

Jesus Shows His Great Love

- ♦ Before beginning Unit 4, read A Letter Home, found on page 166 of your child's book. Then begin the next paragraph with your child.
- ♦ Say: In Unit 4 we will learn more about Jesus' greatest act of love that helped his human family accept God as their father. We will also discover how Jesus remains with us today through the Holy Spirit.

CHAPTER 19 **Jesus Gives the Gift of Himself**

Centering PAGE 165

- ♦ Have your child read aloud the title on page 165 and look at the picture. Say: Jesus' greatest act of love was dying on the cross. We will learn what that means for us. Read aloud the Bible verse at the bottom of the page.
- ♦ Talk about parades that you and your child have seen. Say: At the time Jesus lived, kings entered a city as part of a parade. Sometimes a red carpet was laid down and they rode horses as trumpets sounded announcing the king's arrival. Ask: If you were a king, how would that make you feel?

Sharing PAGES 167–168

- ♦ Say: Jesus was going to the big city of Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. Passover was a feast for the Jews to remember the time when God saved them and showed great love for them. Tell or read aloud Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1–11). Say: As Jesus entered the city riding a donkey, the people shouted "Hosanna!" "Hosanna" is like "hurrah." Let's shout out "Hosanna!"
- ♦ Read aloud pages 167 and 168 and have your child complete the activity. Say: Each year on Palm Sunday churches have processions, or holy parades, to remember the day Jesus was hailed as king.
- ♦ Have your child fold a sheet of green construction paper in half. Guide him or her to draw half of a palm branch on the paper and then cut along that line. Unfold the palm branch.

Sharing PAGES 169–170

- ◆ Ask: **Can you name some presents you have received? Can you name who gave you the presents?** Say: **A gift is a way of giving ourselves to people we love.** **Presents remind us of the person who gave us the gift.**
- ◆ Read aloud or share the story of Jesus giving us the gift of himself in the Eucharist from Luke 22:15–19 and Matthew 26:26–29. Have your child look at the picture on page 169. Say: **Jesus knew he was going to his Father in heaven. Jesus wanted to give a special gift to help his apostles and friends remember him.**
- ◆ Help your child read aloud pages 169 and 170. Have your child write the missing words on the lines.
- ◆ Say: **When we celebrate Mass, it's like being in the Last Supper. Just like Jesus did, we see a priest take bread and say, "This is my Body." The priest also takes the chalice and says, "This is my Blood."** **Jesus Christ himself is truly present. Whenever people receive Holy Communion, Jesus comes to them in a special way.**

Sharing PAGES 171–172

- ◆ Have your child do the activity **At Mass with My Family and Friends** on page 171.
- ◆ Help your child remove the “I am with you” tabernacle punchout from the back of his or her book and fold the doors. Say: **Display this as a reminder of Jesus' great gift of himself to all of us.**
- ◆ Review what happened on Palm Sunday and Holy Thursday. Say: **Today you will find out what happened on another day of Holy Week.**
- ◆ Display a crucifix. Say: **Jesus showed how much he loved us by doing this.** [Point to the crucifix.] **Jesus' arms are outstretched in love.**
- ◆ Tell or read aloud the story of Jesus’ Death. (See Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, and John 19.)
- ◆ Read aloud page 172.
- ◆ Help your child assemble the Way of the Cross Booklet found in the back of his or her book. Read through the booklet together and say: **This is your own Stations of the Cross booklet. It has pictures for the stations that help us remember how Jesus suffered and rose from the dead.**

Acting PAGES 173–174

- ◆ Lead your child in prayer using **A Moment with Jesus** on page 173. Help your child write the prayer. Ask: **What does Jesus do at every Mass?** (He gives himself to his Father.) **What can you say to tell God that you give him the gift of Jesus and yourself?** (I love you, God, and I give you the gift of Jesus and myself.)
- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 19 Review on page 174.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or read aloud the section together to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 175–176**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 175. Say:
Jesus gave himself to us at the Last Supper. At Mass, he gives himself in the Eucharist.

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Ask: **What do palms help us remember?** (Palm Sunday) **What does Holy Communion help us remember?** (the Last Supper)
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and pray: **Jesus, thank you for giving yourself to us in many ways. Help us give ourselves to others too.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know. Ask: **What qualities made Blaise such a good witness for Christ?** (determination; courage; strength; love)
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the directions in Share Your Faith and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Discuss ways people share messages. Then write “Jesus is God’s gift to us.” Say: **This is the main message of our faith.** Ask: **How can we send this message to others?**
- ◆ Brainstorm ways to send the message, such as signs, notes on doors or mirrors, e-mails, and banners. Choose one way and display your message somewhere in your home.

