

God Creates the World

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

PAGE 3

Saint Teresa of Ávila believed in the power of prayer and taught others to pray. Her writings about prayer were so important that she was named a Doctor of the Church.

PAGE 6

God wants us to feel joy and wonder and to be reminded of his loving presence whenever we look at his creations.

PAGE 6

God's most amazing creation is the human family. He creates each human with a spiritual nature called a soul.

PAGE 6

God gives us an intellect so that we can understand and free will so that we can make choices.

PAGE 6

We are called to live in the image of Jesus Christ and follow him to God the Father. The Holy Spirit helps us live in a way that will lead us to this goal.

PAGE 7

God creates the world for us. We thank him for this gift by taking care of the resources he has given us.

PAGE 8

A psalm is a sacred song or hymn. The Old Testament contains 150 psalms.

PAGE 9

There are different ways to pray. We can pray aloud or silently. We can pray a specific prayer or a prayer of our own. We can pray alone or with others.

Our Father in Heaven

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

PAGE 14

God loves us and wants to help us. The good things God does for us reveal his holiness to us.

PAGE 14

Jesus shows us a special way to pray when he teaches us the Lord's Prayer. When we pray this prayer, we enter into a close relationship with God, our loving Father.

PAGE 15

The Kingdom of God is proclaimed in the Gospels and is present in the Person of Jesus. The Church represents the Kingdom of God on earth.

PAGE 16

We learn about Jesus in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The Gospel of John tells us that if we know Jesus, we will also know the Father.

PAGE 16

In the Bible, God is revealed as the Father, who created the world and all humanity; the Son, Jesus, who saves us; and the Holy Spirit, who teaches us the truth.

PAGE 17

We pray the Act of Faith to express our belief and trust in God.

PAGE 18

We use sacred symbols to represent the Theological Virtues. The cross represents faith. An anchor represents hope. A heart represents charity.

PAGE 19

We learn about God's plan for us in the Bible. We help build up the Kingdom of God by choosing to follow God's plan for us.

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God's Plan for Salvation

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

PAGE 22

In the beginning, God created a man, Adam, and a woman, Eve, and gave them the Garden of Eden to live in.

PAGE 22

God told Adam and Eve to take care of the garden. They could eat the fruit of every tree but one. For a while, Adam and Eve were happy because they lived in obedience, listening to God and each other.

PAGE 22

Adam and Eve were tempted by a serpent. By giving in to temptation, Adam and Eve showed that they did not trust God.

PAGE 23

Adam and Eve turned away from God. As a result, we are born into Original Sin and have a tendency to sin.

PAGE 23

When we give in to temptation, we turn away from God. We harm our relationship with him and with others.

PAGE 23

God did not stop loving Adam and Eve, and he will never stop loving us. He promised that a Savior would come to deliver us from our sins.

PAGE 23

We receive salvation—the forgiveness of sins and the restoration of friendship with God—through Jesus.

PAGE 24

We praise God for being merciful and ask him to mend our broken relationships when we pray the *Kyrie* during the Penitential Act of the Mass.

PAGE 25

We pray the Act of Hope to express our trust in God.

God Calls Us to Obey

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

PAGE 30

When we follow the Holy Spirit in true freedom and make the Fruits of the Holy Spirit a part of our lives, we know that our actions are good.

PAGE 30

Saint Paul taught that we can live in true freedom if we listen to and obey the Holy Spirit.

PAGE 30

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity.

PAGE 30

The Holy Spirit helps us form a good conscience.

PAGE 31

We make an examination of conscience to see how well we are living up to our commitment to Jesus Christ. We can do this by reflecting on the Ten Commandments, the teachings of the Church, and what God calls us to do every day.

PAGE 31

Making a frequent examination of conscience helps us form a good conscience and make good choices.

PAGE 34

Peter Canisius was a Jesuit priest. He helped Father Couvillon overcome his pride and get along better with others.

