

Sharing God's Love

Point to the unit title on page 77 and read it aloud. Have your child repeat it as you point to each word. Say: **In Unit 3 we will learn how to find and share God's love with others through acts of kindness.**

Chapter 13 Shepherds Are Good

Centering

- Say: **Today you will hear how God leads us to good things.**
- Show the Sheep punchouts to your child. Ask: **What animals are these?** (sheep) **What sounds do they make?** (baa) Say: **Sheep are important to people. People shave sheep's hair, or fleece, and use it to make wool, yarn, and cloth.**
- Say: **Sheep are very gentle and shy. A group of sheep is called a flock. The person who cares for the sheep is called a shepherd. Sheep are helpless animals so a good shepherd stays close to his sheep to protect and care for them.**
- Say: **We need someone to care for us.** Ask: **Who cares for us always?** (God)

Sharing PAGE 77

- Read aloud the chapter title and the text on page 77. Help your child find the Word to Know *Good Shepherd* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition. Display the Jesus the Good Shepherd punchout. Say: **Let's think about how Jesus is like a shepherd.**
- Read aloud the parable of the Good Shepherd from a children's Bible. Say: **The Good Shepherd loves his sheep very much! He has so many sheep, yet he knows each one. He calls them each by name.**
- Ask: **Do you know anyone in your family or among your friends who is like the Good Shepherd?** (parents, grandparents, teachers) **Why do you think Jesus calls himself a good shepherd who cares for his sheep?** (He loves and cares for us, just like a good shepherd loves and cares for his sheep.)
- Say: **We are Jesus' sheep. This makes us very happy! Jesus really loves us. He knows us by name.** Read aloud A Moment with Jesus. Distribute the Chapter 13 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and repeat the prayer together. Remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.

Sharing PAGE 78

- Help your child set up the Jesus the Good Shepherd punchout found in the back of your child's book.
- Read aloud the text at the top of page 78. Ask: **What is Jesus doing in this picture?** (holding a baby lamb) **Why is Jesus taking care of the baby lamb?** (He loves it. It might have been lost.) **Who else does Jesus love and care for?** (us)
- Read aloud the Scripture about the Good Shepherd. Remind your child that this story comes from the Bible. Have your child move the figures to act out the story.
- Play a game pretending to be a shepherd looking for lost sheep. One of you should step away or close your eyes, while the other hides one of the Sheep punchouts somewhere in the room. As the shepherd tries to find the sheep, the hider should bleat softly like a lamb. As the shepherd nears the lost sheep, the hider should bleat more loudly to indicate the shepherd is close to finding it.

Sharing PAGE 79

- Read aloud the text at the top of page 79. Help your child find the word *bishop* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition. Tell your child the name of his or her bishop. Then have your child complete the activity.
- Say: **Now close your eyes and quiet your heart while I read this poem that is a prayer to the Good Shepherd.** Read aloud this poem: ***Good Shepherd Oh, Jesus, Good Shepherd, You watch from above. You know me by name And call me with love. You guard me from evil And help me do right. You guide me to safety By day and by night. You love and you care, And give all that I need. Forever and always I'll go where you lead.*** [by M. Kathleen Glavich, S.N.D.]

Acting

- Play a game with your child such as "Follow the Leader" or "Simon Says." Remind the children that we follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd.
- Invite your child to fold his or her hands for prayer: **Jesus, you love us and call us by name. Thank you for your loving care. We will try to follow your way of love. Amen.**
- Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 23:1.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 80–81

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 80. Say: **Jesus takes care of us just as a shepherd looks out for his flock. He is always watching out for us.**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **The pope and the bishops help us understand what God is asking of us so we can grow closer to him.**
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **A shepherd looks after his sheep, guides them, and keeps them safe.**
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 81. Ask: **How was Saint John Bosco like a shepherd when he became a priest?** (Possible answer: He took care of boys who had no place to go. He shared God's love and made them feel safe.)
- Read aloud the Witness and Share directions. Allow time for your child to complete the maze.

