

# Jesus Gives Us the Gift of Peace

- ✦ Before beginning Unit 3, read A Letter Home, found on page 68 of your child's book. Then begin the next paragraph with your child.
- ✦ Say: **In Unit 3, we will learn about how the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a guide for us to become better people in the eyes of God.**

## CHAPTER 9 Our Friend Jesus Forgives Us

### Centering PAGES 67, 69

- ✦ Read aloud the title and the Bible verse on page 67. Then point out the picture at the top of page 69. Ask: **How can you tell that the children in the picture are friends? Why are you happy when you are with your friends? How do you and your friends share with one another?**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud page 69. Say: **Jesus, who is Lord and God, chose you to be his friend. When did Jesus first invite you to be his friend? (at Baptism) Friends like to be together. Jesus is with us always.** Ask: **When can we speak to Jesus? (anytime)**
- ✦ Say: **Jesus promises that his friends will be happy with him forever.** Ask: **What do we call Jesus' home? (heaven) What do you think will make us happiest in heaven? (being with Jesus, God our Father, and the Holy Spirit)** Ask: **How do you feel about being chosen to be a friend of Jesus?**

### Sharing PAGE 70

- ✦ Have your child look at page 70 and tell the story of the pictures. (Picture 1: One child doesn't want to share the baseball bat. Picture 2: The child offers the bat.) Ask: **What do you think happened between pictures 1 and 2? (The friends told each other they are sorry.)** Ask: **When someone apologizes to you, what should you do? (forgive him or her)**
- ✦ Read aloud page 70. Say: **When we have not been good friends of Jesus, grace is weakened and we are unhappy. If we come to God and say we are sorry, God forgives our sin. God strengthens his life in us again and makes our love for him stronger.**

**Sharing** PAGE 71

- ◆ Use the family Bible to read aloud the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1–10).  
Ask: **Why do you think Jesus chose to stay at Zacchaeus’s house?** (Jesus loved him even though he was a sinner. Jesus loves everybody.) Say: **Although Jesus loved Zacchaeus, he did not like Zacchaeus’s unloving actions. When Zacchaeus showed he was sorry, Jesus forgave him.**
- ◆ Ask: **How do you think Zacchaeus felt after deciding to give half of all he owned to the poor?**
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity on page 71 and then use the pictures to retell the story. Read aloud the last paragraph on the page.

**Sharing** PAGES 72–73

- ◆ Have your child read aloud Jesus Forgives Us on page 72. Say: **It is good to know that Jesus is always ready to forgive us when we are sorry. When we ask for forgiveness, we have to really mean it, though.**
- ◆ Say: **Jesus forgives us and shares his peace with us in a special sacrament. In this sacrament, we tell him that we are sorry for the things we have done that have hurt our friendship with him.** Ask: **What is the name of this sacrament?** (the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation)
- ◆ Use the family Bible to read aloud the story of the Pharisee and the tax collector (Luke 18:10–14). Ask: **Which man received God’s forgiveness and peace?** (the tax collector) Say: **The tax collector admitted that he had failed to love as best he could. If we really love God, we’ll admit that we are sometimes unloving. We’ll tell God and those we hurt that we are sorry.**
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Pause when appropriate to give your child time to speak with or listen to Jesus. At the end, encourage her or him to make good choices every day.
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity on page 73 and discuss the answers.

**Acting** PAGE 74

- ◆ Present your child with the Reconciliation booklet “Jesus Gives Me His Peace.” Say: **This booklet will help you prepare for your very special meeting with Jesus. Pages 5 and 6 tell stories of God’s forgiving love.** Then complete page 2 together.
- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 9 Review on page 74.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

**Gather and Go Forth** PAGES 75–76**INSPIRE**

- ✦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 75. Say: **When we receive good news, we want to share it. Jesus loves us. He wants to share his Good News with us.**