PAGE 35

Although we are all tempted to sin, we can follow the Holy Spirit and use free will to make good choices.

Celebrating Ordinary Time

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

PAGE 37

Ordinary Time is a Church season that we celebrate twice each liturgical year.

PAGES 38 AND 40

During Ordinary Time, we pray as one Church with a shared faith, and we reflect on our call to discipleship. We try to better understand Jesus' invitation to love God the Father, serve others, and avoid sin.

PAGE 38

Virtues are like good habits. We can strengthen them if we practice them.

PAGE 38

The virtue of prudence helps us recognize the good in every situation and make good choices.

PAGE 38

Scripture tells us to live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. We seek the light of God's grace to help us grow in virtue and avoid temptation.

PAGE 38

The call to discipleship is received in Baptism, nourished in the Eucharist, strengthened in Confirmation, and practiced in the world.

PAGE 39

When we look around the church during Ordinary Time, we see candles at the altar, which remind us that Christ is present in the celebration of the Eucharist.

PAGE 39

The sanctuary lamp reminds us that Christ is present in a special way in the Blessed Sacrament.

PAGE 39

Depending on the year, Ordinary Time runs either 33 or 34 weeks.

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Jesus' Law of Love

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

PAGE 45

John Baptiste Vianney was born in France in 1786. He became a priest and was known for his attentive listening. Many people came to him to celebrate Reconciliation. He is the patron saint of parish priests.

PAGE 48

God revealed his Law of love, also called the Torah, in the Old Testament.

PAGE 48

The main idea of Jesus' new commandment is that the Law we have received from God the Father calls us to love God and to love others.

PAGE 48

We follow Jesus' new commandment when we choose to love and serve others.

PAGE 49

The Holy Spirit helps us practice fortitude, the virtue that gives us the courage to follow Jesus even when doing so is difficult.

PAGE 49

In the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass, we pray for others around the world. Praying for others is one way to follow Jesus' commandment of love.

PAGE 50

After he was ordained, Vincent de Paul lived and worked among people who were wealthy. After hearing the confession of a peasant, he became concerned about the needs of people who were poor and people who were ill.

The Beatitudes

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

PAGE 56

In a Scripture passage from Matthew's Gospel called the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus told his listeners how to live loving, peaceful, and happy lives. These teachings are called the Beatitudes.

PAGE 57

People who are poor in spirit know they can depend on God first.

PAGE 57

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

PAGE 57

The meek are people who are kind to others. They will inherit the land.

PAGE 57

The clean of heart are those who follow Jesus' example. They will see God.

PAGE 57

People who are righteous do the right thing, even when it is difficult.

PAGE 57

We can be peacemakers by getting along with others.

PAGE 57

People who are merciful forgive one another. When we exchange a sign of peace at Mass, we express that we are at peace with one another.

PAGE 58

Saint Jerome translated the Bible into Latin, a commonly known language at the time. Saint Jerome is often shown with a lion because of the legend that he removed a thorn from a lion's paw.

PAGE 59

Saint Francis of Assisi always tried to follow Jesus' example. He asked God to help him make peace in the world by being a peacemaker.

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Jesus Our Redeemer

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

PAGE 64

Jesus, Son of God, became man without losing his divinity. He was born in Bethlehem. When he was about 30 years old, he was moved by the Holy Spirit to heal people and preach about the Kingdom of God.

PAGE 64

Some people who did not believe in Jesus had him put to death on the Cross. Three days after his Crucifixion, Jesus appeared as the risen Christ to his disciples.

PAGE 64

On the day Jesus was put to death, two criminals were also on crosses. One criminal asked Jesus to remember him.

PAGE 65

Jesus freely died to free us from our sins. This is why we call him our Redeemer. Jesus knew that his act of *redemption*, or saving grace, was part of his Father's divine plan.

PAGE 65

Although Jesus was buried after he died, he did not remain in the tomb. He was raised from the dead by God the Father.

