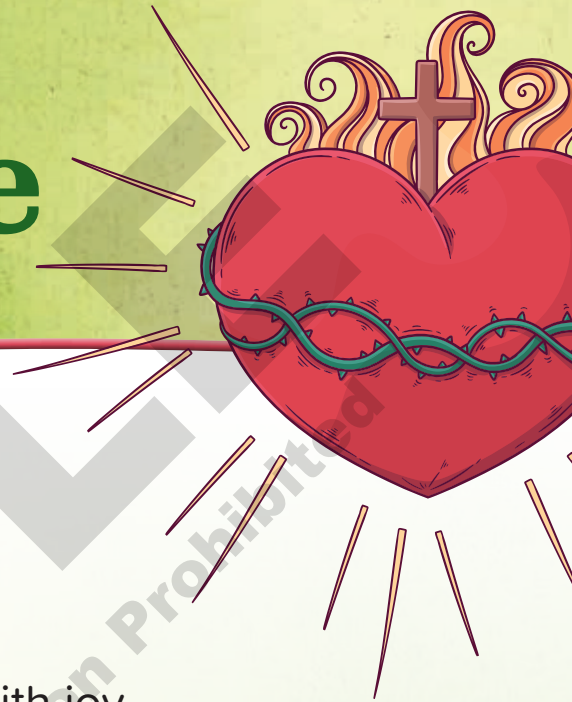


Chapter 1

God Is Love



“God is love.” (1 John 4:8)

Let's Pray

Dear God, Your love is a gift that fills us with joy.
Help us love others. Thank You for Your love. Amen.



All love begins
with God.

Let's Proclaim the Good News

God is love, and He
shares His love with us.

Let's Learn about God's Word

“God is love” (1 John 4:8).

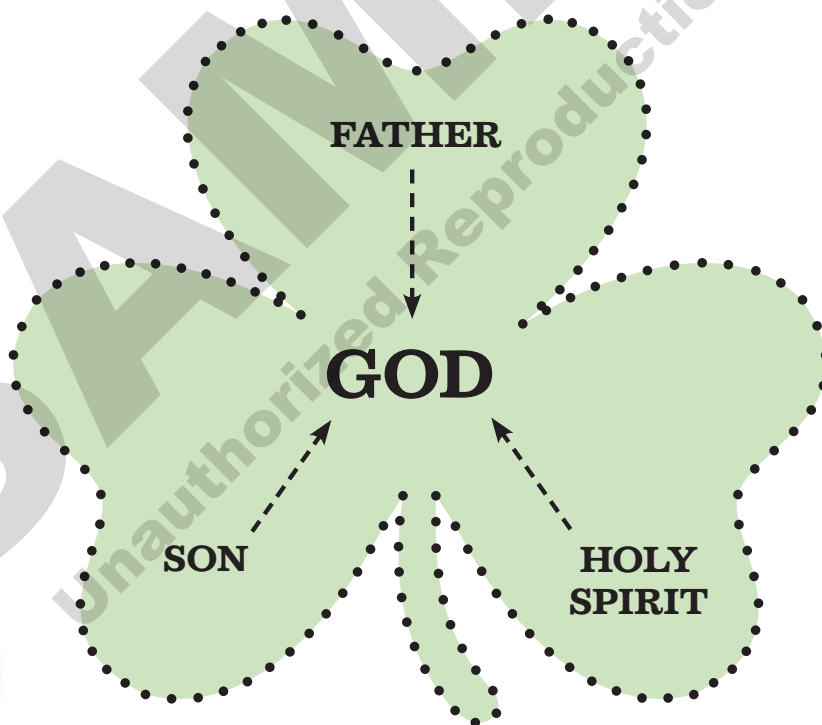
All love begins with God. God's love is perfect. When we **love** others, we do what is good for them. The **Bible** tells us that God shares His love with us.



There is one God in three Persons. The three Persons of the **Blessed Trinity** are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God is a perfect communion of love.