**PROCLAIM**

- ✦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Jesus always forgives us when we say we are sorry. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we receive God’s grace in a special way. His grace helps us make better choices in the future.**
- ✦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and ask: **Why do we need Jesus’ forgiveness?** (We sometimes make bad choices.) **What must we do to receive Jesus’ forgiveness?** (Be sorry. Say we are sorry.)
- ✦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 76. Ask: **How can we fix our mistakes?** (pray; say we are sorry; take action; tell the truth; celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation)
- ✦ 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 Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

**TRANSFORM**

- ✦ Say: **The act of forgiving encourages positive change in others. Forgiveness spreads God’s love.**
- ✦ Ask your child to pray for help in forgiving others. Pray aloud: **Jesus, help me seek forgiveness and be forgiving. Amen.**

## CHAPTER 10 Jesus Leads Us to His Peace

### Centering PAGE 77

- ✦ Ask your child to draw a happy face. Say: **Jesus wants people to be happy.** Ask: **How did he make people happy while he lived on earth?** (He made people happy by helping them, forgiving them for what they had done, and teaching them about God the Father.)
- ✦ Say: **When we love God, others, and ourselves, we say yes to God and keep God's laws of love. Today you will learn about a gift Jesus gave us so that we would always be happy and peaceful.**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the title and the text on page 77.

### Sharing PAGE 78

- ✦ Say: **When we sin, we hurt ourselves because we lose our peace and happiness. When we sin, we hurt all of God's family. We need to be forgiven by God and God's family.** Ask: **How can we make peace with God and others?** (by saying we are sorry and really meaning it)
- ✦ Tell your child this story. Say: **Sometimes we hurt someone, but we do not commit a sin. Manny was playing ball. When he ran to first base, he accidentally knocked David down. David scraped his knee. Manny felt bad about hurting David, but he hadn't offended God because he didn't mean to do it. An accident is not a sin. A sin is doing something wrong on purpose.**
- ✦ Say: **Sometimes we make mistakes. Mistakes are not sins. Lena was in a hurry when she grabbed her lunch box from the shelf in school. When she got home, she saw she had taken Patty's lunch box by mistake.** Ask: **Is it a sin to take someone else's belongings by mistake?** (No.)
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the top section of page 78 and point out the words *sin* and *temptation*. Find the meanings of these two words in the Glossary. Complete the bottom section together. Discuss what is happening in each picture and decide whether or not the children are saying yes to God. Then have your child complete the activity.

### Sharing PAGE 79

- ✦ Say: **Jesus gave us seven special signs of his love and care. We call these signs *sacraments*. The sign of God's forgiveness is also a sacrament, the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

- ◆ Have your child read aloud page 79 and point out the words *Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation* and *reconciliation*. Look up the meanings of these terms in the Glossary.
- ◆ Help your child complete each sentence and then have him or her draw and color eggs in the basket. Say: **Jesus wanted his apostles and priests to be able to forgive in his name so that people who were sorry for their sins could receive his peace and forgiveness.**
- ◆ Say: **We can celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation whenever we are sorry for not loving God and others. You will soon be able to receive Jesus' forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I will help you get ready for this meeting with Jesus.**

### Sharing PAGE 80

- ◆ Have your child look at the picture as you read aloud the story on page 80. Say: **If you listen to the story, you will know why the woman in the picture looks so sorry.**
- ◆ Ask: **Why does Jesus forgive the woman who had sinned?** (He loved her.)
- ◆ Help your child understand how to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Say: **When we have done something for which we are sorry, we tell a priest our sins and ask Jesus' forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.** Ask: **Do you know where we do this?** (in the confessional or reconciliation room in church)
- ◆ Say: **The priest talks to us and helps us know what we can do to be better people. Then we pray an "I'm sorry" prayer and promise to be more loving. The priest forgives us in Jesus' name. We do as the priest tells us in order to make up for our sins and become more loving.**
- ◆ Have your child read and work on page 8 of the Reconciliation booklet to complete the steps for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Then have your child work on page 9 of the booklet.
- ◆ Lead your child through A Moment with Jesus. Read the reflection slowly, pausing where appropriate.