CHAPTER 20 Jesus Is Risen**Centering**

- ◆ Turn to page 172. Ask your child to recall details from the last chapter using the picture and the text on this page.
- ◆ Talk about how the world changes in the spring. Ask: **How do you feel when you see new signs of life?**

Sharing PAGE 177

- ◆ Discuss page 177 by looking at the pictures and reading aloud the text. Say: **Spring is a time of new life that reminds us of Jesus' Resurrection. Resurrection means coming to new life after death. After dying on Good Friday, Jesus rose with new life on Easter Sunday.**

Sharing PAGE 178

- ◆ Share the story of the Resurrection event with your child (Matthew 27:62–66; 28:1–8). Say: **The risen Jesus will be with us always. This is why we celebrate Easter every year.**
- ◆ Display pictures of these traditional Easter symbols as you talk about them. Say: **Easter lilies come to life and look beautiful for Easter. The Easter egg is like the tomb in which Jesus had been buried. Jesus was inside the tomb and left it to live a new risen life. The paschal candle symbolizes that Christ is our light.**
- ◆ Read aloud page 178. Say: **We celebrate a little Easter every Sunday. In the Eucharist, the risen Jesus is with us in a special way.**
- ◆ Help your child remove the butterfly punchout at the back of his or her book and color it. Staple the butterfly to one end of a straw. Say: **Jesus died and rose with a glorious new life just as a caterpillar turns into a beautiful butterfly. When we die, we will rise with a new life too.**
- ◆ Have your child respond with “Alleluia” after each prayer. Say: **Thank you, risen Jesus, for our new life. (Alleluia!) Thank you, risen Jesus, for the gift of your peace. (Alleluia!)**

Sharing PAGES 179–180

- ♦ Ask: **Did you ever see someone from a distance and not recognize him or her at first?** Talk about what helped your child recognize the person, such as the voice, the walk, the clothes, or the gestures.
- ♦ Tell or read aloud from the Bible the story of Jesus' encounter with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13–35). Say: **We meet Jesus many times each day, but sometimes we are like the two friends. We don't recognize Jesus either.**
- ♦ Read aloud page 179 and have your child complete the activity.
- ♦ Guide your child in doing the activities on page 180, one picture at a time. Ask: **How can you show that you know you are meeting Jesus in other people?** (listen to them; be kind; speak in a friendly way)

Sharing PAGE 181

- ♦ Say: **Jesus gave us an Easter gift. His gift to us is peace.** Have your child use crayons to write the word "PEACE" in big letters on a sheet of paper.
- ♦ Tell or read aloud from the Bible the story of Jesus' appearance to the apostles (John 20:19–23). Ask: **What did Jesus say to his apostles?** (Peace be with you.)
- ♦ Say: **Jesus knew that when we sin, we lose our peace. So Jesus told his apostles and all priests that he would forgive sins through them. Peace is a wonderful gift, and we have it because Jesus gave it to us.**
- ♦ Read aloud page 181 and have your child complete the activity.

Sharing PAGE 182

- ♦ Ask: **What is peace?** (the feeling of being very still and quiet; when there is no war) **When are times that you feel at peace?** Say: **Jesus wants us to share this wonderful gift of peace. He wants us to be like him and to give peace to other people.**
- ♦ Help your child complete page 182. Ask: **Who are some people around you who bring peace to others?** (priests, police officers, teachers)
- ♦ Say: **When it is not easy to bring peace to ourselves and others, we can turn to Jesus. He shows us how to be a person of peace.**

Acting PAGES 183–184

- ♦ Pray together with your child the Peace Prayer of Saint Francis under A Moment with Jesus on page 183.
- ♦ Help your child complete the Chapter 20 Review on page 184.
- ♦ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or read aloud the section together to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 185–186**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 185. Ask: **What does Jesus want to give us when we are scared and worried?** (peace)