PAGE 66

After Jesus rose from the dead, he spent 40 days with his disciples, teaching them and sharing meals with them.

PAGE 66

At the end of the 40 days, Jesus was taken up into heaven. This is known as the Ascension and is described in the Acts of the Apostles.

PAGE 66

Jesus Christ lives in heaven and, through the Holy Spirit, shares his new life with us. We receive this new life in Baptism. At the end of time, Jesus will judge the living and the dead.

PAGE 67

A creed is a statement of faith. The Nicene Creed contains the central beliefs of the Christian faith and begins with the words "I believe in one God, the Father almighty."

Jesus Sends the Spirit

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

PAGE 72

After Pentecost, Peter was one of the first to carry on Jesus' work. Peter met Aeneas, who had been confined to bed for eight years because he was paralyzed. Peter healed Aeneas in the name of Jesus Christ. When the people saw that Aeneas was healed, they turned to the Lord.

PAGE 72

We are called to carry on Jesus' work by helping people who are in need.

PAGE 73

The corporal works of mercy are ways we can care for people's physical needs.

PAGE 73

The corporal works of mercy are to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, provide clothing to people in need, visit people who are sick and imprisoned, give to people who are poor, and bury the dead.

PAGE 73

The spiritual works of mercy are ways we can care for people's spiritual and emotional needs.

PAGE 73

The spiritual works of mercy are to counsel, instruct, advise, comfort, forgive, show patience in difficult situations, and pray for others.

PAGE 74

Teresa of Calcutta followed Jesus' example by caring for people who were sick and people who were poor.

PAGE 76

The Holy Spirit leads Jesus' followers to do good works. We can pray to the Holy Spirit to give us the strength to care for others.

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Celebrating Advent

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

PAGE 79

The Church's liturgical year begins with Advent, a season of hope and waiting.

PAGE 79

During Advent, we get our churches, our homes, and our hearts ready to honor and celebrate Jesus' birth.

PAGE 79

Many years before Jesus' birth, Isaiah and other prophets told about how a child would bring God's peace to his people.

PAGE 79

There are four Sundays during the Advent season, which ends on Christmas Eve.

PAGE 80

During Advent, we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth by making good moral choices.

PAGE 81

The *Angelus* is a prayer of devotion that recalls the mystery of the Incarnation. It is prayed three times a day.

PAGE 81

The *Angelus* begins with the words that the angel used to greet Mary when he told her about becoming Jesus' mother.

PAGE 81

When we look around our church during Advent, we see a violet cloth draped on the altar. The priest wears violet vestments. On the third Sunday of Advent, his vestments may be rose.

PAGE 81

During Advent, we see an Advent wreath in our church. Each of the wreath's four candles represents one of the Sundays of Advent.

PAGE 82

There are many different Advent traditions that help people prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth. These traditions include Advent wreaths, Advent calendars, Jesse trees, Saint Nicholas Day celebrations, and *Las Posadas*.

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The People of God

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

PAGE 87

King Louis IX of France had a great love for God and for the French people. He made fair laws and protected the people from unjust treatment. He supported the building of hospitals, schools, libraries, and churches.

PAGE 90

When the risen Jesus visited the Apostles, he instructed them to go out and make new disciples. He told them to continue his mission, inviting all people to find salvation in him.

PAGE 90

Jesus' disciples make up a universal Church, a community of believers that invites everyone to find salvation in Jesus Christ.

PAGE 91

We become full members of Jesus' Church through the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

PAGE 91

We receive salvation, forgiveness of sins, and new life in Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism. The Eucharist strengthens our relationship with Christ and his Church. The grace of the Holy Spirit strengthens us through the Sacrament of Confirmation to be witnesses to Christ.

PAGE 92

Dominic was a preacher who founded a new religious community called the Order of Preachers. The members of this community are also called Dominicans.