### Acting PAGES 81–82

- ◆ Read the text and complete the activity on page 81 together.
- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 10 Review on page 82.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

**Gather and Go Forth** PAGES 83–84**INSPIRE**

- ✦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 83. Say: **Jesus always wants to forgive us. But we have to do our part. We have to admit our sins. We have to be sorry.**

**PROCLAIM**

- ✦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Ask: **What happens in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation?** (We say our sins. We say we are sorry. The priest forgives us in Jesus' name.)
- ✦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Sin is when we do something wrong on purpose.**
- ✦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 84. Say: **Even during a war, Martin found ways to love God and others.**
- ✦ 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 Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

**TRANSFORM**

- ✦ Say: **It is important to stop and think before you act. Doing something too fast can sometimes be a bad idea. God wants us to slow down and think.**
- ✦ Together make a sign that says *Slow Down. Talk to God.* Have your child decorate the sign and then place it in a busy area in your home such as the kitchen.

## CHAPTER 11 The Holy Spirit Helps Us

### Centering

- ✦ Show your child two balloons, one inflated but not knotted and one with no air in it. Ask: **Which balloon has air in it? How can you tell? Can you see air?** (No.) Let go of the inflated balloon to demonstrate how air facilitates movement. Say: **The Holy Spirit, like the wind, cannot be seen, but there are signs that the Spirit is with us.**
- ✦ Ask: **When did Jesus give us the gift of peace, the Sacrament of Reconciliation?** (on the first Easter Sunday) Say: **Jesus said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them."**
- ✦ Say: **Today you will learn how the Holy Spirit brings us peace and happiness.**

### Sharing PAGE 85

- ✦ Say: **Look at the picture on the top of page 85.** Ask: **How do you feel when you look at it?** (happy, joyful) Say: **Our happiness and love for God and for others are signs that the Spirit is within us.**
- ✦ Ask: **How does the Holy Spirit help us show love for God?** (by helping us pray, use God's name with love, and go to Sunday Mass) Say: **When we love God and others, we have peace and joy. Love, peace, and joy are signs of the Holy Spirit's presence within us.**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud page 85. Point out that when we are kind and fair, pray for others, and help our parents, we show that, in the Spirit, we are all one and are responsible for one another.

### Sharing PAGE 86

- ✦ Look at the picture on page 86. Ask: **How can these children bring peace and joy to each other?** (They can be kind. They can be unselfish. They can help each other.) **What are some ways you can bring love and peace into your home and school?** (offer to help, compliment others, express thanks, speak kindly, share) **Who will help you?** (the Holy Spirit)
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the text. Ask: **What does the Holy Spirit help us do when we look in our hearts?** (helps us know how we have loved God and others, helps us know how to love God and others better)
- ✦ Have your child write a prayer at the bottom of the page. Say: **Think for a few moments about what you would like to say to the Holy Spirit. You might ask the Holy Spirit to fill your heart with love and concern for others.** Allow time for your child to think and then write a prayer.

**Sharing** PAGE 87

- ◆ Ask: **Would you know how you look if you never looked in a mirror?** (No.) Say: **In the same way, you will never know your heart is full of love if you never look for love there. Looking into our hearts is much more difficult than looking into a mirror. We need help. Jesus and God the Father have given us someone to help us do this.** Ask: **Whom did Jesus send?** (the Holy Spirit) **What does the Holy Spirit do?** (helps us tell right from wrong and then do what is right)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the sentence at the top of page 87. Help your child complete the writing and drawing activity.
- ◆ Have your child open his or her Reconciliation booklet to page 10 and look at the picture. Ask: **What is the child doing?** (praying) Say: **The Holy Spirit will help us trust in God's loving forgiveness. The prayer on this page asks the Holy Spirit to do all these things for us. Let us pray the prayer together.** (Pray aloud the prayer with your child.)
- ◆ Say: **We have asked the Holy Spirit to help us look into our hearts. Pages 11–12 in your booklet will help us think about how we have loved God.** Have your child read aloud the Scripture quote at the top of page 11. Then read aloud the questions on page 11, pausing after each to allow for reflection. Do the same for page 12.
- ◆ Say: **When we meet Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we tell him about ourselves. We tell him what we want to change. Jesus speaks to us through the priest. He tells us what we can do to become more loving. Soon you will be meeting Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You might start thinking now about what you will ask Jesus to help you change about yourself.**
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Ask your child to look into his or her heart every day. Say: **A good time to do this is right before bed.**