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Jesus saves us by giving us hope. He wanted us to know that when we love God, we live forever.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Even though you have not received Holy Communion yet, Jesus is with you in a special way during the Eucharist. You can talk to him and tell him how much you love him.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know. Say: **When we doubt something, we want to understand it better. Thomas's doubts helped him learn more about Jesus.**
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the directions in Share Your Faith and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Discuss how we can share peace with others. Say: **Name a way you could bring peace to these people: a friend is upset because someone said something mean; a parent is upset because he or she has a flat tire; a relative is upset because a family member is sick.**

CHAPTER 21 Jesus Sends Us the Spirit

Centering

- ◆ Ask: How do you feel when someone you love is about to go away? How do people keep in touch with friends who are far away?
- ◆ Say: Jesus was still with his friends after he died. Ask: How can this be? (He rose from the dead with new life.) Say: When Jesus knew he had to leave his friends, he promised that he would keep in touch with them in a special way.

Sharing PAGE 187

- ◆ Tell or read aloud from the Bible the story of the Ascension (Matthew 28:16–20; Acts of the Apostles 1:9–13).
- ◆ Ask: What did Jesus promise to do for us in heaven? (prepare a place for us) What did the apostles do after Jesus went to heaven? (They went back to Jerusalem to pray.) Say: They prayed that the Holy Spirit would come and help them do the work that Jesus gave them.
- ◆ Say: We celebrate Jesus' going to heaven on Ascension Thursday. *Ascension* means "to go up." Ask: How is Jesus with us? (in the Holy Spirit; in those who share his life; in the Eucharist; in the Bible)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud page 187.
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer. Have him or her respond with "Thy kingdom come" after each intention.

Sharing PAGES 188–189

- ◆ Ask: What did Jesus promise the apostles when he went to heaven? (He would send the Holy Spirit.)
- ◆ Tell or read aloud from the Bible the story about the coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts of the Apostles 2:1–41).
- ◆ Ask: What does a strong wind sound like? What did the apostles see above one another's heads? (tongues of fire) Say: The flames were signs that the Holy Spirit had come.
- ◆ Say: The apostles were changed. The Holy Spirit filled their hearts with love and courage. Ask: How are the Holy Spirit and the wind alike? (They are both invisible and powerful.)
- ◆ Ask: What do you think the Holy Spirit does for us? (helps us know and love Jesus; be like Jesus; be brave like the apostles; and do the right thing even when everyone else does what is wrong)

Sharing PAGES 188–189

- ◆ Take turns reading aloud pages 188 and 189 and have your child complete the activity.
- ◆ Ask: **You are with some children who want to do something you know is wrong. What does the Holy Spirit tell you to do? You broke a dish. What is the Holy Spirit telling you to do when your mother asks who broke it?**
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer. Say: **The Holy Spirit has come to you. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill your heart with love.** [Pause.] Ask the Holy Spirit to help you be brave. [Pause.]

Sharing PAGES 190–191

- ◆ Read aloud page 190. Ask: **What virtues did you receive at Baptism?** (faith, hope, and love) Say: **Each of these virtues has a special symbol. The cross is a sign of your faith. The anchor is a sign of hope. The greatest gift, love, is shown by a heart.** Have your child identify each symbol on page 190.
- ◆ Have your child complete the activities on page 191.
- ◆ Point out the Act of Faith, Hope, and Love prayer on the inside front cover of your child's book. Say: **This prayer can be prayed anytime. You may color the cross next to the prayer when you know it by heart.**
- ◆ Say: **Gifts are given to us to be used. The same is true about the gift of the virtues we received at Baptism.** Ask: **Do you remember what they are?** (to have faith in God, to have hope in God, and to love God above all things)

Acting PAGE 192

- ◆ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus on page 190.
- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 21 Review on page 192.
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer. Say: **Let's thank God for these three wonderful gifts. I will say the first part of the prayer, and you respond by saying, "We thank you, Lord." We have new life. [Response] We can believe. [Response] We can hope. [Response] We can love. [Response]**
- ◆ Have your child draw a picture showing him or her using the gifts of faith, hope, and love. Talk about the picture when it is finished.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or read aloud the section together to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 193–194**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 193. Say:
When God pours his Spirit into our hearts, it overflows.

