

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## Home Guide

4

**Program Contributing Authors:**

Sue Ballotti  
Gabbi Browne  
Katy Carl  
Joanna Dailey  
Steven Ellair  
Susan Traeger Gleason  
Cindy Kozal  
Niki MacDougall  
Jeanette Fast Redmond  
Sandy Rigsby  
Susanna Seibert  
Laura Stephens

The content in this program was developed and reviewed by the content engagement team at Saint Mary's Press. Content design and manufacturing were coordinated by the passionate team of creatives at Saint Mary's Press.

Copyright © 2019 by Saint Mary's Press, Christian Brothers Publications, 702 Terrace Heights, Winona, MN 55987-1320, [www.smp.org](http://www.smp.org). All rights reserved. Permission is granted to reproduce only the materials intended for distribution to the children. No other part of this guide may be reproduced by any means without the written permission of the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America

R4515HG

# Contents

**Understanding the Home Guide** . . . . . 5

## Unit 1: Our Covenant with God

**Chapter 1 God Makes a Promise** (Genesis 17:1, 3–8) . . . . . 7

**Chapter 2 We Celebrate God’s Care for Us** (Exodus 20:2–3, 6–8, 12–17) . . . . . 9

**Chapter 3 God’s People Promise to Live the Covenant** (Exodus 24:4–7, 12) . . . . . 11

**Chapter 4 We Promise to Care for the Earth** (Genesis 1:26–31) . . . . . 13

**Chapter 5 We Are Part of a New Covenant** (Mark 14:22–24) . . . . . 15

## Unit 2: Jesus Is the New Covenant

**Chapter 6 The Passover Lamb** (Exodus 12:21–23) . . . . . 18

**Chapter 7 Jesus Gives His Life for Us** (Matthew 27:50–54) . . . . . 21

**Chapter 8 The Great Commandment** (Mark 12:28–31) . . . . . 23

**Chapter 9 Our Covenant Includes Others** (Ephesians 4:1–6) . . . . . 25

**Chapter 10 Jesus Is Our King** (Isaiah 9:6–7) . . . . . 27

## Unit 3: Others Help Us Keep the Covenant

**Chapter 11 Good Leaders Help Us Keep the Covenant** (1 Samuel 16:10–13) . . . . . 29

**Chapter 12 The Church Helps Us Keep the Covenant** (1 Corinthians 12:14–18, 27) . . . . . 31

**Chapter 13 A Covenant of Love** (Deuteronomy 6:4–9) . . . . . 33

**Chapter 14 The Peaceful Kingdom** (Isaiah 11:6–9) . . . . . 35

**Chapter 15 We Renew Our Baptismal Promises** (John 3:4–6) . . . . . 37



## Unit 4: We Live the Covenant

<b>Chapter 16</b>	<b>The Way to Happiness</b> (Matthew 5:6–9) . . . . .	40
<b>Chapter 17</b>	<b>We Celebrate Our Covenant with God</b> (2 Samuel 6:12–15) . . . . .	42
<b>Chapter 18</b>	<b>Living the Covenant</b> (1 John 3:11, 16–18) . . . . .	45
<b>Chapter 19</b>	<b>We Care for Those Who Are Poor</b> (Amos 8:4–7) . . . . .	47
<b>Chapter 20</b>	<b>God’s Covenant Love</b> (Romans 8:35, 37–39) . . . . .	49

## Liturgical Season Lessons

<b>Our Lady of the Rosary</b>	<b>Holy Mary, Mother of God</b> (Luke 2:46–52) . . . . .	51
<b>All Saints’ Day</b>	<b>Holy Men and Women, Pray for Us</b> (John 11:25, 38–41, 43–44) . .	54
<b>Advent</b>	<b>A King of Peace</b> (Isaiah 11:6–9) . . . . .	56
<b>Christmas/ Epiphany</b>	<b>The Gifts We Bring</b> (Matthew 2:9–11) . . . . .	58
<b>Lent</b>	<b>A Time of Preparation</b> (Exodus 14:21–25) . . . . .	60
<b>Easter</b>	<b>Meeting the Risen Jesus</b> (Luke 24:28–32) . . . . .	62
<b>Pentecost</b>	<b>Strengthened by the Spirit</b> (Genesis 1:1–5) . . . . .	65
<b>Ordinary Time</b>	<b>Jesus’ Life and Teachings</b> (Matthew 25:34, 37–40) . . . . .	68
<b>Acknowledgments</b> . . . . .		71



# Understanding the Home Guide

**The Lesson Goals** section identifies the key desired outcomes of the chapter.

The **Get Ready!** part of the lesson begins with an opening prayer and an activity that will spark interest in the lesson focus.