**Acting** PAGE 88

- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 11 Review on page 88.
- ◆ Tell your child to look at the sentences at the top of page 14 of their Reconciliation booklets. Read aloud the first part of each sentence and allow time for your child to finish it quietly in his or her heart. Say: **The picture of the crucifix shows how much Jesus loves us. He died to save us from sin and to give us a share in his life. Let's express our sorrow to Jesus by praying together the prayer under the crucifix.**
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

**Gather and Go Forth** PAGES 89–90**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 89. Say: **When we are so full of love that we want to take action, we say that our hearts are on fire. This is how the Holy Spirit works in us.**

**PROCLAIM**

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Every time we pray the Sign of the Cross, we remind ourselves of our Baptism.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **We receive the Holy Spirit in Baptism.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 90. Say: **The people who cared for Kateri were not Christians, and they did not understand her ways. Sometimes, as Christians, we must face hard times. It is important to do what is right, even when other people do not understand or agree.**
- ◆ 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 Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

**TRANSFORM**

- ◆ Say: **Sometimes we forget that the Holy Spirit is always here to help.**
- ◆ Help your child draw and cut out a Holy Spirit tongue of fire from red construction paper. Have him or her write *Holy Spirit, help me and guide me. Amen.* on the flame. Say: **Put the flame of the Holy Spirit in a place where you'll see it often. Pray the words to the Holy Spirit for strength.**

## CHAPTER 12 We Meet Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation

### Centering PAGE 91

- ✦ Say: **Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us. We talked about two ways that the Holy Spirit helps us.** Ask: **What are those ways?** (The Spirit prompts us to do loving things and helps us look into our hearts.)
- ✦ Read aloud the title and the text on page 91. Then point out the picture. Ask: **Why are the people so happy?** (They are eating together, laughing, and talking.) **Whom do you like to go to see? Why?** (We have fun; we do special things.) **What are some of the things you do? Write these things on the lines of the page.**
- ✦ Say: **Soon you are going to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In this sacrament, you will meet someone who loves you very much.** Ask: **Who do you think it is?** (Jesus)

### Sharing PAGE 92

- ✦ Have your child read aloud the top section of page 92. Ask: **What is a sacrament?** (a sign of God's love, a way to grow in God's life, grace) Say: **In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we meet Jesus through the priest to whom we tell our sins.**
- ✦ Ask: **What might happen if a sick child never told anyone about being sick and never asked for help?** (The child could get sicker.) Say: **When we have sinned, God's life in us is weakened. We need God's help. We need to go to him to be healed.** Ask: **What is the special way God helps us when we're hurt by sin?** (God helps us through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.)
- ✦ Say: **For this sacrament, you usually go to a special room in church. You may talk to the priest face-to-face or through a screen. If through a screen, you kneel. If face-to-face, you may sit or kneel. You may choose the way.**
- ✦ Explain the procedure for the beginning of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Have your child dramatize the child's part as you take the part of the priest. Say: **When you enter the room, Father welcomes you. Then you may sit or kneel.** (Let your child sit or kneel.) **Then you pray the Sign of the Cross.** (Have your child do this.) **Father invites you to love God. You pray Amen, which means you say yes to everything the priest said.** (Have your child pray *Amen*.) **Then you may tell the priest a little about yourself—for instance, how old you are. You may tell the priest that this is your first confession.** (Let your child do this.) **Father may read some words from the Bible. Listen as Father reads: "Try to act like children of God. Follow Jesus by loving as he loves you."**