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Ask: **Who came to Jesus' friends at Pentecost?** (the Holy Spirit) **Jesus filled their hearts with the Holy Spirit.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **The Holy Spirit is always with us but comes into our hearts in a special way at Baptism.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know. Say: **Saint Teresa said that we must first understand that we have the gift of God's love. Then we can share it.**
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the directions in Share Your Faith and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Help your child cut out a flame shape from red construction paper. Have him or her write on the flame one action they can do to share faith, hope, or love. Display the flame in your home above a picture of your child.
- ◆ Pray: **Holy Spirit, thank you for coming to be with us. Help us be brave and strong. Amen.**

CHAPTER 22 Jesus Is with Us in His Church**Centering**

- ◆ Draw four flames, each with a term written inside: Jesus, Holy Spirit, Church, fire. Ask: **What does each word have to do with Pentecost?**
- ◆ Guide your child to appreciate what it means to belong to something. Ask: **What does it mean to belong to a family?** Say: **Today we will talk about another family to which you belong.**

Sharing PAGE 195

- ◆ Direct your child's attention to the top picture on page 195. Say: **The Church is God's Christian family.**
- ◆ Ask: **When do you become a member of the Church?** (at Baptism) Say: **All of us in the Church are called to be holy by being like Jesus.** Ask: **How can priests be like Jesus?** (by leading the celebration of the Eucharist) **How can children be like Jesus?** (by loving, forgiving, and sharing with one another)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the chapter title. Ask: **How is Jesus with us in his Church?** Then read aloud The Church Is God's Family on page 195.
- ◆ Help your child pray for the Church. Say: **The Church is God's family. Jesus wants his Church to be holy. We can pray to the Holy Spirit to help us be loving like Jesus.** [Pause.]

Sharing PAGE 196

- ◆ Say: **Sometimes people we love ask us to do something special for them. They might ask us to care for their pets, watch their house, or help them make something.** Ask: **Did anyone you love ever ask you to do something for him or her?**
- ◆ Tell or read aloud the story "Jesus Chose a Leader for His Church" (John 21:1–17). Say: **After his Resurrection, Jesus asked one of his apostles whether he really loved him. Jesus wanted this apostle to do something special for him.**
- ◆ Ask: **What important question did Jesus ask Peter? (Do you love me?) What special work did Jesus want Peter to do? (feed his sheep) Who were the sheep that Jesus was talking about? (us; his people)**
- ◆ Read aloud page 196 and have your child point to the word *pope*. Say: **We call the leader, or the head of the Church, the pope, or the Holy Father. Peter was the first pope.**

Sharing PAGE 197

- ◆ Have your child read aloud The Pope Leads the Church Today on page 197. Show a picture of the current pope. Ask: **What can we do to show our love for our Holy Father?** (Pray for him.)
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Say: **Imagine you are there, listening to Jesus ask, "Do you love me?" Let us take some time to pray for all the leaders of our Church.** [Pause.] Ask God to bless the people who teach us about God.

Sharing PAGES 198–199

- ◆ Look at baby pictures of your child and talk about what he or she was like as a baby. Ask: **How does a baby bring happiness to each person in a family?** Say: **The day that people are welcomed into God's family is a happy day too.** Ask: **When did you become part of God's family?** (at Baptism)
- ◆ Say: **Today we will learn more about God's family, the Church.**
- ◆ Read aloud We Belong to the Catholic Church on page 198. Say: **We are called Christians because we are baptized and believe in Christ. We are also Catholics. As Catholic Christians, we worship God our Father at Mass.**
- ◆ Say: **Jesus welcomes everyone to belong to his Church.** Have your child color the welcome banner.
- ◆ Lead your child to pray for the Church. Say: **Thank Jesus that you are a member of the Catholic Church.** [Pause.] **Thank Jesus for Mother Mary.** [Pause.] **Ask God to bless our Holy Father, Pope _____.** [Pause.]
- ◆ Help your child fill in God's family tree on page 199. Include your names as well as the names of the pope, bishops, and other members of the Church family.

Acting PAGE 200

- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 22 Review on page 200.
- ◆ Play the Name Game. Ask a question and have your child guess who you are talking about. Ask: **Whom did Jesus make the head of his Church? (Peter) Who said, "Simon, do you love me?" (Jesus) What is another name for our Holy Father? (pope)** Continue with other questions about people mentioned in this chapter.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or read aloud the section together to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 201–202**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 201. Say: **We learn how to live as children of God in God's house, the Church.**

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **When we join the Church at Baptism, the Holy Spirit brings us the gifts of faith, hope, and love.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Jesus wanted Peter to guide and love his sheep.** Ask: **Who are the sheep?** (God's people; we are the sheep.)
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know. Say: **Saint Juan Diego fed Jesus' sheep by sharing Mary's message.**
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the directions in Share Your Faith and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Discuss the importance of inviting others to join God's family. Say: **The Church has room for everyone in the world, and God wants us to spread this message.**
- ◆ Have your child write "In my Father's house there are many rooms" (John 14:2) on a sheet of drawing paper and decorate it. Have your child discuss what the poster means with family members and display it in your home.

