

# God Creates Us

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 1, Session 1**.

**PAGE 3**

Saint Isidore is the patron saint of farmers and laborers.

**PAGE 5**

God the Father creates everything in our world, including people.

**PAGE 6**

God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. They make up the Three Persons of the Trinity.

**PAGE 6**

God loves us and cares for us. He always stays close to us.

**PAGE 7**

People are the most important part of God's creation.

**PAGE 7**

We receive Holy Communion in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

**PAGE 8**

When God saw what he had made, he was pleased.

**PAGE 8**

God made a man and a woman and blessed them. God told the man and the woman to take care of the earth.

**PAGE 10**

We give glory to God for his creation.

# God Gives Us Jesus

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 1, Session 2**.

## PAGE 13

The angel Gabriel told Mary that she was chosen by God to be the Mother of his Son, Jesus.

## PAGE 13

Jesus came to show us how to live and love one another.

## PAGE 14

Jesus is God's Son who became man. He is God's most precious gift to us.

## PAGE 15

The Blessed Sacrament is the Eucharist that has been consecrated by the priest at Mass. The Blessed Sacrament is kept in a tabernacle.

## PAGE 15

As Catholics, we genuflect in church by lowering one knee to the ground and blessing ourselves with the Sign of the Cross. This honors Jesus.

## PAGE 16

An angel visited Joseph in a dream before he and Mary were married.

## PAGE 16

The name *Jesus* means "God saves."

## PAGE 16

Because Jesus saves us from our sins, he is our Savior.

## PAGE 18

Jesus is also called Emmanuel. *Emmanuel* means "God with us."

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# God Is Our Father

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 1, Session 3**.

## PAGE 21

The Lord's Prayer is filled with words of hope and forgiveness.

## PAGE 22

During Mass we stand to pray the Lord's Prayer. We pray this prayer together.

## PAGE 23

A prayer of praise tells God how wonderful he is. A prayer of petition asks God for what we need.

## PAGE 23

God is our Creator and our Father. He cares for all people of the world because he is everyone's Father.

## PAGE 23

We belong to God's Church as children of God through Baptism.

## PAGE 23

After we have been baptized, we are able to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and of the Eucharist.

## PAGE 23

Through all the sacraments, God shares his life with us.

## PAGE 24

Jesus helps us learn to trust in God. He tells us, "Do not worry about your life."

## PAGE 25

Jesus gave us the words to the Lord's Prayer, or the Our Father.

## PAGE 25

The Lord's Prayer praises God and asks him for what we need.

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## God's Life for Us

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 1, Session 4**.

**PAGE 29**

The Holy Spirit gave the disciples the courage to proclaim that Jesus is the Savior.

**PAGE 29**

The special day when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples is called Pentecost.

**PAGE 30**

Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the Temple, a place where Jewish people worshiped God.

**PAGE 30**

Simeon lived in Jerusalem. He loved God. The Holy Spirit promised Simeon that before he died he would see the Messiah. Guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit, Simeon knew that Jesus was the Savior.

**PAGE 31**

The Holy Spirit helps us know that God is always with us.

**PAGE 31**

The Holy Spirit gives us faith in God.

**PAGE 32**

We learn about the goodness of Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

**PAGE 32**

The Holy Spirit helps us do good things.

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# Celebrating Ordinary Time

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 1, Session 5**.

## PAGE 37

Jesus gave his disciples his Body and Blood.

## PAGE 37

We receive Jesus' Body and Blood in Holy Communion.

## PAGE 38

Ordinary Time is a time to be fed by Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

## PAGE 38

We are filled with God's grace each time we receive the Body and Blood of Christ at Mass.

## PAGE 39

Water is an ordinary object used during Baptism.

## PAGE 39

Bread is an ordinary object used during the Eucharist.

## PAGE 40

Green is the color of Ordinary Time.

## PAGE 40

A green chasuble is the outermost layer of a priest's vestments and is worn when celebrating Mass during Ordinary Time.

## PAGE 40

During Ordinary Time we grow closer to Jesus. We listen to his message and follow his example.