- ✦ Have your child read aloud the bottom section and point to the words *confession* and *penance*. Find the meanings of these words in the Glossary. Say: **In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus gives us his peace and pardon. To receive pardon is to receive forgiveness.**
- ✦ Ask: **What does *confess* mean?** (to admit we did something wrong)  
Say: **We tell the priest the things for which we are sorry. We call this confession. We tell the priest our sins, about how often we committed them, and why we committed them. We talk to the priest just as we would talk with Jesus. No matter what we tell the priest in confession, he always keeps it a secret.**
- ✦ Say: **Think about the things you want to change in yourself, things that offend God and make others unhappy. These are the kinds of things you ought to say in your confession.**
- ✦ Say: **After we confess our sins, the priest tells us how we can help make up for being unloving. What he tells us to do is called a penance. He might tell us to pray some prayers. He might say, "For your penance, pray the Hail Mary twice." The priest might tell us to do a good deed that would show love to those we have offended or hurt.**
- ✦ Say: **Listen carefully when the priest gives the penance. Do your penance as soon as possible so you won't forget. The Sacrament of Penance is another name for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**
- ✦ Have your child read and fill in the first four points on page 15 of his or her Reconciliation booklet.

### **Acting** PAGES 93–94

- ✦ Read aloud the directions on page 93 and have your child complete the activities.
- ✦ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Invite your child to close his or her eyes, relax, and listen as you read aloud the reflection with reverence. Pause where appropriate. When finished, have your child open his or her eyes.
- ✦ Help your child complete the Chapter 12 Review on page 94.
- ✦ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

**Gather and Go Forth** PAGES 95–96**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 95. Say: **When we are sorry, we feel sad. But something wonderful happens too. Jesus comes very close to us. He helps us make things right. He fills us with peace.**

**PROCLAIM**

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **There are four main parts to the Sacrament of Reconciliation: We confess our sins, we are given a penance, we say we are sorry, and the priest pardons our sins in Jesus' name.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Penance can be a prayer, kind words, or a good deed. Acts of penance help us grow closer to Jesus and stay away from sin.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 96. Say: **Katherine prayed and was able to hear God's voice. The Holy Spirit gave her the courage to do great work for others.**
- ◆ 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 Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

**TRANSFORM**

- ◆ Say: **God's love is powerful. When we do a loving action, it stays with that person. Then the person shares with someone else. This is how we build God's kingdom.**
- ◆ Give your child two stickers that represent God's love. Encourage your child to keep one sticker and give the other to someone as a loving action.

## CHAPTER 13 We Become Better Persons

### Centering

- ✦ Have your child turn to page 15 of his or her Reconciliation booklet and read aloud the first three points.
- ✦ Use your family Bible to read aloud the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1–10).  
Say: **The story of Zacchaeus helps us understand the rest of what happens in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

### Sharing

- ✦ Ask: **How did Zacchaeus feel when he experienced Jesus' goodness, knowing how unloving he had been to others? How did Zacchaeus show Jesus that he was really sorry?** (He told Jesus he would give half his belongings to the poor; he would pay back the people he had cheated four times the amount he had taken.) **Why did Zacchaeus want to do these things?** (to show he was sorry, to help those he hurt, to be a better person)
- ✦ Say: **The priest gives us a penance to help us make up for our sins. Like Zacchaeus, we can also think of ways to make it up to those we hurt.**