The Blessed Trinity: One God in Three Persons

Trace this symbol of the Blessed Trinity given to us by Saint Patrick. Trace the arrows from Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to show they are each God.



Faith Challenge

Tell God you love Him before going to sleep at night.

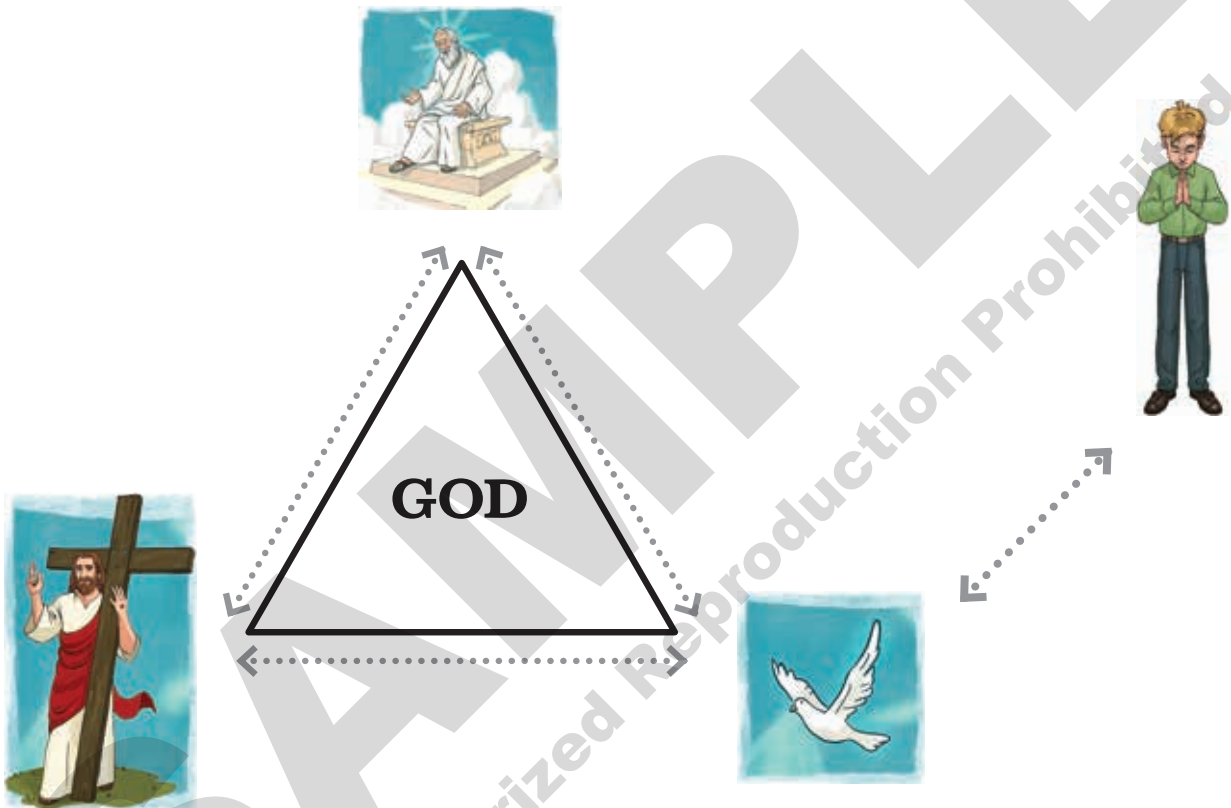
God Invites Us to Love Him

God is love. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit share their love with one another. God shares His love with us. God gives us the virtue of charity. With charity, we can love God and others.



The Blessed Trinity

Trace the arrows.



Fill in the blank.

The Blessed Trinity shares God's
with us.

love

Faith Challenge

Think about how much God loves you.

God's Plan of Love

God shares His love with us now and forever in **Heaven**. We call this **God's plan of love**. God's love is holy and perfect. God's love makes us holy children.



God gives us charity. With charity, we can give God's love to others.



