

Getting Ready for Chapter 15

Take Home



Hope and Faithfulness

When the people of Judah lived in exile, the prophet Ezekiel helped them realize that, even though they might temporarily turn away from God, God would always be ready to welcome them back. We have this same relationship with God and are called to share it with others.

ACTIVITY

For the Greater Good Look for a neighborhood or community volunteer opportunity in which your family can participate. Check your local newspaper or contact local organizations.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

Listen for messages of faith and hope during the readings and the homily.

On the Web

www.blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of the Week



Andrew of Phuò Yeân
(1625–1644)

As a young Catholic Vietnamese, Andrew became a catechist and vowed to serve the Church. He was arrested and advised to renounce his faith, but he refused. At the hour of his execution, Andrew continued to encourage the Christians present to remain firm in their faith. Vietnamese Catholics have a special devotion to Blessed Andrew.

Feast Day: July 27



**A Prayer
for the
Week**

Help us appreciate your gift of faith, Lord. Keep us strong in our faith, and let there always be hope in our lives. Amen.

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Scripture Background

Before the Time of Jesus

Ezekiel's Teachings of Salvation The prophet Ezekiel had a strong influence on the exiled community of Jews. Under his guidance, the Jews came to believe that God was with them wherever they were exiled. Ezekiel told the people that they were like a flock of sheep that had gotten lost, and that God was like a shepherd who would lead them back to safety (Ezekiel 34:11–16). Just as Ezekiel tells the Israelites that God will care for them like a shepherd for his sheep, Jesus reminds us that he is the Good Shepherd who will lay down his life for his sheep (John 10:11–18).

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Literature

T. S. Eliot T. S. Eliot, who converted to Anglo-Catholicism in 1927, was one of the most renowned literary figures of the twentieth century. Born in the United States in 1888, Eliot gained fame while living in England. He was a prolific writer of poetry, essays, and plays. Eliot's devotion to religion had a profound impact on his work. In his famous poem "The Waste Land," Eliot used the imagery of the dry bones from Ezekiel 37:1–14, which is discussed in this chapter. His well-known play *Murder in the Cathedral* is about the death of Saint Thomas Becket in the twelfth century. Eliot received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1948. He died in London in 1965.