

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.

For more games, activities, and resources related to *Finding God*, please visit www.findinggod.com.

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.

For more games, activities, and resources related to *Finding God*, please visit www.findinggod.com.

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.

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.

For more games, activities, and resources related to *Finding God*, please visit www.findinggod.com.

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.

For more games, activities, and resources related to *Finding God*, please visit www.findinggod.com.