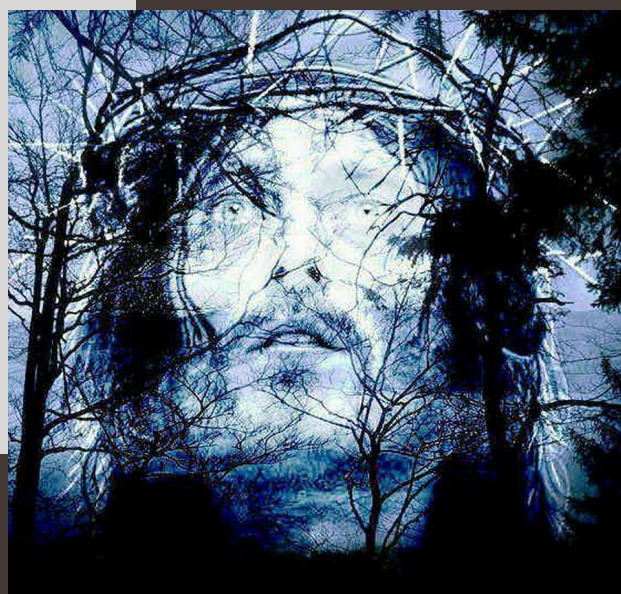
Points of Understanding
Grade 3, #4.4.1

CONNECT with our daily LIVES

- When was the first time you heard about Jesus, who or what was it like? Share what you remember.

Sacrificial Love

by Soji Yolo



WHAT IS THE CHURCH'S TEACHING?

POINTS OF UNDERSTANDING

Where they come from and ways to use them.



Choose from among the following Scriptures and teachings for reading, prayer, and discussion.

In the HOLY SCRIPTURE we read:

- Jesus is the Promised Messiah. John 4:25
- Jesus is the fulfilment of the Old Testament Prophecies. Luke 4:21
- Jesus is God reveal by the father. Matthew 3:17

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church

- Profession of faith in Jesus is the rock on which the Church is built. #153 & 424
- Peter's use of the Titles "Messiah", "Son of God" #41-42
- Church is founded on the Apostles. The office of Peter in the college of bishops #880-887

Jesus is the Son of the living God, the promised Messiah, who came to earth to offer humanity salvation and to satisfy the thirst for life and love that every human being feels. How beneficial it would be for humanity if it welcomed this announcement that brings joy and peace! "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Benedict XVI Angelus, August 24th, 2008.

Discuss

1. How do I experience the presence of Christ in my life?
2. How much do I really know about the person of Jesus?
3. What does faith in Jesus mean in relation to my way of living?

Want more? Go Deeper!

[Learn more about the place where this happened.](#)



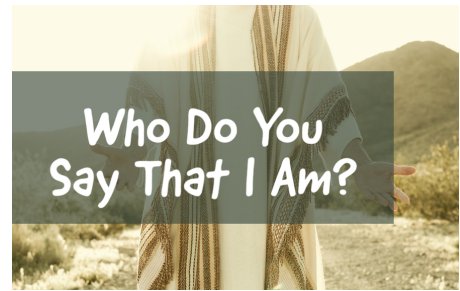
Reflection Question

- In what ways could my faith in Jesus most often affect all the areas in my life?

CONNECT with OTHERS...

Living the Gospel with commitment & action.

- What is one thing I am are willing to change in my life so that my life reflect my faith in Jesus before others?



Practical Activities



For the Individual

Awareness of his presence.

This week, pause for a moment each day to become aware of Jesus' presence in your life and allow His love to fill your life for that specific moment.



For Couples

Jesus in my life... Jesus in our life.

This week share with each other your personal encounter with Christ and then meditate and share how you discover the presence of Jesus in your marriage.



For the Domestic Church

Bringing Jesus' love and healing

As a family, identify another family or friend to whom Jesus would have responded with love and healing. Invite them to the parish or to your house to share a moment with them.