### Sharing PAGE 97

- ✦ Read aloud the title and the text on page 97. Point out the picture of King David singing the psalms.
- ✦ Ask: **Why did King David want a new heart?** (He wanted joy and gladness.) **Why do you think God forgave King David?** (King David was really sorry.) Say: **Sometimes we feel sorry, like King David. Why?** (because we know that we have done wrong)
- ✦ Introduce the Act of Contrition to your child. Say: **In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, after the priest gives us our penance, he tells us to pray a prayer telling God we are sorry for the times we have failed to love.**
- ✦ Say: **A prayer of sorrow tells God we are sorry and want to change. We also call it an Act of Contrition. *Contrition* means "sorrow for sin."**
- ✦ Say: **You can use your own words or you can learn the Act of Contrition by heart.** Help your child locate the prayer on page 218 and read it together. Ask: **What words tell what we are sorry for?** (My god, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.) **What words tell why we are sorry?** (should love God above all things) **What words tell Jesus we want to change?** (intend to do penance, sin no more, avoid what leads to sin)
- ✦ Say: **It is good each night to think about the ways you showed love and the ways you failed to show love during the day. Then pray an Act of Contrition before you get into bed.**

**Sharing** PAGE 98

- ✦ Have your child read aloud page 98 and point to the words *contrition* and *absolution*. Find the meanings of these words in the Glossary.
- ✦ Say: **After we pray our Act of Contrition telling God we are sorry, the priest says the words of forgiveness. The words of forgiveness are called the absolution. *Absolve* means “to take away.” The priest forgives our sins in God’s name and gives us God’s peace.**
- ✦ Say: **At the end of the prayer of absolution, the priest says, “I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”**
- ✦ Say: **The priest raises his right hand or both hands, or he might lay his hand or hands on our head as he gives us absolution. Then he prays the Sign of the Cross over us. We pray the Sign of the Cross too, but without words. We pray *Amen* after the priest’s prayer.**
- ✦ Say: **Jesus’ forgiveness brings us peace, and we become better people.**
- ✦ Discuss the end of the rite with your child. Say: **The priest may say, “Go in peace.” We say, “Amen. Thank you, Father,” and then we leave. We make sure to do our penance soon.**
- ✦ Act out the Act of Contrition and the absolution with your child.
- ✦ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Read aloud the prayer slowly and reverently, pausing where appropriate.
- ✦ Have your child read pages 16–18 of his or her Reconciliation booklet and write in the missing words.

**Acting** PAGES 99–100

- ✦ Have your child look at the two pictures on page 99. Say: **The top picture shows a boy confessing his sins to a priest who is behind a screen. The priest can hear and speak to the boy, but he cannot see him. In the other picture, the girl is seated speaking to the priest face-to-face.**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the text and complete the activity.
- ✦ Remove the punchouts of Zacchaeus from the back of the book. Insert the tab of the figure into the slit of the tree so the figure moves up and down. Say: **This tree will help you remember the parts of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Practice until you know what each word means.**
- ✦ Help your child complete the Chapter 13 Review on page 100.
- ✦ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

**Gather and Go Forth** PAGES 101–102**INSPIRE**

- ✦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 101. Say: **We can always count on Jesus. If we are truly sorry for the things we do wrong, he will be with us. He will strengthen us. He will help us grow in faith.**

**PROCLAIM**

- ✦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Ask: **What happens during Reconciliation after we pray the Act of Contrition?** (The priest forgives us in Jesus' name. We go in peace. We do our penance.) Say: **We are filled with Jesus' peace.**
- ✦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **After celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we act more loving. The Holy Spirit helps us make better choices.**
- ✦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 102. Ask: **What word best describes Saint Nicholas?** (Possible response: giving) **How can you be more giving 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 Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

**TRANSFORM**

- ✦ Say: **Some people think saying "I'm sorry" is a sign of weakness. But that's not true. Saying "I'm sorry" takes strength and courage. You are doing what God wants you to do. The Holy Spirit will give you courage if you ask.**
- ✦ Encourage your child to pray to the Holy Spirit whenever he or she needs strength and courage.