Transform

- Discuss the activity in Witness and Share. Say: **Jesus cares for all his sheep.** Then together brainstorm ways to show love and care to people who feel sad and alone.
- Pray aloud as your child prays silently: **Jesus, help us share God the Father's love, especially with those who need it most. Amen.**

Chapter Review PAGE 82

- Help your child complete the Chapter 13 Review on page 82.
- Read aloud the question in We Remember and have your child give the answer. Then have your child complete this sentence: **Jesus is the Good Shepherd because he _____.**
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer after you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.
- Read the Chapter 13 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 14 Hearts Are Good

Centering

- Help your child cut a large heart out of a sheet of construction paper. Say: **The heart is a symbol of love.** Ask: **What does the heart remind us of?** (God's gift of love.) Say: **Today you will learn more about God's care for us.**
- Say: **The gift of love is so precious that no amount of money can buy it. The more of this gift you give away, the more of it you have.**

Sharing PAGE 83

- Talk about the people who love your child. Then talk about the people your child loves. Say: **We feel happy when we know that people love us. Our love for others also brings happiness.**
- On your child's paper heart, have him or her draw a picture of Jesus on one side and pictures of people they love on the other side. Say: **Hold your heart as you repeat this prayer after me.** Lead your child in prayer: **I would like to thank God for giving me people to love. I would like to thank God for giving me people who love me.** [Hold up the heart.] **Thank you, God, for (names), who love me.**
- Read aloud the chapter title and the text on page 83. Help your child find the word *love* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition. Say: **Loving is more than just having a happy feeling inside. Love is showing that you really mean the words you say.**
- Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Distribute the Chapter 14 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and repeat the prayer together. Remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.

Sharing PAGE 84

- Say: **Look at the picture on page 84.** Ask: **How are the children showing love?** (They are holding hands with each other and smiling.)
- Ask: **What do you do for our family to show your love?** After your child has responded, share some ways you share your love with him or her and the rest of your family.
- Read aloud page 84. Say: **Jesus loves people today. He listens when they talk to him. He speaks to them in their hearts. He gives them all the good things they have.**
- Read aloud the Scripture feature on page 84. Say: **These words are from the part of the Bible called the New Testament. The New Testament is filled with stories about Jesus' love.**

Sharing PAGE 85

- Read aloud page 85. Then guide your child in doing the activity.
- Say: **One of the most important things Jesus taught his disciples was about love. I want you to listen again to what Jesus told his disciples. Remember that this is found in the Bible in a part called the Gospels. When we hear the Gospel, we respond by offering praise to Jesus with the words “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”** Practice the praise by having your child repeat it after you reread the Scripture on page 84.
- Say: **Those who love us are doing what Jesus told everyone to do: “Love one another, just as I have loved you.” You can love with Jesus’ love too.**
- Reread the last sentence on page 85. Then have your child read the sentence aloud with you. Say: **Thank you, Jesus, for your gift of love. We have many chances to love like Jesus each day.**

Acting

- Give your child the Jesus’ Name punchout. Have your child write his or her name on the blank side of the heart. Punch a hole in the heart and string it with a loop of yarn to make a pendant. As you place the pendant around your child’s neck, say: **Jesus has put his love into your heart. You can bring Jesus’ love to others. Wearing the heart pendant can help you remember this.**
- Say: **Let us praise Jesus for giving us a new commandment to love as he loves. Say after me, “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”**
- Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 23:1.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 86–87

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 86. Say: **Jesus teaches us how to love. When we treat other people with love, we share God’s gift to us.**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Have your child practice sharing a Sign of Peace with you. Demonstrate by shaking hands and saying: **Peace be with you.**
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and ask: **How do you feel when you share love with other people?** (happy)
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 87. Ask: **What words could you use to describe Saint Stephen?** (Possible answers: loving, helpful, faithful, brave, loyal)
- Read aloud the Witness and Share directions and allow your child time to complete the activity.