I Am Part of God's Plan of Love!

Circle all the people who need God's love.



FOCUS 4

Becoming a Gift to Others

Love is a gift. God loves perfectly. He gives Himself as a gift to us. He gives us the virtue of charity. With charity, we can love like God loves. We can become a gift to others.



Gifts of Love

Circle the ways we can be a gift of love to others.



Choose the best answer:

When we love, we do what is (good/bad) for another person.

When we love like God loves, we (take/give) ourselves as a gift.

Saint Rose of Lima

Saint Rose was born on April 20, 1586, in Peru. Her parents named her Isabel. Sometime after Isabel's Baptism, her mother checked on her while she was sleeping. She noticed that an image of a rose appeared on Isabel's cheek. This gift showed that God had a very special plan for little Isabel.

Isabel's family began calling her Rose. Even after the image of the rose left her cheek, young Rose began to show great love for God and others as she grew older.

Faith Challenge

Share God's love with someone else. You can do this by giving up something, like your turn or the last cookie.



Acts of Charity

Draw a picture or write about how you can be a gift to another person.



REVIEW



Chapter 1 Review: God Is Love

Circle the correct answer.

1. The Blessed Trinity is _____ God in three Persons.
three one

2. The _____ tells us God shares His love with us.
trees Bible

3. To _____ is to do what is good for another person.
laugh love

4. God has a special _____ of love for us.
plan puppy

5. Love is a _____.
dog gift

6. God shares His love with us now and forever in _____.
Heaven earth



Match the pictures below to the correct Person of the Blessed Trinity.