Missionary Mindset

Showing Jesus' love to others

Jesus taught us the key to happiness when he showed us how to live. This week help a person or a family who is in need no matter who they are.



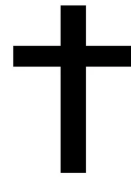
Building Your Church at Home

Your household is where "church" begins. Your parish is here to help you with support, resources, small Faith Groups, and gathered activities on our campus throughout the year. Visit our website or contact us if you need help.

For more ideas on how to build your home as a Domestic Church, go to: www.domestic-church.com or visit *The Family Fully Alive*, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, or [Tools for Building a Domestic Church](#) by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

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.



"Let us pray that families grow closer together, and together, closer to God." Fr. James

Prayer

**Lord Jesus, giver of life, we
turn to you with faith and
proclaim that you are the
Christ, the Messiah!**

**Fill us with the desire to live
according to our faith and
send us your Spirit to give
us courage, strength and
purity of heart.**

**We ask you to unite us all to
walk this path together, you
who live and reign forever
and ever.**

Amen.



AT THE END OF THE LESSON OR END OF THE WEEK

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

Who do you say I am?

WE ARE THE CHURCH

What Makes us Catholic?

Jesus in our Catholic Faith

Jesus Christ is True God and True Man

This teaching is, to our human minds, impossible. It is a mystery of the Faith, one which we will never fully understand. Nevertheless, through His Church, Jesus has taught us about this profound mystery. The Church teaches that in one person, in all time, since His conception in the womb of a human mother, these natures are united by being in the person of Jesus Christ. Because Jesus possesses fully the nature of God and the nature of man we can describe Him as true God and true man.

From Jesus Christ the Person – EWTN.com



Word of the Week - Christ and Christology

The understanding of Christ and Christology in the various Christian traditions has always been closely tied to the perception of Jews and Judaism within the churches. The term 'Christ' refers to Jesus' divinely constituted role as Messiah, Lord and Saviour of humankind. The terms 'Jesus' and 'Christ' are to a degree interchangeable, although 'Christ' is the preferred one when speaking in a theological or liturgical context.

Faith Groups at CGS



Four Reasons Why Faith Groups are Vital

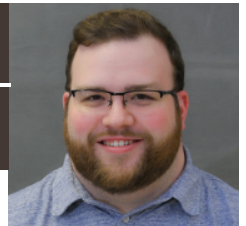
(Video, 2:49)

Join a small Faith Group at CGS or start one of your own!

Ask us how.

Saints of the Month

by Jeremy Hearne



Podcast each Tuesday!

More for your Domestic Church

Find resources for your family, household, or small Faith Group, including how to use this Guide, and much more. [Visit our website](#) OR scan the QR code with your smart phone.



ADULT & FAMILY MINISTRY

Adulthood

Videos

- Bishop Robert Barron // **Who is Jesus?** - Video 6:34
- ChurchIn21stCentury // **James Martin: Who Do You Say That I Am?** - Video 4:22
- FOCUS Catholic // **Fr. Mike Schmitz | How to Have Faith in Jesus (Even When It's Hard)** - Video 27:02
- The Catholic Company // **Who do you say that I am? | Daily Reflections** - Video 3:17
- The CatholicTV Network // **Who Do You Say That I Am? | Homily: Father Philip Dabney** - Video 4:33
- The Jesuit Post // **Who Do You Say That I Am? | One-Minute Homily** - Video 1:20

Catholic Apps



Book Suggestions

Current Bible Studies

A Quick Journey Through the Bible

Monday Mornings & Wednesday Evenings

Young Adult Ministry

Ages 18-30

Monday Mornings & Wednesday Evenings
Other days, times and activities as announced.

Sacramental Information



& Becoming Catholic!

Visit the sacraments section of our parish website to find everything you need to get started with any sacrament or to inquire about becoming Catholic. Information is being continually updated. Contact Deacon Stacy Millsap our parish office if you have a question. We are glad to help you!