CHAPTER 23**Mary Is the Mother of the Church****Centering**

- ♦ Ask: What makes a person a mother? What are some things that mothers do for us? (take care of us, love us, feed us, teach us) Say: A mother's love helps us grow the way God wishes us to grow.
- ♦ Say: The Church has a Mother too. She is a model for being a good Christian. She is a model for the whole Church. Her name is Mary.

Sharing PAGES 203–204

- ♦ Read aloud page 203.
- ♦ Say: When we die, our bodies will be buried in a grave. We will rise on the last day. But Jesus did something special for Mary because she was his mother and had been holy all her life. Jesus had Mary taken up to heaven body and soul. We call this the Assumption.
- ♦ Have your child read aloud Mary Is Our Queen on page 204. Say: Jesus is king of heaven and earth. Mary is queen of heaven and earth. She prays for us and asks Jesus to bless us.
- ♦ Say: Mary showed Christians how to spread the Good News by living in Jesus' love.
- ♦ Use the picture of Mary and A Moment with Jesus on page 204 to lead your child in prayer. Say: As we look at Mary's picture, let's ask her to help us be like her Son, Jesus. [Pause.]

Sharing PAGE 205

- ♦ Play a recording of the song "Immaculate Mary" as your child follows along with the words on page 205. Say: We call Mary "Immaculate Mary" because she always said yes to God and never sinned. *Ave Maria* means "Hail Mary."
- ♦ Have your child complete the activity on page 205.

Sharing PAGES 206–207

- ◆ Ask: **Why is Mary a model for the Church?** (Mary is the one who shows us how to be good Christians. She shows us how to be like Jesus.)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud page 206 and complete the sentences.
- ◆ Read aloud Saint Thérèse Loved Mary on page 207. Say: **Saint Thérèse showed us how to honor Mary. That means she showed us how to give our love to Mary.** Ask: **How did Thérèse honor Mary?** (She prayed with Mary; she said yes as Mary did.) **How can we honor Mary?** (by trying to be like her; by asking her to pray for us)
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity on page 207.
- ◆ Give your child a note card. Help him or her write *Mary* on one side and *Help me be like you* on the other side. Say: **Put your Mary card where it can remind you to do something each day to honor Our Lady and be more like Jesus.**

Acting PAGE 208

- ◆ Find the story of “The Juggler of Our Lady” online or in a book and read it aloud. Ask: **Why were the brothers in the monastery busy? Why did Mary smile at the juggler?** (She was pleased with the love that was in his heart.)
- ◆ Say: **Mary has special feast days during the year that honor her. On August 15, the feast of Mary’s Assumption is held.** Ask: **What do we celebrate on this feast of the Assumption?** (Jesus taking Mary, body and soul, to heaven)
- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 23 Review on page 208.
- ◆ Help your child remove the Mary punchout button at the back of his or her book and write *yes* on the button. Let your child wear the button and say: **This button will remind you to be like Mary by saying yes to God.**
- ◆ Invite your child to talk to Mary in the quiet of his or her heart. Say: **We have shown our love for Mary by making her a beautiful gift. Now let us love and honor her with prayer.** [Pause.]
- ◆ Prepare for the celebration by creating a shrine for Mary with a statue or picture of Mary and vases of flowers.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or read aloud the section together to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 209–210**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 209. Say: **Jesus wanted John to understand that he was giving Mary to all of us. He was making her the Mother of the Church.**

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Mary wants us to be as close to God as she is.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **We know we can talk to Mary any time. We can ask her to pray to Jesus for us.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know. Say: **Saint Thérèse called herself the “Little Flower.” Every yes she said to God was like a petal of love.**
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the directions in Share Your Faith and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Discuss how we can say yes at home. Ask: **What are some jobs you are asked to do? How do you usually respond when you are asked to do them?**
- ◆ Role-play asking your child to do a job. Say: **Show with your voice and body how you respond with a yes!** Tell your child to be on the lookout for ways to say yes with their whole selves at home and at school.