Transform

- Say: **Sharing a Sign of Peace is one way to show love to one another. There are many ways to show others that you love them.** Model a polite greeting with a smile and a kind word or compliment. Have your child return the compliment.
- Pray aloud as your child prays silently: **Jesus, help us show love to others just as you show your love to us. Amen.**

Chapter Review PAGE 88

- Help your child complete the Chapter 14 Review on page 88.
- Read aloud the question in We Remember and have your child answer it. Then ask: **How can you show love to the person in your drawing?**
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer after you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.
- Read the Chapter 14 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 15 Hands Are Good

Centering

- Hold your child's hands as you both study them. Ask: **Who gave you your hands?** (God) Say: **God the Father made your hands just for you. No one has hands exactly like yours. Look at the lines on the palms of your hand and fingertips. This is one way God makes each person special. Show your child your hands and compare the similarities and differences.** If your child's hands display any family traits, point them out to your child.
- Ask: **What are some good things you do with your hands?** (build or make things, draw or color a picture, help others)
- Say: **You learned that God gave us the gift of love. Very often we give our love to others by doing things for them with our hands.**

Sharing PAGE 89

- Read aloud the chapter title and the text on page 89. Have your child study the picture and ask: **How are the children showing each other love with their hands?** (They are holding hands as they walk together.)
- Say: **People use the gift of their hands to help make our world a better place.** Ask: **How do these people use their hands to help others? Gardeners?** (They make the world more beautiful.) **Doctors?** (They help sick people feel better.) **Artists?** (They make beautiful art.) **Musicians?** (They make beautiful sounds and music.)
- Ask: **How does the person who is praying help others?** (Praying shows love and care for people and for the world.) Ask: **How does a priest help us?** (The priest uses his hands to bless and to lead God's people to be holy. With his hands, he offers up gifts to God for the people.) Say: **The bishop anoints the hands of a new priest with blessed oil. This holy oil is a symbol of holiness and strength.**

Sharing PAGE 90

- Read aloud the opening text on page 90. Help your child find the word *miracle* in the Glossary. Read it aloud and discuss the definition.
- Point out the Scripture feature. Say: **This is part of a story from God's special book, the Bible. The story is about Jesus and two men who are blind.** Have your child study the stained-glass image. Ask: **What do you think is happening?** (The men who are blind are asking Jesus for help; Jesus is helping them.)
- Read aloud the Scripture story. Say: **The healing of the blind men is one of Jesus' miracles. Jesus loved the blind men so much that he wanted to help them.**
- Say: **Close your eyes. Think about what it might be like not to be able to see.** Let your child try to do a simple task such as putting on their shoes or walking across the room with their eyes closed. Say: **We use our eyes for many things. Many things might be more difficult for us if we could not see. Yet people who are blind learn to do many things well without their sight.**

Sharing PAGE 91

- Say: **Jesus helped anyone who needed him, not just his friends and family.**
- Read aloud the text at the top of page 91 and have your child repeat after you: **We can use our hands to help others.**
- Describe a time your child helped you and how it made you feel. Then have your child complete the activity. Discuss your child's picture and encourage him or her to carry out the task during the next week.
- Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Distribute the Chapter 15 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and repeat the prayer together. Remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.

Acting

- Play the game "Helping Hands." Say: **To help you think of things you can do for others, we will play a game called "Helping Hands." I will name people. You will think of how you could help them.** Prompt your child by asking what they could do for the person you name. For each person discussed, exchange a high-five.
- Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 90:17.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 92–93

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 92. Say: **We can share Jesus' love through the things we do. We are acting like Jesus when we help others.**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **We use our hands for good, just as Jesus did. Our actions help others and let us share Jesus' love.**
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **It is important to help people in need.**
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 93. Ask: **How did Saint Vincent de Paul follow in Jesus' footsteps?** (He loved everyone as Jesus taught him to.)
- Read aloud the Witness and Share directions. Have your child recall ways he or she can help others in your community. Then allow time for your child to complete the activity.

Transform

- Say: **Giving items like food, clothing, books, and toys to people in need is one way to use your hands to help people.** Ask: **What are some other ways?**
- Pray aloud as your child prays silently: **Dear God, let me use my hands to help share your love. Amen.**

Chapter Review PAGE 94

- Help your child complete the Chapter 15 Review on page 94.
- Read aloud the Word to Know and ask your child to use the word *miracle* in a sentence about the story of Jesus helping the blind men.
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer after you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.
- Read the Chapter 15 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 16 Forgiveness Is Good

Centering

- Say: **When we make good choices, we are happy. But sometimes we hurt people by the things we choose to do or say. Today you'll learn more about your feelings, which are also given to you by God.**
- Say: **God put different kinds of feelings within us when he made us as human beings.** Ask your child to name some feelings.
- Ask your child to show the person's feelings in the following situations. Ask: **How did Mandy feel when her mother made her a beautiful birthday cake? How did Juan feel when his dog was feeling sick? How did Ashley feel when she couldn't find her mother in a big store? How did Chen feel when his big brother said he was too little to play a game?**

