



Confirmed in Faith

Before You Begin

- Print the Chapter 3 BLM: Dialogue of Faith found at the end of this document.
- Download and print the Chapter 3 Prayer Service: Praying the Creed.
- Have a Bible available during the session for reference.
- Make sure your child has his or her *My Confirmation Journal* to record any insights during the session and to do the activities on pages ii–vii and 21–30 after the session.
- If you have the *Faith to Faith* magazine, encourage your child to use it to reflect on the session with his or her sponsor.

Engage: Page 25

- ◆ You might choose to begin by reviewing the previous chapter. Invite your child to recall important concepts from Chapter 2.
- ◆ Invite your child to open his or her book to page 25. Read aloud the chapter title and discuss the questions with your child. You can find additional conversation starters for this chapter at www.loyolapress.com/CISconversations.
- ◆ Have your child locate the Nicene Creed on the inside front cover of the book. Say: **We talked about belonging to the Church. Today we're going to talk about the beliefs that unite us as Jesus' Church.**
- ◆ Pray together the Creed. When you have finished, together read aloud the words from the Rite of Confirmation at the bottom of page 25.

Explore: Pages 26–33

- ◆ Read the Scripture passage at the top of 26. Say: **God gave the people of Israel advice on how to succeed as they prepared to enter a new setting—the Promised Land.**
- ◆ Take turns reading *Understanding Scripture* on page 26. Say: **We call the first five books of the Bible the Pentateuch, which means “five books.” In Hebrew they are called the Torah, meaning “the law.” These books contain the instruction that God gave his people so that they could succeed in their new land.** Ask your child to read *Scripture and You* and summarize it in his or her own words.
- ◆ Ask your child to silently read Reflecting on God's Word. Encourage your child to record any insights in his or her journal.
- ◆ Say: **God taught the Israelites how to live successfully as they entered the Promised Land. Through the ages, the Church has passed on God's instructions to each generation.**
- ◆ Have your child read silently *We Believe* on page 27. Afterward, read aloud the first paragraph of *The Holy Trinity*. Remind your child that the Holy Trinity is at the heart of what we believe. Read together *A Loving Father*. Say: **We begin our Creed by stating that we believe in God the Father, who is the creator of all things.**

- ◆ Take turns reading aloud *God the Son: Closer to Us* and *Fully God, Fully Human* on pages 28 and 29. Ask: **How does Jesus save us?** (*by healing our damaged relationship with God*) **Is it correct to say that Jesus was half God and half man?** (*No, he was fully God and fully man.*) **What does the Immaculate Conception refer to?** (*Mary was conceived without sin.*) **Why did Jesus work miracles?** (*to show people the power of the Kingdom of God*) **What do we believe about Jesus' Death?** (*He died to save us from sin. He rose from the dead.*) **What do we believe about Jesus' second coming?** (*He will judge the living and the dead. He will establish God's kingdom forever.*) **What did Jesus do on the night before he died?** (*He gave us the Eucharist and shared a meal with his friends.*)
- ◆ Have your child complete the My Turn activity at the bottom of the page 28.
- ◆ Have your child read silently *A Sanctifying Spirit* on page 29. Ask him or her to describe the qualities of a good coach. Say: **The Holy Spirit guides, organizes, teaches, and supports us in life, just as a coach supports his or her team.**
- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the first four paragraphs of *The Catholic Church* on pages 29 and 30 and complete the My Turn activity on page 29. Ask: **What does it mean to call the Church a pilgrim people?** (*We are people on a journey to the Father.*) **What is the Magisterium of the Church?** (*through the pope and bishops, the teaching office of the Church*) **What does it mean to describe the pope's teaching as infallible?** (*The teaching is free from error when the pope solemnly teaches on matters of faith and morality.*)
- ◆ Take turns reading aloud *One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic* on pages 30–31. Have your child complete the My Turn activity on page 31 and the Chapter 3 BLM: Dialogue of Faith.
- ◆ Ask your child to silently read *Life Everlasting* on page 32. Ask: **Who is the most esteemed member of the Communion of Saints?** (*the Virgin Mary*) Point out the important Marian feast days on page 99.