CHAPTER 24**The Holy Spirit Helps the Church****Centering**

- ♦ Display a newspaper or an online news website. Ask: **How do people find out news?** (from newspapers, radio, TV, online, other people) **Do you know someone who had good news for everyone?** (Jesus)
- ♦ Say: **Jesus was God's messenger who announced the Good News of the Kingdom of God.**
- ♦ Write these names on note cards and display them: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John. Say: **God chose men to write books about Jesus. The Gospel writers are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Each one of the Gospel writers has a book about Jesus named after himself.**

Sharing PAGE 211

- ♦ Read aloud page 211 and have your child point to the word *Gospels*. Say: ***Gospel* means "Good News."** Ask: **How do we show respect for Jesus' Good News?** (We stand to show we are paying attention; we make the Sign of the Cross on our forehead, lips, and heart to show that we want Jesus' words to be in our mind, on our lips, and in our heart.)
- ♦ Guide your child in prayer. Say: **We can spread the Good News of Jesus too. You may wish to tell Jesus that you want to spread the Good News about him.** [Pause.] **You may ask the Holy Spirit to help you.** [Pause.]
- ♦ Encourage your child to listen to the Good News when the Gospel is read at Mass and to join in the responses.

Sharing PAGE 212

- ♦ Say: **The Holy Spirit helped the first Christians know that they could show their love for God by the way they loved others.** Ask: **How do you think they did this?** (They loved everyone and did not leave out anyone; they shared food, clothes, and everything they had.)
- ♦ Say: **People are happy when they are unselfish. Christians who try to be loving and kind like Jesus are happy.**
- ♦ Help your child read aloud page 212 and complete the badge.
- ♦ Encourage your child to show he or she is a Christian by bringing love to someone today. Ask: **What can you do today to surprise someone with your love?**

Sharing PAGE 213

- ◆ Say: Jesus once said, "You are the light of the world." When we let our light shine, we help spread God's kingdom as Jesus did. Let's name other ways we can let Jesus' light shine.
- ◆ Read aloud page 213.
- ◆ Say: We let our light shine when we help the missions. Missionaries are people who go to many parts of our country and to foreign lands. Ask: **What do you think it would be like to be a missionary?**
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity.
- ◆ Lead your child to pray for the missions. Say: **Think about how you can be a light to others.** [Pause.] You might say a prayer that all the children who have not yet heard of Jesus' love will someday hear the Good News. [Pause.]

Sharing PAGES 214–215

- ◆ Have your child make a Good News scroll by having him or her write one of these messages on a sheet of paper: *Jesus is our Savior; Jesus saved us from sin; Jesus is risen; God loves us.* Demonstrate how to use a pencil to roll the ends of the paper into a scroll. Have your child give his or her scroll to someone special.
- ◆ Ask: **Who were the Gospel writers?** (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)
- ◆ Say: **Just as the Holy Spirit guided the Gospel writers and helped them spread God's Word, the Holy Spirit also guides us and helps us spread the Good News.**
- ◆ Say: **Today we are going to meet a saint who was moved by the Holy Spirit to show love for others.**
- ◆ Read aloud page 214. Ask: **Who is always with us to help us spread the Good News?** (the Holy Spirit)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud page 215 and do the activities.

Acting PAGES 215–216

- ◆ Use A Moment with Jesus on page 215 to lead your child in prayer. Say: **Look at the picture you drew on page 215. Ask Jesus to bless the person you will bring Jesus' love to.** [Pause.]
- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 24 Review on page 216.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or read aloud the section together to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 217–218**INSPIRE**

- ♦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 217. Say: **The Holy Spirit helps us listen, be better people, and be like Jesus.**

PROCLAIM

- ♦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **The Holy Spirit helped the first Christians travel and preach to people they didn't know.**
- ♦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **The Holy Spirit inspires people to write about and learn more about the life of Jesus.**
- ♦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know. Say: **Saint Martin responded to God's grace when he made a small act of kindness. What small act of kindness can you do today?**
- ♦ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ♦ Read aloud the directions in Share Your Faith and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ♦ Ask: **What are things you can do on your own?** For each suggestion, set up a domino or a block on its end in a straight line. Ask a question to help your child understand that there was help behind each independent action. (*Such as, they can tie their shoes. Who bought them the shoes or taught them how to tie them?*)
- ♦ Say: **We are never alone in our actions. The Holy Spirit is helping us. Everything we do starts with him.** Place a final domino or block for the Holy Spirit and tip it to activate the row.
- ♦ Remind your child to look for good things happening around him or her.