PAGE 94

At Mass, we celebrate with Jesus Christ, who is present in the Scripture readings we hear, in the priest who celebrates the Mass, in the gathered People of God, and in the Eucharist we receive.

The Church Teaches Us

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

PAGE 98

Jesus chose the Twelve Apostles to be his closest companions and carry on his teaching. He made Peter their leader.

PAGE 98

Jesus called Peter the rock upon whom he would build his Church.

PAGE 98

Today the Church is led by the pope and the bishops, who are the successors of Peter and the Apostles. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the pope and the bishops continue the Apostles' mission and carry out Jesus' teachings.

PAGE 99

The pope is the head of the Church. Most bishops are responsible for a local geographical church, which is called a diocese. Priests assist the bishops in their ministry.

PAGE 99

As members of the Church, we belong to a community that reaches all the way from our local parish to the pope in Rome.

PAGE 100

The Apostles thought of themselves as carrying on the tradition of the 12 tribes of Israel. These Jewish tribes were descendants of Abraham and Sarah.

PAGE 100

Jesus' Twelve Apostles were the Church's early leaders. Before Jesus was crucified, he was betrayed by one of the Apostles, Judas Iscariot.

PAGE 100

To help the remaining disciples decide on a replacement for Judas Iscariot, they cast lots, or threw stones. Matthias was chosen as the new Apostle.

PAGE 102

The precepts of the Church describe the minimum effort we are called to make in prayer and living a moral life.

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God Is Our Friend

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

PAGE 106

Because of Original Sin, we live in a world filled with temptation.

PAGE 106

Mortal sin is a decision to turn away from God by doing something we know is seriously wrong.

PAGE 106

Venial sin is a choice we make that weakens our relationship with God and others. Committing venial sins over and over weakens our fortitude and can lead to more serious sins.

PAGE 106

Capital sins will bring about more serious sins. The capital sins are pride, sloth, envy, lust, covetousness, anger, and gluttony.

PAGE 106

Pride is an inability to express humility. Sloth is not caring about our spiritual development. Envy is the desire to have someone else's good fortune.

PAGE 107

If our desire to repent comes from a deep love of God, we have perfect contrition. If we are sorry for other reasons, such as fear of being punished, we have imperfect contrition.

PAGE 107

In receiving the grace of God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we also receive the grace to forgive others and ask for forgiveness.

PAGE 107

Confessing our sins reminds us how much we need God's mercy.

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Serving God and Others

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

PAGE 114

God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth to give a message to Mary. Gabriel told her not to be afraid. Gabriel then told her she would have a Son, Jesus, whose kingdom would last forever.

PAGE 114

Gabriel told Mary that she would give birth by the power of the Holy Spirit. Mary responded that she was the handmaid of the Lord.

PAGE 115

Mary could have said no to God's request, but God had given her the grace to say yes to what he asked her to do. Her joyful acceptance of God's message made Mary the first and the greatest of the disciples. During the liturgical year, there are many feast days honoring Mary.

PAGE 115

Like Mary, we are called to discipleship. We say yes to this call by following Jesus, telling others about the Kingdom of God, and caring for creation.

PAGE 115

We are called to solidarity with the whole world, especially people who are poor, suffering, or vulnerable.

PAGE 116

Some flowers have special meaning associated with Mary. The violet, known as Our Lady's Modesty, is associated with her humility. Lily of the valley, known as Mary's Tears, is a reminder of her sorrow at Jesus' Death. The hawthorn is referred to as Mary's flower of May.

PAGE 118

Prayer is one way for us to hear what God is asking of us.

PAGE 118

Jesus drew all people to him, especially those who were poor and not valued by society. We act in Jesus' name when we care for those Jesus cared for.

PAGE 119

God the Father chose Mary to be Jesus' mother. We also call her Mother of God and Mother of the Church.

PAGE 119

Jesus taught that God the Father loves everyone.