FAMILIES WITH YOUTH



Early Adolescence

Jr.High, Grades 6-8

Characteristics of Early Adolescents

Question: Who is Jesus to you?

- Ascension Presents // Which Jesus is the Real Jesus? -- video (9:14)
- Ascension Presents // The Best Way to Get Closer to God -- video (7:16)
- Catholic Central // Who is God? -- video (7:34)
- Breaking in the Habit // Did Jesus Claim to Be God? -- video (6:34)

"Only in Christ can men and women find answers to the ultimate questions that trouble them. Only in Christ can they fully understand their dignity as persons created and loved by God. Jesus Christ is "the only Son from the Father...full of grace and truth."

-Saint John Paul II



Adolescence

High School, Grades 9-12

Characteristics of Adolescents

Question: Who is Jesus to you?

- Ascension Presents // Which Jesus is the Real Jesus? -- video (9:14)
- Ascension Presents // The Best Way to Get Closer to God -- video (7:16)
- Catholic Central // Who is God? -- video (7:34)
- Breaking in the Habit // Did Jesus Claim to Be God? -- video (6:34)



Youth Gather at CGS

Middle school and High school meet every Wednesday 7-8:30pm

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Nursery Pages

Gospel of the Week and
Activity pages to do with your
Toddler and Pre-schooler

Birth to Age 2

The role of parents at this stage is to model the example of Jesus by offering God's unconditional love to their children and to others. Parents benefit from growing in their own faith so they are able to hand on the faith to the next generation.

Age-Specific Materials

Pre-order Your Pflaum Gospel Weeklies

For families who want more "hands-on" materials.
How to Use the Gospel Weeklies



Early Childhood

Ages 3-5

Question: Who is Jesus?

EWTN Kids // My Catholic Family: St. Monica --video (4:50)

FORMED // Adventure Catechism: Who is Jesus? -- video (7:25)

Characteristics of Young Children



Childhood

Elementary, Grades 1-5

Question: Who is Jesus?

Sophia Institute // Ready to Use Lesson for Each Sunday

EWTN Kids // My Time with Jesus: Eucharistic Adoration --video (23:47)

EWTN Kids // My Catholic Family: St. Monica --video (4:50)

The Kids Bulletin // August 27, 2023

Characteristics of Children

For Parents



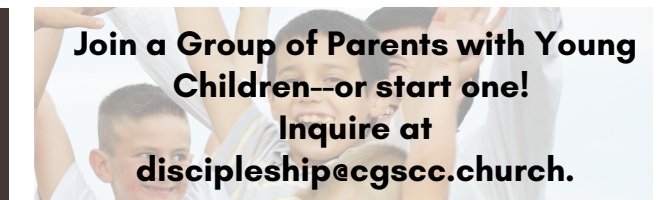
Strong Catholic Family Faith

A project of Strong Catholic Families, Strong Catholic Youth Initiative



Family Faith Practices

Join a Group of Parents with Young
Children--or start one!
Inquire at
discipleship@cgscs.church.



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 as well as other approved translations. You may purchase from any vendor. Basic editions are available upon request at no charge. Pick one up at the parish office.



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 Online

Our parish subscribes to a library of online resources called **Formed**. It is excellent and free for you to use. Register at [formed.org](https://www.formed.org) - Just click "Sign Up as a Parishioner." Need help? Watch this video.

Counseling & 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 **Spiritual Direction** for anyone interested in a spiritual companion, discerning God's will in your life. Follow the links or inquire through the parish office.

Prayers and Praying

USCCB// Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus



Prayer Requests



Common Prayers and Formulas to Learn by Heart

and a chart showing at what age level they should be learned.



How to create a prayer table or prayer area in your home.

ART & MUSIC

Sacred Art on Formed

Parish subscription free for parishioners--register once, access all content.