Sharing PAGE 95

- Read aloud the chapter title and the text on page 95. Help your child find the Word to Know *Original Sin* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition. Ask: **What happened when Adam and Eve disobeyed God? (They sinned.) What was the first sin called? (Original Sin) What can we say to the people we hurt when we sin? (I'm sorry.) Whom else should we tell we are sorry when we sin? (God)**
- Say: **Sometimes we forget that other people have feelings too. When we do unkind and unloving things to others, they hurt just as much as we do when someone does things like that to us.**
- Say: **When we have hurt someone else's feelings, we tell them "I'm sorry." We also say "I'm sorry" to God. God always forgives us.**

Sharing PAGE 96

- Read aloud the text on page 96. Help your child find the word *forgiveness* in the Glossary. Read it aloud and discuss the definition. Ask: **How do we show that we love God? (We forgive as Jesus did.)**
- Say: **Jesus had feelings too. Sometimes Jesus' friends hurt him. Jesus chose his friend, Peter, to be one of his special helpers. Peter told a lie and said he was not one of Jesus' helpers. Peter said this because he was afraid of Jesus' enemies. He was afraid they might put him in prison if they knew he was Jesus' friend.**
- Ask: **How do you think Jesus felt when Peter said he didn't know him? (sad, hurt, angry) Say: Jesus may have been hurt by what Peter said, but he knew Peter was sorry. Jesus forgave Peter. He showed Peter they were still friends.**

- Say: **We are happy when Jesus forgives us. We can make other people happy by forgiving them after they have hurt us.**
- Read aloud the Scripture feature on page 96 and remind your child that these words come from God's special book, the Bible. Say: **Jesus wants us to forgive others just as God the Father forgives us when we make wrong choices. We don't keep any anger deep inside us.**

Sharing PAGE 97

- Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus on page 97. Say: **In the quiet of your heart, tell Jesus you are sorry for something you have done wrong. Ask Jesus to forgive you.** [Pause.] **Ask Jesus to forgive others.** [Pause.] Distribute the Chapter 16 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and repeat the prayer together. Remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.
- Say: **One day Jesus forgave a man no one liked. Listen to the story.** Read aloud the story of Zacchaeus from a children's Bible. Ask: **What did Zacchaeus do that was wrong?** (He cheated people by stealing their money.) **How did he show he was sorry?** (He paid people back more than he took from them.) **Why do you think Jesus forgave Zacchaeus?** (Jesus forgave sinners; Jesus loved Zacchaeus.) **Would you forgive Zacchaeus if he had stolen money from you?**
- Read aloud the directions and have children complete the activity.

Acting

- Teach your child the part of the Lord's Prayer in which we ask for forgiveness. Say: **When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we use a big word for the wrong things we do. The word is *trespasses*. Say each line after me: "And forgive us our trespasses" [Repeat.] "as we forgive those who trespass against us."** [Repeat.]
- Say: **Let us join hands now and pray the Lord's Prayer.**
- Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 38:19.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 98–99

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 98. Say: **God is listening when we say we are sorry and forgives us when we sin.**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Jesus knows what is in our hearts. He knows when we feel sorry for our words and actions.**
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question. Ask: **How do you feel when you tell someone you are sorry?** (relieved, happy)
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 99. Say: **Divine Mercy means that we can always pray for God the Father’s forgiveness. Saint Faustina wrote about the messages and instructions she received from God.**
- Read aloud the Witness and Share directions and have your child complete the activity.

Transform

- Have your child discuss what he or she drew in Witness and Share. Then talk about situations that require forgiveness. Say: **We share God’s mercy when we say we are sorry and when we forgive others.**
- Together practice apologizing. One person can say, “I am sorry,” and the other can say, “I forgive you.”

