



One Body, One Family

Before You Begin

- Print the Chapter 4 BLM: Popes of Modern Day found at the end of this document.
- Have a Bible available during the session for reference.
- Show your child images of Catholic churches and congregations from different countries.
- Download and print the Chapter 4 Prayer Service: Litany of Saints.

Engage: Page 25

- ◆ Read aloud the chapter title and the opening questions on page 25. Say: **We wear many hats, sometimes several at the same time. What are some other labels you could use to describe yourself? Artist? Dancer? Computer whiz?** Invite your child to share.
- ◆ Point out the Scripture passage at the bottom of the page and open your Bible to the Gospel of John. Demonstrate how to find a verse by locating the cited quote. Then invite your child to read the verse aloud. Say: **This verse reminds us that God loves us so much that he has prepared a place for us in heaven. Now it is up to us to answer this invitation by following God's plan for our lives.**
- ◆ Pray together the Lord's Prayer, beginning with the Sign of the Cross.

Explore: Pages 26–31

- ◆ Have your child silently read the section *What Is the Church?* on page 26. Ask your child to close his or her eyes and picture *church*. After a minute, ask your child to open his or her eyes and share what came to mind. Say: **The Church is a living thing. The buildings and grounds would have no meaning if there were not people to make Christ present. People do what Christ asked when they gather in his name and share the Eucharist.**
- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the section *The Four Marks*, which continues on page 27. Say: **The four Marks of the Church are visible signs, which make it different from every other community or organization.** Explain that these marks help us better understand our faith. Have your child complete the *My Turn* activity.
- ◆ Read aloud the title *The Church Is One* on page 27 and the first paragraph, stopping before the first bullet point. Have your child read aloud the first bullet point. Say: **Despite the differences that have resulted from these groups breaking away from the Church, all Christians share one Baptism.** Have your child read the next bullet point. Say: **Most Christians also profess the same creed. This means we share the same faith.** Have your child read the last two bullet points. Say: **In most cases, the differences over which Christians are divided focus on these two areas.**
- ◆ Have your child read the final paragraphs of this section. Say: **The Church has one Baptism, one faith, one worship, and one government. These reflect our belief in the one Body of Christ.**
- ◆ Read aloud the title *The Church Is Holy* on page 27. Then take turns reading aloud this section, which continues on page 28. Explain that as members of the Church on earth, we are in a state of becoming holy. Have your child complete the *My Turn* activity on the bottom of page 28.

- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the section *The Church Is Catholic* on page 28. Show images of Catholic churches and congregations from different countries. Include images of mission churches. Say: **All these people and places are part of the Catholic Church.** Explain that *catholic* means “universal.” Our faith relates to everyone, and people of different cultures and races express it in their own unique ways.
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the section *The Church Is Apostolic* on page 29. Explain that the pope and bishops govern the Church. Have your child complete the Chapter 4 BLM: Popes of Modern Day.
- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the sections *The Saints* and *How the Saints Can Help* on pages 29–30. Share experiences of praying for the intercession of a saint. Say: **We are asking the saints, who are close to God in heaven, to pray with us. We are asking them to take our prayers to God. The saints join with us in our petitions and go to God on our behalf.**
- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the sections *Mary* and *Why Mary is Special* on pages 30–31. Say: **Mary was a young girl, not much older than you. She had no husband and must have known what people would think of her. She had to know how hard this might make her life. She would also have to consider whether this might bring shame and embarrassment to her parents and to Joseph.**
- ◆ Point out the highlighted words *Immaculate Conception* and *Assumption* on page 31. Mary was chosen by God to carry out the important work of being the mother of Jesus and the mother to us all. Say: **We can look to Mary as an example of humble obedience, but also for strength and courage. We know that she wants what is best for us. She intercedes for us and is our closest connection to Jesus.**
- ◆ Remind your child that we can look to the saints for guidance and as examples. Have your child find quotes from saints. Have him or her complete the *My Turn* activity on page 31.