# Jesus Is Faithful

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 6**.

**PAGE 45**

Mary was raised to have a strong faith. She was devoted to God and became Jesus' mother.

**PAGE 45**

Saint Anne and Saint Joachim were Mary's parents. They passed their strong faith on to Mary.

**PAGE 45**

Saint Anne is the patron saint of women who are expecting babies.

**PAGE 48**

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph accepted the Ten Commandments as God's rules and obeyed them.

**PAGE 48**

We follow Jesus when we obey the commandments.

**PAGE 48**

The Fourth Commandment tells us to honor and obey our parents.

**PAGE 50**

When Jesus was 12 years old, Mary and Joseph lost him in Jerusalem.

**PAGE 50**

When Mary and Joseph returned to Jerusalem to look for Jesus, they found him in the Temple.

**PAGE 51**

Catholics come together at church to worship God.

# Jesus Saves Us

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 7**.

## PAGE 55

Jesus' love and forgiveness changed Zacchaeus into a giving person.

## PAGE 56

Jesus has a special love for those who are sick. He showed God's love for them by healing them.

## PAGE 56

Some people became angry with Jesus and put him to death on a cross. Everyone thought this was the end of his life. But God the Father raised Jesus from the dead.

## PAGE 57

Jesus is alive in heaven today.

## PAGE 57

Jesus wants us to love others as he loves us. He wants us to follow his example.

## PAGE 57

It is important to tell the truth to ourselves and to God. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we never have to hide our sins from God.

## PAGE 58

Healing people who could not see and those who could not walk are examples of Jesus' miracles.

## PAGE 58

Jesus helped many people who were in need.

## PAGE 58

John the Baptist taught people about the coming of the Messiah.

## PAGE 60

We share God's love when we show kindness, offer help, or take time for others. Helping a friend is one way to be like Jesus.

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# Jesus Calls Us to Love

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 8**.

**PAGE 63**

Jesus preached a message of mercy and forgiveness.

**PAGE 63**

Jesus taught about the Great Commandment: to love God the Father with all our heart and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

**PAGE 64**

Peter was one of Jesus' first followers. He knew that Jesus was the Messiah.

**PAGE 64**

Jesus chose Peter to become the leader of the Church. Today the pope leads the Church as Peter did.

**PAGE 65**

A bishop leads and cares for many parishes.

**PAGE 65**

Each bishop carries a shepherd's staff called a crozier. The crozier reminds us that a bishop cares for his people like a shepherd cares for his sheep.

**PAGE 65**

When we sin, we feel sad because we feel far away from God.

**PAGE 66**

Jesus often told parables, or stories, to teach important lessons.

**PAGE 66**

The parable of the banquet tells how everyone is invited to follow God.

**PAGE 68**

Saint Martín de Porres spent his life helping others in Peru. In this way he followed Jesus.

# Jesus Cares for Us

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 9**.

## PAGE 71

Jesus welcomed children and called them to come to him.

## PAGE 71

The Kingdom of God belongs to everyone.

## PAGE 72

Jesus tells us that each person is important to God the Father. An angel in heaven watches over each one of us.

## PAGE 72

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.

## PAGE 73

A priest serves the parish by celebrating Mass daily, visiting people who are sick, teaching, and helping people who are in need.

## PAGE 73

A deacon helps a priest serve people in the parish by teaching about God and leading the people in prayer.

## PAGE 73

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus is always ready to help us find our way back to him.

## PAGE 74

A good shepherd cares for his sheep as God cares for us. Jesus leads us through his words and actions. We follow Jesus.

## PAGE 74

A shepherd feeds his flock. Jesus feeds us through the Eucharist.

## PAGE 75

The Book of Psalms is a section of the Bible. Psalms are special songs or prayers.

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# Celebrating Advent

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 10**.

**PAGE 79**

The candles on the Advent wreath represent hope, peace, joy, and love.

**PAGE 79**

During Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus.

**PAGE 80**

Advent is a time to seek Jesus and make room for him in our lives.

**PAGE 80**

During Advent, we are reminded that Jesus will light our way to true joy and peace.