Father

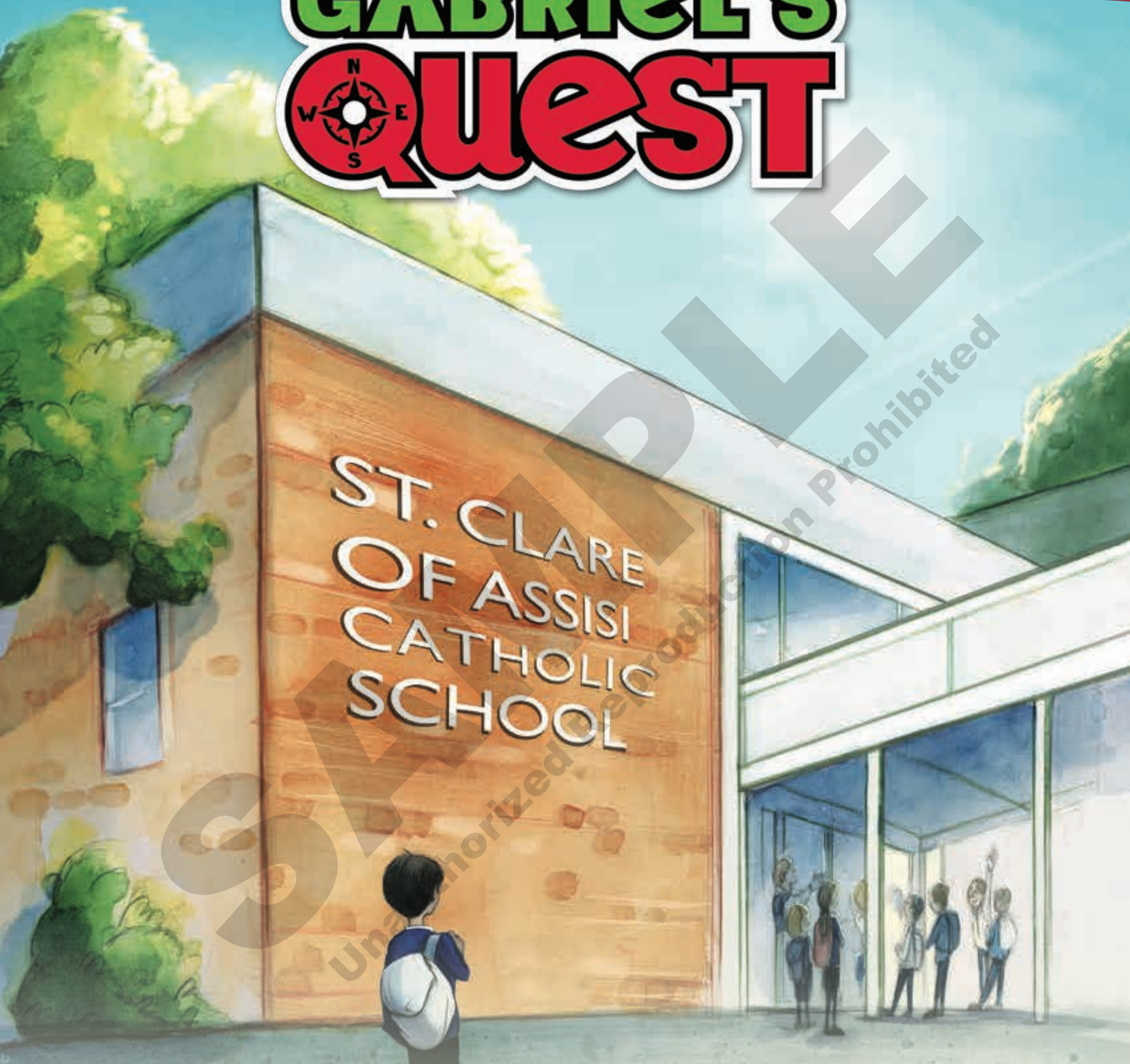


Son



Holy Spirit

GABRIEL'S Quest



Gabriel Romero did not want to start first grade.

Read the full *Gabriel's Quest* story on the student or parent portal.

FAMILY FAITH

Chapter 1: God Is Love

God is love, and He shares His love with us.

Chapter Summary

God is a perfect communion of love. The three Divine Persons of the Blessed Trinity are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three Persons are one because all three are fully God. This union is made known to us in their perfect exchange of love. As Scripture tells us, God is love. God has a plan of love for each of us: to share His love with us and draw us into a loving relationship with Him. At our Baptism, we receive the virtue of charity (love). Charity is more than the love we have for created things. Charity is a virtue that makes it possible for us to love God above all else and love our neighbors as ourselves. Each of us is called to open ourselves up to God's gift of love, to draw close to Him, and to share God's love with others. When we share God's love with others, we become a gift to them. By receiving God's love, we become good and holy.

More for Parents

When your children come home telling you they learned about the Blessed Trinity, you might feel intimidated. Isn't it impossible to understand the Blessed Trinity? While we will never fully understand this mystery, we can know that God's very inner life is a life of love: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct Persons who give themselves to one another in perfect love. Our families provide daily opportunities to give ourselves in love to others. As love becomes the center of your family, your family imitates the communion of the Persons of the Blessed Trinity. In leading this, you teach about the Blessed Trinity.

Virtue in the Family

Virtues are important parts of who we are as children of God. We are virtuous when we do what is good and pleasing to God and avoid what is evil. The greatest virtue is charity. Charity enables us to love like God loves. Prayer helps us nurture the virtue of charity. All parents are called to nurture the virtues in their children.

Grow in Charity

- When we receive the virtue of charity, we should love others like God loves them. **Each day, ask your children how they shared God's love with someone else.**
- Nightly prayer activity
 - Decorate a space in your home with a crucifix, saint statues, and a candle.
 - Take five to ten minutes to pray in silence together:
 - Light the candle. As long as the candle is lit, everyone has to be silent.
 - Have all family members close their eyes and imagine the three Persons of the Blessed Trinity sharing their love (maybe as a present).
 - Recite the following together: **"Dear God, I love You; help me love You more."**
 - End with the Sign of the Cross.

Vocabulary Words for Your Children to Review

- **Bible**
- **Blessed Trinity**
- **God's plan of love**
- **Heaven**
- **love**

Find digital flash cards to help your children review on the parent portal.



For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.