Rite: Page 30

- ◆ Read aloud *Rite* and ask your child to read aloud *Meaning* on page 30. Explain that when we were baptized, we became members of the Church, the community of believers, who support us and help us as we mature in life and in our faith.
- ◆ Read aloud *Daily Life*. Ask: **Who in your life guides you, helps you, gives you good advice, and loves you unconditionally?** (*Accept reasonable answers.*) Say: **God is acting in your life through all those people.**
- ◆ Invite your child to read aloud *Life of Faith*. Say: **Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."** [Matthew 18:20] **Jesus is always with us.**

Witness: Page 32

- ◆ Read aloud the *Witness* section on page 32. Explain that religious life is one way of saying yes to God. Share what you know about communities, monasteries, and convents, and about priests, monks, brothers, and nuns.
- ◆ Discuss that while not all of us are called to live in religious communities, we all belong to different communities. Have your child list some of the communities he or she belongs to. Ask: **In which of these communities are we called to live our faith?** (*all of them*)
- ◆ Emphasize how the Rule of Benedict calls people to be hospitable. Ask: **Why should we always welcome others?** (*because we are all Children of God, we are brothers and sisters*) Ask: **How can you show hospitality to people you meet?** (*by saying hello, being attentive to them, helping them, not judging them*)

Act and Pray: Page 33

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the *Act* section on page 33. Discuss how your child can actively live the Catholic faith in the communities to which he or she belongs.
- ◆ Say: **As Catholics, we share our faith in the Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.** Read aloud the *Pray* section on page 33. Allow a few minutes for your child to study the words to the Nicene Creed on the inside front cover of his or her book. Encourage your child to record any insights in his or her journal.

Reflect: Page 34

- ◆ Tell your child that you are going to celebrate a prayer service that will focus on the five key areas of the Creed: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, the Church, and life everlasting. Proceed to your family's prayer space.
- ◆ Explain that prayer can be a conversation with God. Tell your child that traditional prayers, songs, and talking to God are good ways to pray. Remind your child that God hears his or her prayers and that prayer strengthens the bond of love with God.
- ◆ Choose who will read the parts for the Leader and Readers 1 through 5. You and your child will both read the parts labeled "All."
- ◆ Set the Bible open to the Scripture passage to be used during the prayer service. Pause for a moment of silence before beginning the prayer, *Praying the Creed*, on page 22. Adapt it to your circumstances if needed. Observe the periods of silence and keep a prayerful pace. Allow time in between sections for reflection.
- ◆ Pause for a moment of silence before concluding.

Respond: Pages 35–36

- ◆ Read aloud the Faith Summary section on page 35. Ask: **What prayer expresses the truths of our faith?** (the Creed) **Who teaches us the truths of our faith?** (Jesus and the Church) **Who helps us believe the Creed?** (the Holy Spirit)
- ◆ Read aloud the Remember section. Make sure your child understands the main points of the chapter.
- ◆ Encourage your child to write in the *My Confirmation Journal* to enter more deeply into this chapter. The corresponding pages to this chapter are 21–30. Remind your child that no one else will read his or her journal.
- ◆ Read aloud the Words to Know and review the definitions. Complete definitions can be found in the Glossary on pages 115–118 and in the online Glossary.
- ◆ Ask your child to choose one Reach Out item to complete and to reflect privately on the outcomes.
- ◆ Encourage your child and his or her sponsor to reflect on this chapter as they strengthen their relationship and grow in their faith. They may want to use the *Faith to Faith* magazine.
- ◆ Conclude the chapter by praying together the closing prayer. Encourage your child to use this prayer throughout the week.
- ◆ Your child can use the review activities on page 36 to review and reinforce the key concepts of this chapter.



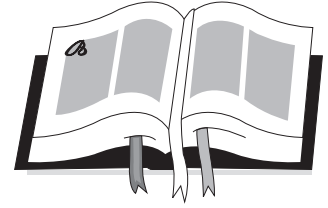
- ◆ Use the following questions to check your child's comprehension of the chapter:
 - ◆ Can your child explain how God gave the Law to teach Israel—and us—how to live?
 - ◆ How well is your child able to identify and describe the meaning of the Marks of the Church?
 - ◆ Does your child have an understanding of Mary's role in the Church?
 - ◆ Can your child explain what will happen at the Final Judgment?
 - ◆ How well is your child able to identify and describe the Communion of Saints?

Name _____

Date _____

Dialogue of Faith

Organize into two groups. Then look up the Scripture verses below and write them. When you are finished, conduct a short prayer service. The verses prayed by Group 1 are Jesus' words in the Gospel Reading. The verses prayed by Group 2 are the people's faith responses in the Gospel Reading.



Group 1: John 14:6 _____

Group 2: John 12:19 _____

Group 1: Luke 7:22 _____

Group 2: Matthew 8:27 _____

Group 1: John 3:16 _____

Group 2: John 6:58 _____

Group 1: Matthew 5:16 _____

Group 2: John 6:28 _____

Group 1: John 14:12 _____

Group 2: Luke 10:17 _____

Group 1: John 20:29 _____

Group 2: Matthew 14:33 _____