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Celebrating Christmas

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

PAGE 121

God the Father sent his Son, Jesus, to be Lord and Savior of everyone who believes in him. God sent angels to proclaim Jesus' birth to poor shepherds.

PAGE 121

We celebrate Jesus' birth on the Feast of the Nativity. While Christmas is one of the shortest seasons in the liturgical year, it is one of the most joyful.

PAGES 121 AND 124

The Christmas season begins with the celebration of Mass on Christmas Eve and includes the Feast of Mary and the Feast of the Epiphany. It ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

PAGE 122

Another title for Jesus is "the Bread of Life." He satisfies our hunger for love, forgiveness, nourishment, and strength.

PAGE 123

In Hebrew, the word *Bethlehem* means "house of bread."

PAGE 123

White is the liturgical color of the Christmas season. The color reminds us of the purity and joy of Jesus' birth.

PAGE 123

During Christmas, we often see a Nativity scene with baby Jesus in the manger, and with Mary, Joseph, shepherds, and the Magi.

PAGE 124

When we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, we remember the Magi's visit to Bethlehem. There, Jesus was revealed to the world as God's Son who was sent to show us how to live.

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Celebrating Reconciliation

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

PAGE 129

Ignatius of Loyola founded an order of priests and brothers known as the Society of Jesus, whose members are called Jesuits.

PAGE 129

Ignatius of Loyola was born to a noble family in Spain. As he was recovering from a battle wound he received when he was a soldier, he was moved to become a disciple of Jesus.

PAGE 132

When we sin, we choose to use our free will to turn away from God. Even when we sin, however, God does not stop loving us.

PAGE 132

The Holy Spirit moves us to repentance, and we receive the grace to be sorry for our sins. Our sins are forgiven, and we turn our hearts back to God.

PAGE 133

Before we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we make an examination of conscience. This helps us reflect on the choices we have made and how we have hurt our relationship with God and one another.

PAGE 133

When we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we confess our sins, and the priest gives us a penance to perform. To tell God that we are sorry for what we have done, we pray the Act of Contrition or our own prayer of sorrow.

PAGE 133

Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we receive God's healing forgiveness.

PAGE 134

Jesus uses the parable of the lost sheep to teach us how he loves and cares for us.

PAGE 136

When we sin, Jesus calls us to return to God the Father because he wants us to experience the fullness of God's grace.

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The Sacrament of the Eucharist

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

PAGE 140

We often celebrate holidays and other important events by sharing a meal with our families. Before we eat, we pray a prayer of blessing over the meal.

PAGE 141

In the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the bread and wine are consecrated and become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Just as food nourishes us physically, Jesus nourishes us spiritually through the Eucharist.

PAGE 141

On Sunday, the Lord's Day, the Holy Spirit helps us gather as a community to remember Christ's sacrificial Death and Resurrection by participating fully in the Eucharist. In honor of the Lord's Day, we avoid doing unnecessary work or causing others to do work.

PAGE 141

At Mass, Christ works through the priest who leads our worship as we thank and praise God for the blessings we receive.

PAGE 142

The story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 is an example of Jesus' compassion.

PAGE 144

One of the precepts of the Church is that we attend Mass on Sundays and the holy days of obligation. In the United States, there are six holy days of obligation.

PAGE 144

Holy days of obligation celebrate important events in the lives of Jesus, Mary, and the saints.

PAGE 144

On January 1, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. On November 1, we celebrate All Saints Day.

PAGE 144

On August 15, we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On December 8, we celebrate the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Anointing of the Sick

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

PAGE 149

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick helps bring Jesus' strength, peace, courage, and healing to people who are elderly or suffering because of illness. The sacrament also brings forgiveness of sins.

PAGE 149

Holy Communion received by a person who is dying is called *viaticum*. It prepares a person to enter into eternal life.

PAGE 149

The oil of the sick, used during the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, has been blessed by the bishop.

PAGE 150

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick reassures people that they are loved and cared for.