Chapter Review PAGE 100

- Help your child complete the Chapter 16 Review on page 100.
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer after you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.
- Read the Chapter 16 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 17 Church Is Good

Centering

- Write the words *church* and *Church* on note cards and set them aside. Together study the pictures on pages 102–103. Ask: **What do you see in the picture?** (people in church) **What do we do in church?** (pray, celebrate Mass) Say: **Today you will learn more about God’s family, the Church.**
- Say: **We have a special word for what we do when we gather at church. We gather at church to worship God. When we worship, we offer praise and thanks to God, who is so good to us.** Ask: **What do we do at church?** (We worship God.)

Sharing PAGE 101

- Read aloud the chapter title and the text on page 101. Help your child find the word *Church* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition.
- Show your child the note cards with the words *church* and *Church*. Say: **A church is a place where God’s people gather to worship God.** Hold up the note card *church*. Then say: **This same word, Church, is also used to talk about the people who gather to worship God.** Hold up the note card *Church* and point out the capital C.
- Say: **We believe in Jesus and try to follow his way of love. We are the Church, God’s people, who worship in a building that is called a church.**
- Remind your child that he or she became a member of the Church when he or she was baptized. Pull out pictures of your child’s Baptism and any other family Baptisms. Tell your child about the people in each photograph.
- Lead your child in a quiet prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Distribute the Chapter 17 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and repeat the prayer together. Remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.

Sharing PAGES 102–103

- Say: **The church building is a very holy place. Sometimes people call the church building “God’s house.”**
- If possible, arrange for a church visit. Show reverence as you describe the sacred objects. Point out the following objects: holy-water font, altar, ambo, celebrant’s chair, crucifix, candles, tabernacle, sanctuary light (lamp), baptismal font, statues, and stained-glass windows. If you’re not able to visit a church in person, check to see if your parish has a website with pictures.
- Read aloud page 102 and help your child find the word *priest* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition. Read the Scripture feature and remind your child that these words come from God’s special book, the Bible. Say: **The word *sanctuary* means a holy place in the church building around the altar. This is the place where Jesus becomes present to us in the Eucharist during Mass.**
- Say: **Greeters are people who welcome us when we enter the church building for Mass. A priest is the person who leads us when we celebrate Mass. Altar servers assist the priest. The lector reads God’s Word. The choir leads us in song at Mass. The choir director leads the choir. Different people do different things, but everyone is needed.** If you or a member of your family has ever held any of the roles mentioned, tell your child about it.
- Say: **Jesus, the Good Shepherd, is the head of the Church. But he has special helpers on earth to lead the Church for him.** Ask: **Who are these special helpers?** (the pope, cardinals, bishops, priests) Name for your child the priests who serve in your parish.
- Read aloud page 103 and point out the two ways the word *church* is used on the page. Remind your child that *church* with a small c means the building where we worship and *Church* with a big C means God’s family, the people who make up our church family. Then have your child complete the activity.

Acting

- Provide your child with drawing materials and have him or her draw your church. Help your child include as many of the sacred objects taught today as possible.
- Encourage your child to share what he or she learned about the church and the people who make up the Church with another member of your family or a friend.
- Using your family bible or a children’s Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 122:1.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 104–105

Inspire

- Ask: **Who are the people in your family?** [Let children respond.] Based on their reply, remind them that the Church is a family too and that we are all part of God's family.
- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 104. Say: **Jesus is always ready to listen when we come together to pray.**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Ask: **How is the Church like a family?** (God is our Father and we are all his children.)
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Our priest helps us share God's love when we pray together as a family during Mass.**
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 105. Say: **Saint Augustine had lots of bad habits that he had to break in order to follow Jesus.** Ask: **Who helps you make better choices?** (Possible answers: teachers, parents, priests)
- Read aloud the Witness and Share directions and have your child complete the activity.

Transform

- Discuss the completed dot-to-dot. Say: **Our Church family gathers together for Mass, and when we do, Jesus is with us.**
- Ask: **How can we share love with our Church family?** (Possible answers: Treat one another with kindness, love, and respect, as we do with everyone.)
- Create a Thoughtful List to display in your home. Brainstorm ways that your family members can be helpful and loving with one another and add them to your list.

Chapter Review PAGE 106

- Help your child complete the Chapter 17 Review on page 106.
- Together say a silent prayer that includes your priest's name.
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer after you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.
- Read the Chapter 17 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.