**PAGE 80**

The Bible says that we should live as children of light.

**PAGE 81**

The brightness of the Advent candles symbolizes how Jesus lights our way during the season.

**PAGE 81**

Three of the candles on the Advent wreath are violet. One candle is rose-colored.

**PAGE 81**

We are healed when we feel God's forgiving love.

# We Worship God

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 11**.

## PAGE 87

Saint Ignatius of Loyola was born in Spain to a large Catholic family. He became a soldier but was wounded in battle. After returning home, he read books about Jesus and decided to devote his life to God.

## PAGE 90

Jesus gave us the sacraments. The sacraments are powerful signs that God the Father is with us.

## PAGE 90

God's special gift of grace, brought to us by the Holy Spirit in the sacraments, helps us live good lives.

## PAGE 90

The Holy Spirit helps us act as God wants us to act. The good we find in our words and actions is called the Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

## PAGE 91

Baptism is the first sacrament we celebrate. During this Rite—a special way of celebrating—water is poured over a person's head.

## PAGE 91

Baptism takes away Original Sin. Original Sin is in the world because Adam and Eve chose not to obey God.

## PAGE 91

We prepare for the sacraments with a life of prayer, which helps us turn our hearts to God.

## PAGE 92

Jesus tells us he is the vine, and we cannot grow strong unless we stay close to him.

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# Celebrating Reconciliation

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 12**.

## PAGE 97

When we are forgiven, we feel healed and our hearts are at rest. The same is true when we forgive others.

## PAGE 98

We choose to turn away from God when we sin.

## PAGE 98

Mortal sin is a very serious wrong.

## PAGE 98

Venial sin is a less serious wrong.

## PAGE 98

Sin is forgiven when we celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

## PAGE 98

Contrition is the sadness we feel when we have sinned.

## PAGE 99

In confession, we confess our sins to a priest and tell God we are sorry.

## PAGE 99

Before going into confession, we make an examination of conscience by thinking about the choices we have made.

## PAGE 100

Zacchaeus was a dishonest tax collector when Jesus told him he wanted to stay at his house.

## PAGE 100

Zacchaeus told Jesus he would give away half of everything he had. Jesus told him he was saved that day.

# The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 13**.

**PAGE 105**

After the Resurrection, the disciples were afraid.

**PAGE 105**

The risen Jesus appeared to the disciples. He comforted them and gave them the Holy Spirit.

**PAGE 106**

Our sins are forgiven as the priest extends his hands over us and prays the prayer of absolution.

**PAGE 106**

A priest keeps absolutely secret the sins confessed to him. This is called the seal of confession.

**PAGE 107**

After we confess our sins, the priest gives us a penance. This is a prayer we pray or a good deed we do to help us change our lives.

**PAGE 107**

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are relieved of the burden of our sins. We feel joy in the freedom of forgiveness.

**PAGE 108**

Jesus forgave the sins of a man who was paralyzed. He healed the man so he could walk.

**PAGE 109**

When we sin, we ask God and others for forgiveness.

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# Mary Shows Us the Way

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 14**.

## PAGE 114

The angel Gabriel told Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus. Soon after that, Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth.

## PAGE 114

Elizabeth called Mary blessed. Mary told Elizabeth, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord."

## PAGE 115

The words Mary used to praise God became a special prayer, called the *Magnificat*. This prayer proclaims the greatness of the Lord.

## PAGE 116

Mary is the Mother of the Church.

## PAGE 116

God gives us the same help, or grace, that he gave Mary.

## PAGE 116

Mary prays for us so that we will listen to God.

## PAGE 117

Mary had the courage to do what God asked her to do.

## PAGE 118

We can follow Mary's example by praising God as she did.

## PAGE 118

We can share God's love through our actions and words.

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# Celebrating Christmas

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 15**.

**PAGE 121**

The birth of Jesus brought hope and light by reconciling all people to God the Father.

**PAGE 121**

God the Father gave his Son, Jesus, to the whole world.

**PAGE 122**

During Christmas, we gather as families to celebrate Jesus in our midst.