Formed.org



Using Sacred Art to Bring the Faith Alive

Sophia Institute



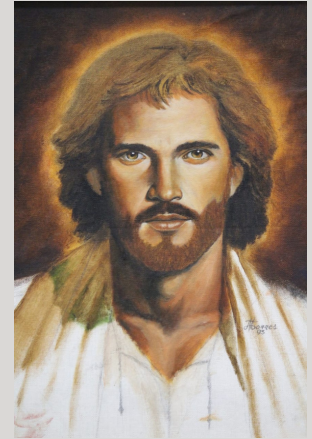
Stained Glass Jesus

by Jack Slay

Sacred Art to Inspire You

COVER IMAGE

Pbro. Apolinar Torres
// Jesus, Oil.
Leon, Gto., Mexico.
1993.



If You Can't Solve It, You Need A Savior

Musings of Fr. Justin Huang



Music to Move You

- Planetshakers//[Beautiful Saviour](#) -- Video (5:22)
- Phil Wichman//[This Is Our God \(Official Music Video\)](#) -- (4:33)
- Hillsong Worship// [Who You Say I Am](#) -- Video (5:34)

In what ways do art and music help strengthen your relationship with God? Tell us!
discipleship@cgscc.church

Meet Your Evangelization & Discipleship Staff

Helping Others to Know and Love Jesus Christ



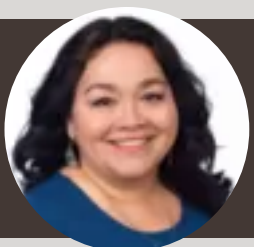
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The CHURCH EXISTS IN ORDER TO EVANGELIZE

...bringing all
humanity to
union with God;
this is the
missionary
mandate
of the Church.

*Pope Paul VI in
"Evangelii Nuntiandi"
("Evangelization in
the Modern World"),
1975.*



Evangelize with us for the glory of God!

discipleship@cgscc.church

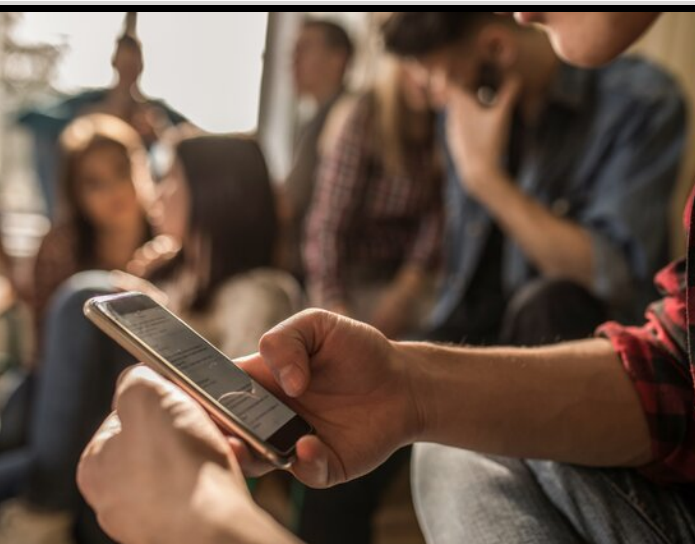


Our Vision Statement

Building a community of love and hope by putting our faith into action.

These Guides are produced weekly by our Office of Evangelization and Discipleship and are posted on our website each Friday evening: cgscs.church/cgs-family-guides

"HELPING PEOPLE TO KNOW AND LOVE JESUS CHRIST."



discipleship@cgscs.church



Official Page:

[Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Church](#)



@cgsyouth



Join us on Flocknote:

Text CGS to 84576.

You will receive emails & texts from CGS according to your preferences.

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(281) 376-6831 * cgscs.church

Very Reverend James Burkart, Pastor

The contents of this Guide are in accordance with the teachings of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and the *Catechetical Framework for Lifelong Faith Formation* of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, under the pastoral care of Archbishop Daniel Cardinal DiNardo. Accordingly, the *Catechetical Framework* serves the definitive aim of catechesis which is to put people not only in touch with, but also in communion and intimacy, with Jesus Christ.