The **Dive In!** part of the lesson involves direct use of *The Catholic Children's Bible* and learning through a key Bible story.

## Discover! Finding Faith in Life

### God Makes a Promise

Scripture Focus: Genesis 17:1, 3-8

**The Parent Preview** section offers steps parents can use to prepare for the lesson.

The **Discover!** part of the lesson involves a short reading to support understanding.

The **Go!** part of the lesson invites the child to recall what they learned and closes the lesson with a fun activity and a prayer.

#### Lesson Goals

- to define the word covenant as a serious agreement between God and people
- to explain that God made a *covenant* with Abraham
- to state that because of Abraham's faith, he became the father of the Jewish People

#### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

- Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- Ask** your child to think of a promise he or she can make to God. Pray a short prayer together, thanking God for his love, offering the promise, and asking for help in keeping it.
- Tell** your child that today's lesson explores a solemn promise made between God and Abraham in the Old Testament.

#### Dive In! (20 minutes)

- Read** the Featured Story on page 44 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 17:1, 3-8).
- Ask** your child these questions:
  - What was Abraham's name before God spoke to him? (*Abram*)
  - What is God's promise to Abraham called? (*a covenant*)
  - What did God promise Abraham? (*God promised to make Abraham the "ancestor of many nations" [verse 5] and that some of his descendants would be kings.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 45 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.  
Answers: 1. obey, right; 2. covenant; 3. Abraham; 4. ancestor; 5. descendants, kings

#### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 44 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 17:1, 3-8).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

#### Discover! (20 minutes)

- Read** with your child the article "The of Faith" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.
- Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.  
Answers: 1. agreement, 2. faith, 3. Canaan, 4. Jesus, 5. Church

#### Go! (10 minutes)

- Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.
- Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.
- Invite** your child to place sticker 1 in the appropriate space on the folder.
- Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.



The reading on this page relays important information related to the lesson.



## The Promise of Faith

Family members make promises to each other all the time. You might promise your parents that you'll take out the trash. They might promise to buy your favorite food for your school lunches.

In today's reading, you learned about a **covenant** God made with Abraham. How is a covenant different from a promise? In a covenant, both sides—two people, or God and us—agree to do something. Unlike the everyday promises you make in your family, a covenant is a **solemn** agreement that binds both sides to keep their promises.

Because of this covenant with God, Abraham became the father of the Jewish People—and because of this he is our father in **faith**. Even his new name was chosen because of this covenant, because Abraham means "father of many nations." We are all sons and

daughters of Abraham. Jesus himself was descended from Abraham. We are all connected because we are part of God's family, the Church.

What is faith? Faith means we follow God at all times, even when we don't understand his ways. Abraham is our father in faith because he also obeyed and believed God when God asked him to—**even when it wasn't easy**. When God made this covenant, Abraham and his wife, Sarah, did not have children, and they were old. It was not possible for Abraham to become the father of many nations.

God always keeps his promises. If you can have faith he knows what you need. What promises can you make to God?

The **Review** section offers several questions that reinforce key concepts from the lesson. Answers are provided.

The **Key Words** section highlights any words in the reading that may need additional definition.

### Key Words

**covenant** A solemn agreement in which both sides make promises to each other.

**faith** Following God at all times, even when we don't understand his ways.

**solemn** Serious.

### Review

1. How is a covenant different from just a promise?
2. What is it called when we follow God when we don't always understand why?
3. What are we part of that connects us together?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the We Know and Live Our Faith resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Covenant with Noah" + activity, pages 18–19
- "The Covenant with Abraham," page 20

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.



© 2019 Saint Mary's Press



The **We Know and Live Our Faith** resource provides additional content that can be used to support the lesson.

1. In a covenant, both sides make promises to each other. It is a serious agreement. 2. Faith. 3. God's family, the Church.

# God Makes a Promise

Scripture Focus: Genesis 17:1, 3–8

## Lesson Goals

- to define the word *covenant* as a serious agreement between God and people
- to explain that God made a covenant with Abraham
- to state that because of Abraham's faith, he became the father of the Jewish People

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 44 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 17:1, 3–8).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child to think of a promise he or she can make to God. Pray a short prayer together, thanking God for his love, offering the promise, and asking for help in keeping it.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores a solemn promise made between God and Abraham in the Old Testament.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 44 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 17:1, 3–8).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What was Abraham's name before God spoke to him? (*Abram*)
- What is God's promise to Abraham called? (*a covenant*)
- What did God promise Abraham? (*God promised to make Abraham the "ancestor of many nations" [verse 5] and that some of his descendants would be kings.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 45 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.