CHAPTER 25 We Give Glory to God**Centering**

- ◆ Show pictures of honored people such as the Holy Father and Saint Teresa of Calcutta. Say: **Sometimes people do such great things in their lives that they are given many honors. When we talk about how wonderful they are, we give them glory.**
- ◆ Ask: **Do you know the name of someone who has been honored and given glory?**

Sharing PAGES 219–220

- ◆ Say: **Everything we say and do can give glory to God.** Read aloud page 219. Ask: **Who will help us give glory to God?** (the Holy Spirit)
- ◆ Read aloud page 220. Have your child repeat the Glory Be to the Father after you. Say: **This prayer is called the Glory Be to the Father.** Ask: **To whom do we give glory in this prayer?** (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit)
- ◆ Point out this prayer on the inside front cover of your child's book. Say: **You may color the cross next to the prayer when you know it by heart.**
- ◆ Help your child remove the "Glory to God" punchout from the back of his or her book. Invite your child to decorate the pendant. Loop yarn through the hole at the top so that it can be worn as a necklace.

Sharing PAGE 221

- ◆ Say: **Some words are powerful because they help change people and make them happy. These words give glory to God. Let's learn some of these words.**
- ◆ Read aloud page 221 and discuss each picture with your child. Say: **Kind words help people and give glory to God.** Then have your child fill in the missing words. Ask: **How would hearing any of these sentences make a person feel?** Discuss ideas.

Sharing PAGES 222–223

- ◆ Have your child read aloud page 222 and do the activity. Say: **We give glory to God when we do what God wants.**
- ◆ Read aloud page 223 and have your child complete the activity.

Reviewing PAGES 224–226

- ♦ Help your child complete the Chapter 25 Review on page 224.
- ♦ Say: **You have learned a lot about Jesus and his Church. Today we will see how much you remember. The more Good News you know, the more you have to share with others.**
- ♦ Guide your child through the activities on page 225.
- ♦ Look at The Christian Family Album on page 226. Say: **Let's see how much you remember about these people in our Christian family album.** Give a riddle for each person or group of people shown in the album and have your child say who it is. Example riddles include the following: **I am thinking of the apostle who was the first pope.** (Peter) **I am thinking of the one who is the Mother of God.** (Mary) **I am thinking of a Christian called to follow Jesus in a special way.** (priest, sister)

Celebrating PAGES 227–228

- ♦ Hold the celebration We Give Glory to God beginning on page 227. Begin by singing or playing a recording of "Glory to God in the Highest."
- ♦ Take turns reading aloud the Leader and Reader parts.
- ♦ Pray: **God gave us life. Let us thank him in our hearts for this great gift.** [Pause.] **Let us say to the Blessed Trinity within us, "I believe in you. I hope in you. I love you."** [Pause.]
- ♦ Lead your child in the Spontaneous Prayer and the Glory Be to the Father on page 228.
- ♦ Sing the closing song to the melody of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."
- ♦ Encourage your child to give glory to God. Say: **See if you can give glory to God today by using the kind words you learned. It is hard to think about giving glory to God when we don't feel happy. We can give God glory even during these times with the help of the Holy Spirit.**

Acting

- ♦ Lead your child in prayer. Say: **Let's bow our heads and thank God for helping us.** [Pause.] **Now you may thank God for something you learned or for something we did this year.** [If your child hesitates, begin yourself.]
- ♦ When you've completed this unit, help your child tear out the Family Feature section on pages 230a–230d and encourage him or her to share it with other family members, or read and complete the section together.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 229–230**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 229.
Say: **Everything beautiful tells us God is great!**

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **God wants us to choose words and actions that show our love.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **We actually praise three Persons when we praise God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know. Ask: **How can you be like Saint Paul?** (make better choices; praise God; share the Good News)
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the directions in Share Your Faith and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Discuss how your child can share the news that God is great. Ideas might include making posters, a mural, sidewalk chalk drawings, or bookmarks. Choose one idea and work together to complete it. Then share your Good News with others.