**PAGE 123**

We prepare to receive God's gift—his Son, Jesus, in the Eucharist.

**PAGE 123**

A Nativity scene includes Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus.

**PAGE 124**

Christmas is a time for giving. It is also a time to celebrate with our families.

**PAGE 124**

The mystery of Jesus' birth is celebrated on the feast of Christmas.

## New Life in Jesus

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 4, Session 16**.

### PAGE 129

Pope Pius X wanted Catholics to receive Holy Communion often.

### PAGE 132

The sacraments are holy signs. Each shows that God the Father is with us.

### PAGE 132

The Sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

### PAGE 132

Baptism is the beginning of our new life in Jesus. We are saved from Original Sin and our personal sins in Baptism.

### PAGE 133

Confirmation makes us stronger in faith through God's sanctifying grace. It helps us become better Christians.

### PAGE 133

We receive the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist. This is called Holy Communion.

### PAGE 133

Jesus promises to be with us always, and we experience his presence in the sacraments.

### PAGE 134

Jesus chose Peter to lead the Church.

# Jesus Loves the Church

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 4, Session 17**.

**PAGE 140**

A disciple is a person who follows the teachings of Jesus.

**PAGE 141**

The Holy Spirit comes to us in Baptism.

**PAGE 141**

The grace of the Holy Spirit helps us love others and welcome Jesus into our lives.

**PAGE 141**

We remember that Jesus is with us in the celebration of the Eucharist.

**PAGE 141**

The celebration of the Eucharist is also known as the Sacrifice of the Mass.

**PAGE 141**

Jesus wants us to love everyone, even our enemies.

**PAGE 142**

A ministry is service or work done for others.

**PAGE 142**

Many parishes have ministers of hospitality who welcome others to the church for Mass.

# Gathering for Mass

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 4, Session 18**.

**PAGE 148**

Catholics go to Mass every Sunday and on special days.

**PAGE 148**

The priest and volunteers come to the altar during the Entrance Procession.

**PAGE 148**

The Scripture stories read at Mass come from a special book called the Lectionary for Mass.

**PAGE 148**

The priest explains the important message of the readings during the Homily.

**PAGE 148**

The ambo is the place in church where a lector reads Scripture stories.

**PAGE 149**

We express our belief in the Church's teachings by praying the Nicene Creed.

**PAGE 149**

The Bible readings and the Homily are two parts of the Liturgy of the Word. This is the time during Mass when we listen to God's Word from the Bible.

**PAGE 149**

The Liturgy of the Word ends when we pray together for anyone in need of prayers.

**PAGE 150**

The writers of the Gospels are called Evangelists. The Gospel writers are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

**PAGE 151**

At Mass, we gather to praise God.

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# Celebrating the Eucharist

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 4, Session 19**.

**PAGE 155**

Jesus gives us food that nourishes both our bodies and our souls.

**PAGE 156**

During the consecration, the priest repeats the words of Jesus at the Last Supper.

**PAGE 156**

Transubstantiation is when the wheat bread and grape wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ.

**PAGE 156**

Sunday is special because it is the Lord's Day.

**PAGE 156**

Jesus Christ is truly present in the Eucharist.

**PAGE 157**

The days other than Sunday when we go to Mass to remember great things God has done for us are called holy days of obligation.

**PAGE 157**

We fast from food and drink, except water, for at least one hour before Holy Communion.

**PAGE 159**

At Mass, we thank Jesus for giving himself to us. We think about Jesus' special gift of the Eucharist.

# Celebrating Lent and Holy Week

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 4, Session 20**.

**PAGE 164**

Through God's grace, we can become the people he wants us to be.

**PAGE 165**

At Mass during Lent and Holy Week, we admit our sinfulness.

**PAGE 165**

During Lent, the church looks very plain, without flowers or decorations in the sanctuary.

**PAGE 166**

On Ash Wednesday, we are blessed with ashes on our foreheads as a sign that we are sorry for our sins and want to follow Jesus.

**PAGE 166**

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.

**PAGE 166**

Jesus died for our sins so that we could live a new life.

**PAGE 166**

On Palm Sunday, we remember Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem.