Sacred Sign: Page 29

- ◆ Read aloud the *Sacred Sign* feature box on page 29. Say: **There are different scapulars for different devotions, but the brown scapular, or Our Lady of Mount Carmel, is one of the most popular.**
- ◆ Pray together the Hail Mary, asking her to give us the strength and grace she showed throughout her life. The Hail Mary can be found on page 90.

Rite: Page 30

- ◆ Read aloud the *Rite* feature box on page 30. Explain that when we enter and exit church, we bless ourselves with holy water.
- ◆ Explain that holy water recalls our Baptism, by which we became followers of Christ and members of the Church, and our sins were washed clean. Say: **Holy water has been blessed by the priest and reminds us of our baptismal promises.**

Witness: Page 31

- ◆ Read aloud the *Witness* feature on page 31. Point out that Pierre Toussaint gave all his wealth to charitable organizations. Have your child pick a charity that is important to him or her and brainstorm ideas for how to support the charity’s cause.
- ◆ Say: **Venerable Pierre Toussaint led his life as Jesus taught us. He exemplified humility and compassion for others, even in the face of discrimination and unjust treatment. Today we are inspired to live compassionately as Venerable Pierre Toussaint did.**

Reflect

- ◆ Have your child reflect on what he or she has learned about the Church as a family. Say: **As members of the Church, we are part of a living, growing family. Together, our Church family shares one baptism, one faith, one worship, and one government. As members of this family, we have certain responsibilities. We are called to live out our faith in our daily actions, but also to invite and welcome all who wish to know Christ. With Mary and the saints as our guide, we come to seek God in all things. Keep this in mind as we join together now in prayer.**
- ◆ Proceed to your family's prayer space. A prayer space can be a simple table on which you place a Bible, crucifix, statue, icon, or another religious icon. Invite your child to assist you in creating this sacred space.
- ◆ Distribute copies of the Chapter 4 Prayer Service: Litany of Saints. Choose who will read the part for the Leader. You and your child will both read the parts labeled "All." Lead by example, participating actively and with reverence.
- ◆ Begin by taking a moment to ask your child if he or she has any special intentions during the prayer service.
- ◆ Pray together the prayer service, following your assigned roles. Adapt it to your circumstances if needed. Observe the periods of silence and keep a prayerful pace. Allow time in between sections for reflection.
- ◆ Pause for a moment of silence before concluding.

Respond: Page 32

- ◆ Review with your child the *Faith Summary* on page 32. Ask your child to explain each sentence in his or own words and revisit concepts as necessary.
- ◆ Have your child read the *Remember* section silently and be sure he or she understands the main points of the chapter.
- ◆ Ask your child to choose one *Reach Out* item and follow the directions. Check in with your child and ask him or her to reflect privately on the outcomes.
- ◆ Read aloud the *Words to Know* and ask your child to use the words in sentences. Consult the Glossary at the back of the book and at www.loyolapress.com/calledtobecatholic/ if more clarification is needed.
- ◆ Invite your child to think about the *Reflect* scenario and write a response on the lines provided. If your child is comfortable doing so, encourage him or her to share the response with you.
- ◆ Pray together the closing prayer. Conclude by praying together the Sign of the Cross. Invite your child to pray this week whenever he or she feels a need for help or guidance.
- ◆ Continue the conversation for this chapter at www.loyolapress.com/CTBCconversations.

Name _____

Date _____

Popes of Modern Day

The pope is the Bishop of Rome and the head of the Roman Catholic Church. Led by the Holy Spirit, the pope, in communion with all the bishops, guides the Church and leads Christ's followers in their earthly lives.

The Story of a Pope

Directions: Choose one of the popes who led the Church in the 20th or 21st century. In groups of two or three, research the pope and answer the following questions to learn the story of his life and work. Include a picture of your pope in the box provided.

Pope: _____

Years of reign: _____

Birth date: _____

Birth name: _____

Birthplace: _____

Biography:

Famous encyclicals or writings: _____

Biggest impact on the Church: _____