PAGE 150

In his New Testament letter, James encouraged members of the Church to pray for those who were ill and to anoint them in the name of the Lord.

PAGE 150

Through the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church continues Jesus' healing mission. Jesus' early followers also continued this work by offering healing and comfort to people who were sick.

PAGE 152

We can show we care for people who are sick by praying a prayer of intercession for them.

PAGE 152

Pierre Toussaint, who has received the title *Venerable*, was from Haiti. Despite the risk to his own health, he nursed people who were sick during an epidemic of yellow fever.

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Sacraments of Service

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

PAGE 157

The Sacrament of Matrimony and the Sacrament of Holy Orders call Catholics to holiness. Both sacraments prepare people to serve the community.

PAGE 157

In the Sacrament of Matrimony, a man and a woman receive the grace to love each other as Christ loves the Church.

PAGE 157

In the Sacrament of Matrimony, a man and a woman make a solemn agreement to be partners for life, to help each other grow closer to God, and to teach their children how to lead Christian lives.

PAGE 157

In the Sacrament of Holy Orders, men are ordained as bishops, priests, and deacons.

PAGE 157

Bishops and priests preach the Gospels, celebrate the Eucharist, and serve as leaders in their dioceses or parishes. Deacons assist priests and bishops in ministry.

PAGE 158

Jesus told his disciples how important it is to remain close to him when he said, "I am the vine; you are the branches."

PAGE 158

As members of the Church, we are all called to love one another.

PAGE 158

To help the sisters in her convent express their faith, Hildegard of Bingen composed songs about God's beauty in creation and about Mary and the saints.

PAGE 160

God calls all of us to serve the Church by being priestly people and sharing our gifts with others. People respond to this call by remaining single, by joining a religious community, or by celebrating the Sacraments at the Service of Communion.

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Celebrating Lent and Holy Week

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

PAGE 163

During the season of Lent, we pray, read Scripture, give alms, and fast to prepare to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection at Easter.

PAGE 163

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, when we are reminded of our need for forgiveness, and ends with the celebration of the Triduum during Holy Week.

PAGE 163

During Holy Week, we celebrate Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

PAGE 164

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

PAGE 165

On Palm Sunday, we hear Scripture readings about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

PAGE 165

On Holy Thursday, we hear about Jesus washing the feet of the Apostles at the Lord's Supper. This act is an example of the love and service he asked the disciples to share with others.

PAGE 165

On Good Friday, we hear the story of Jesus' Passion and venerate the cross.

PAGE 165

The liturgical color for Lent is violet.

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The Ten Commandments

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

PAGE 171

Francis Xavier studied at the University of Paris and became a teacher. He met and befriended Ignatius of Loyola. He joined Ignatius's new religious community and became a missionary.

PAGE 174

The Book of Exodus describes the events of the Hebrews' departure from Egypt, where they were treated cruelly as slaves.

PAGE 174

Moses was filled with wonder when he saw fire flaming out of a bush. After he approached the bush, he heard God's voice coming from it. God told Moses that he had chosen him to lead the Hebrews out of Egypt.

PAGE 174

At first, Pharaoh refused to free the Hebrews. God then sent many plagues on the Egyptians, each one greater than the previous one. Pharaoh finally agreed to release the Hebrews.

PAGE 175

Pharaoh sent his soldiers to recapture the released slaves. God directed Moses to part the waters of the Red Sea. After the Hebrews safely crossed the sea, the waters flowed over the Egyptian soldiers, who had tried to follow the Hebrews.

PAGES 175 AND 176

God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. The Hebrews entered into a *covenant*, or solemn agreement, with God. They agreed to live by the Ten Commandments, which are instructions for how to live in relationship with God and with one another.

PAGE 178

Living as God wants us to live requires us to carefully examine our decisions because the choices we make affect our relationship with God and one another.

PAGE 179

We remain faithful to God by making good moral choices.