## CHAPTER 14 Jesus Calls Us His Friends

### Centering PAGE 103

- ✦ Have your child read aloud the title and the text on page 103. Ask: **Because we are friends of Jesus, what does he want us to do?** (listen to him and be with him, serve him out of love) **Where can we hear the words of Jesus?** (in the Bible, at Mass, during prayer) **How can we serve Jesus today?** (by being kind to others)
- ✦ Say: **Every day friends of Jesus care for others as Martha did. They are busy living a “Martha kind of day.” But they also do their work as Mary did by listening and speaking to God.**

### Sharing PAGES 104–105

- ✦ Say: **We will play some games to help you remember the important things you have learned about the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the title and the directions on page 104. Say: **I will tell a riddle about each picture. See if you can find the picture that answers the riddle. Then find the name for it and write its number in the box.** Read aloud these clues.

Say: **I am thinking of someone who was a sinner. Jesus forgave her because she was sorry for her sins. (2. A Sinful Woman)**

**I am thinking of a man who cheated many people out of their money. When he met Jesus, he was sorry and promised to make up for his sins. (6. Zacchaeus)**

**I am thinking of whom we meet when we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. (4. Jesus)**

**I am thinking of some men that Jesus gave his peace to and told them to give his forgiveness to others. (3. Apostles)**

**I am thinking of a sacrament in which Jesus forgives our sins. (5. The Sacrament of Reconciliation)**

**I am thinking of a sheep that ran away from the flock. When the Good Shepherd found it, he was happy and invited his friends to rejoice. (1. The Lost Sheep)**

- ✦ Have your child complete the activities on page 105.

**Reviewing** PAGE 106

- ◆ Draw a hill on a sheet of paper and write the numbers 1 through 7 going up the hill. Say: **We will play Climb the Hill. Each time you answer a question correctly, connect two numbers with a line until you get to the top.** Use these questions. Ask: **What do we call doing something unloving on purpose?** (sin) **Whom do we ask to help us look into our hearts?** (the Holy Spirit) **What is absolution?** (the words of forgiveness) **What prayer do we pray to tell Jesus we are sorry?** (Act of Contrition) **When did we first receive the Holy Spirit?** (at Baptism) **Who forgives our sins when the priest gives us absolution?** (Jesus) **How can we show that we have new hearts after Jesus forgives us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation?** (by loving God and others more, by trying not to do what we did wrong again)
- ◆ Help your child complete the Unit 3 Review on page 106.

**Celebrating** PAGES 107–108

- ◆ Invite your child to prayer using We Celebrate on pages 107–108. Tell your child to read aloud the All parts after you read aloud the Leader parts. Conclude with a Sign of Peace.

**Acting**

- ◆ Write *penance* in large letters on a sheet of paper. Ask your child to cross out the two *n*'s. Point out what the remaining letters spell. (peace)
- ◆ Ask: **What are we to do with the peace that comes from the Sacrament of Reconciliation?** (spread it to others)
- ◆ When you've completed this unit, help your child tear out the Family Feature section on pages 110a–110d and encourage him or her to share it with other family members, or read and complete the section together.

**Gather and Go Forth** PAGES 109–110**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 109. Say: **No matter how difficult a time we might be having, Jesus will reach out and save us.**

**PROCLAIM**

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **To be good friends with Jesus, we have to get to know him. We listen for his words in the Bible, at Mass, and during prayer.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and ask: **How do Catholics make up for a sin?** (the Sacrament of Reconciliation) Say: **After we are forgiven, we thank Jesus for giving us peace.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 110. Say: **Jesus felt at home with Martha. She cared for him. She listened to him.** Ask: **How does Jesus feel at home with you?**
- ◆ 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 Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

**TRANSFORM**

- ◆ Ask your child to share what he or she wrote for Share Your Faith. Say: **We can be friends with Jesus by helping others, obeying our parents, praying, and following God's laws.**
- ◆ Brainstorm an outdoor activity that your family and friends can play together. Say: **Before our game starts, tell everyone that Jesus is with them. After the game, we will pray to Jesus together to thank him for the gift of our family and friends.**