## Being Like Jesus

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 5, Session 21**.

### PAGE 171

Saint Martin of Tours reached out to a suffering stranger when he gave half his cloak to a man who was freezing.

### PAGE 171

That same night Martin saw Jesus in a dream. Jesus was wearing half of Martin's cloak. Martin became a Christian after this dream.

### PAGE 173

When we show kindness and compassion to others, God gives us strength.

### PAGE 175

The Good Samaritan showed his neighbor mercy. He acted like a good neighbor.

### PAGE 175

Jesus is the example of what it means to be human. The more we get to know Jesus, the more we can be like him.

### PAGE 175

Receiving Jesus in the Eucharist with an open and a loving heart is an important way we grow to be more like Jesus.

### PAGE 176

The Beatitudes are Jesus' plan to help us live more like him and be happy.

### PAGE 179

Jesus wants us to help our neighbors. He wants us to care for people whom others may have forgotten.

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## We Share God's Life

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 5, Session 22**.

### PAGE 181

The color white symbolizes that at Baptism we are freed from Original Sin.

### PAGE 182

God has given us the Church and the Bible. These gifts teach us the difference between right and wrong.

### PAGE 182

A moral choice is a choice to do what is right. Making a moral choice helps us grow closer to God.

### PAGE 182

The important people in our lives can help us make choices. These people include family members, teachers, catechists, and priests.

### PAGE 182

Praying to the Holy Spirit helps us make good choices.

### PAGE 183

Our conscience is our inner sense of right and wrong.

### PAGE 183

The Sacrament of the Eucharist joins us all together as one. All the people in the Church are all part of the same body—the Body of Christ.

### PAGE 184

Moses told the people to love God and follow God's laws.

### PAGE 186

Thinking about what Jesus would do helps us make moral choices.

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# Following Jesus

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 5, Session 23**.

## PAGE 190

The Old Testament is the story of God's love for the Jewish people. The New Testament is the story of Jesus' life.

## PAGE 190

In the Old Testament, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments.

## PAGE 190

In the New Testament, Jesus gave us the Great Commandment. The Great Commandment teaches us how to follow God and to love and care for others.

## PAGE 190

We should love God with all our heart, soul, and mind.

## PAGE 191

Jesus wants us to live with joy and goodness, so he taught us the Beatitudes.

## PAGE 192

Jesus teaches us that all people are our neighbors.

## PAGE 192

Jesus teaches us to love others as we love ourselves.

## PAGE 194

The Beatitudes teach us how to live in peace with others.

## PAGE 194

Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first American-born person to be named a saint. She always found time to help others.

# Making Choices

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 5, Session 24**.

**PAGE 197**

God does not want our minds to be filled with worry. Instead, he wants us to have peace and joy, even when things are difficult.

**PAGE 199**

God wants us to be peacemakers and to live in kindness.

**PAGE 199**

God gives us the grace to be kind to one another and to enjoy the kindness that others show us.

**PAGE 199**

When we sin, God moves us to contrition. God wants us to ask for forgiveness and make up for what we have done.

**PAGE 200**

At Mass, the Sign of Peace is one way we show respect for others.

**PAGE 200**

We will be happy if we show respect for others and their feelings.

**PAGE 200**

Living in peace with others is a way to show respect.

**PAGE 203**

Jesus respected everyone.

# Celebrating Easter

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 5, Session 25**.

**PAGE 206**

Easter is a time to reflect on the gift of eternal life.

**PAGE 206**

Jesus died on the Cross for our sins.

**PAGE 207**

At Mass during Easter, the parish rejoices that Jesus is risen.

**PAGE 207**

Jesus is close to us in the sacraments.

**PAGE 208**

The Easter season lasts 50 days.

**PAGE 208**

Pentecost is the day the Holy Spirit came to the disciples.

**PAGE 208**

Jesus Christ is in heaven with God the Father.

**PAGE 208**

Jesus brings all of us the gift of salvation.

**PAGE 208**

During the Easter season, we also remember Jesus' Ascension into heaven.

**PAGE 208**

The Easter season ends on Pentecost.

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