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Loving God Above All

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

PAGES 181 AND 183

The first three commandments help us grow in our relationship with God.

PAGE 184

We keep holy the Lord's Day by resting our minds and bodies.

PAGE 182

Jesus teaches us that we should love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength.

PAGE 185

The Divine Praises honor the name of God, the members of the Holy Family, and all the angels and saints.

PAGES 183–184

The First Commandment teaches us to worship only God. Making people or things more important than God is a form of idolatry.

PAGE 184

The Second Commandment calls us to respect God's name.

PAGE 184

The Third Commandment calls us to keep holy the Lord's Day. We gather as a community of faith to celebrate the Eucharist, which gives us the strength to serve others.

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Loving Our Family

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

PAGE 190

Thomas More was a lawyer who became the Lord Chancellor of England. He was forced to choose between his loyalty to the Church and his loyalty to the government. Because of his strong faith, he chose the Church and was later beheaded. He is the patron saint of lawyers.

PAGE 191

The Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Commandments help us live in relationship with others.

PAGE 191

The Fourth Commandment calls families to support one another. God wants our parents to care for us, teach us right from wrong, provide for our education, and help us follow Jesus. In return, God wants us to respect our parents. Obedience is one form of respect.

PAGE 191

The Fifth Commandment teaches us that killing is wrong. Acting on our anger can lead to violence, which is a sin against the Fifth Commandment.

PAGE 191

The Sixth Commandment calls us to respect our bodies and the bodies of others. A husband and a wife are called to be faithful to each other and to respect their marriage promises.

PAGE 192

Jesus calls us to love and forgive our enemies.

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Jesus Calls Us to Love Others

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

PAGE 197

When Jesus calls us to love others, he is inviting us to be doers of God's Word.

PAGE 198

The Seventh through Tenth Commandments help us be good members of society.

PAGE 198

Neighbors are not just people who live in our neighborhood. They are all those who are affected by our actions. We make decisions that demonstrate to our neighbors that we are Jesus' followers.

PAGES 198–199

To covet is to want for ourselves what others have. The Ninth and Tenth Commandments warn us not to covet because it goes against God's plan for married couples and may harm our relationships with others.

PAGE 199

The Seventh Commandment teaches us that stealing is wrong. It also requires that we repair the damage we have done by returning stolen goods and that we honor the promises we make.

PAGE 199

The Eighth Commandment calls us to be truthful in what we say, what we do, and how we live.

PAGE 199

Temperance is a virtue that helps us when we feel envious. This virtue helps us manage our desire for things that give us pleasure.

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After 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, Moses and the Hebrews arrived near the land God had promised to them. Before they entered this new land, Moses reminded the Hebrews that the covenant was written on their hearts—God would be their God, and they would be God's people.

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Celebrating Easter

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

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During the Easter season, we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension. We feel joy and sing *Alleluia!*

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The Easter season begins with the celebration of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday and ends 50 days later on Pentecost.

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After Jesus died and was buried, the disciples hid together in a locked room. They feared that the people who had killed Jesus would come looking for them.

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Jesus appeared to the disciples and greeted them by saying, "Peace be with you." Just like the early disciples, we have received Jesus' gift of peace.

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Jesus is called the Lamb, which symbolizes the great sacrifice he made for us by dying on the Cross.

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During the Easter season, we hear Scripture readings about Jesus' Resurrection. We also hear about Jesus' Ascension into heaven. On Pentecost, we hear about the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus' disciples.

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During Easter, we see a white cloth on the altar. The priest wears white or gold vestments. White symbolizes the joy of the Resurrection. On Pentecost, a red altar cloth reminds us of the Holy Spirit.

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The paschal candle, a tall, white candle that reminds of us of Christ's light among us, remains lit in the sanctuary during each Mass throughout Pentecost.

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Through the Resurrection, God revealed that the power of his love is stronger than the power of sin.

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