Chapter 18 Meals Are Good

Centering

- Set a place mat on a table, keeping the items needed to finish the place setting out of sight. Ask: **If we were to use this place mat for our meal, what other items might we need?** Identify the plate, fork, knife, spoon, napkin, and cup and have your child set each one in place.
- Say: **Sharing a meal with others is special. It reminds us to share our love.** Discuss favorite family meals and if possible, gather pictures of special meals your family has shared to discuss.
- Ask: **How can you help make our family's mealtime a happy time?** (Smile. Listen to others. Tell something interesting or funny. Say nice things. Be thankful for the food that was prepared. Help by setting the table or drying the dishes.)

Sharing PAGE 107

- Say: **Bread is one of the most important foods we eat. It helps us grow strong and healthy. Wine is a drink made from grapes. Wine is sometimes used to celebrate at special meals.**
- Introduce the Last Supper to your child. Say: **On the night before Jesus died on the Cross for us, he had a very special meal with his friends, the Apostles.** Read aloud the story of the Last Supper from a children's Bible. When you are finished, say: **At this meal, Jesus shared himself in a new way. He gave himself with all his love to his Apostles. He gave his friends a special meal. We call this special meal the Mass, or the Eucharist. In this special meal, Jesus offers himself to each of us.**
- Read aloud the chapter title and the text on page 107. Help your child find the word *Eucharist* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition. Encourage your child to talk about what happened at Jesus' Last Supper.

Sharing PAGE 108

- Ask: **What is happening in the top picture on page 108?** (A family is worshipping together at Mass.) Read aloud the text on this page. Help your child find the word *Mass* in the Glossary. Read aloud and discuss the definition. Say: **God invites us to his table to receive the wheat bread and grape wine that have become the Body and Blood of Jesus. We do this when we celebrate Mass. You belong to God's special family, the Catholic Church. One day, God will call you to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist at your First Holy Communion.** Tell your child about your First Holy Communion.
- Read aloud the Scripture feature on page 108. Say: **These words come from God's special book, the Bible.** Ask: **What is Jesus asking us to do in memory of him?** (celebrate the Mass together)

Sharing PAGE 109

- Identify the chalice and the host on page 109. Point out the plate and say: **We call this special plate that holds the Eucharist a *paten*.**
- Read aloud the directions and have your child complete the activity.
- Lead your child in a prayer of thanksgiving with A Moment with Jesus. Distribute the Chapter 18 A Moment with Jesus prayer card and repeat the prayer together. Remind your child to save the card with the others and encourage him or her to use them at any time.

Acting

- Give your child the Last Supper Triptych punchout. Help your child fold it on the lines so that it stands up. Say: **Let's thank God for giving us the holy wheat bread and the holy grape wine that is Jesus.** Help your child locate Jesus, the holy wheat bread, and the holy grape wine on the Last Supper Triptych. Have your child display the triptych in your home.
- Say: **Remember to try and share God's love with others through acts of kindness each day.**
- Using your family Bible, lead your child in prayer using Psalm 104:14–15.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 110–111

Inspire

- Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 110. Say: **We come together for a special meal at Mass. We remember the Last Supper that Jesus had with his friends. We remember that Jesus died for us.**

Proclaim

- Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Blessed Sacrament is another name for Eucharist. Jesus is with us in the Blessed Sacrament.**
- Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **The Apostles were Jesus' friends.**
- Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 111. Say: **Juan Diego was on his way to Mass when Mary first appeared to him. Juan Diego loved Jesus.**
- Read aloud the Witness and Share directions and have your child complete the activity.

Transform

- Discuss your child's family meal picture he or she drew in Witness and Share. Ask: **What makes the meals we share as a family special?** (Possible answer: It is a time to be together and to share in one another's lives.)
- Pray aloud as your child prays silently: **Dear God, we give thanks when we gather together. We share your food and your love with each other. Amen.**

Chapter Review PAGE 112

- Help your child complete the Chapter 18 Review on page 112.
- Pray aloud the prayer in We Respond. Then have your child repeat the prayer after you.
- Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith and Growing Faith sections with other members of your family, or together read aloud the sections to review.
- Read the Chapter 18 Living the Lesson by Tom McGrath, found at www.christourlife.com/family.
- Conclude the unit by holding the Unit 3 Celebration found at www.christourlife.com/family.