*Answers: 1. obey, right; 2. covenant; 3. Abraham; 4. ancestor; 5. descendants, kings*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "The Promise of Faith" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.

*Answers: 1. agreement, 2. faith, 3. Canaan, 4. Jesus, 5. Church*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 1 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
1

# The Promise of Faith

Family members make promises to each other all the time. You might promise your parents that you'll take out the trash. They might promise to buy your favorite food for your school lunches.

In today's reading, you learned about a **covenant** God made with Abraham. How is a covenant different from a promise? In a covenant, both sides—two people, or God and us—agree to do something. Unlike the everyday promises you make in your family, a covenant is a **solemn** agreement that requires both sides to keep their promises.

Because of this covenant with God, Abram became the father of the Jewish People—and because of this he is our father in **faith**. Even his new name reflected this covenant, because Abraham means "father of many nations." We are all sons and

daughters of Abraham. Jesus himself was descended from Abraham. We are all connected because we are part of God's family, the Church.

What is faith? Faith means we follow God at all times, even when we don't understand his ways. Abraham is our father in faith because he also obeyed and believed God when God asked him to—even when it wasn't easy. When God made this covenant, Abraham and his wife, Sarah, did not have children, and they were very old. Yet God kept his promise and gave them a son, Isaac, making it possible for Abraham to become the ancestor of many nations.

God always keeps his promises to us, and we can have faith he knows what is best for us. What promises can you make to God?

## Key Words

**covenant** A solemn agreement in which both sides make promises to each other.

**faith** Following God at all times, even when we don't understand his ways.

**solemn** Serious.

## Review

1. How is a covenant different from just a promise?
2. What is it called when we follow God when we don't always understand why?
3. What are we part of that connects us together?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Covenant with Noah" + activity, pages 18–19
- "The Covenant with Abraham," page 20

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

1. In a covenant, both sides make promises to each other. It is a serious agreement. 2. Faith. 3. God's family, the Church.



## Chapter 2

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Celebrate God's Care for Us

Scripture Focus: Exodus 20:2–3, 6–8, 12–17

## Lesson Goals

- to explain that God made a covenant with Moses and the Israelites
- to identify that the Ten Commandments are rules from God to help his people be safe and happy
- to state that when we obey the Ten Commandments, we are celebrating God's care for us

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 132 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Exodus 20:2–3, 6–8, 12–17).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.

**Brainstorm** with your child a list of your family rules. Discuss with your child the purposes of these rules and the consequences of not following them.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores the covenant God made with the Israelites, including the special rules he asked them to follow as part of that covenant.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 132 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Exodus 20:2–3, 6–8, 12–17).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Who gave these rules to Moses? (*God*)
- What are some of the rules that God gave to his people, the Israelites? (*Answers may include any of the commandments, simply restated.*)
- Why do you think God gave them these rules? (*Answers may vary.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 133 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.  
*Answers: 3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 8*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Our 'Family Rules' as God's People" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 2 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 2 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
2

# Our “Family Rules” as God’s People

By now you probably know that your family’s rules are meant to keep everyone safe and healthy. You might have to follow rules about wearing a bike helmet, brushing your teeth before bedtime, or going to bed early on school nights.

In a covenant, both sides promise to do something—and must keep those promises. As part of his covenant with Moses and the Israelites, God gave them the **Ten Commandments** to follow. These were really just family rules to help his Chosen People to follow him and lead a good life. In return, God promised to care for the Israelites and keep them safe and happy.

## Key Word

**Ten Commandments** God’s rules to keep us happy and healthy, help us follow him, and help us avoid sin.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “The Covenant with Moses,” page 21
- “The Old Law,” page 48
- “The Ten Commandments,” page 49
- “The Meaning of the Ten Commandments,” page 51
- “The First Commandment,” “The Second Commandment,” and “The Third Commandment,” pages 52–55

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child’s understanding.

Today, in our everyday lives, it is still important to follow the Ten Commandments. They tell us clearly how to live a good life and avoid sin, and they prepare us to live with God forever in Heaven. When we obey God’s commandments, we honor and worship him and celebrate his care for us.

Reread the first three commandments in today’s reading (Exodus 20:3, 7–8). Notice that the first three commandments require that we love God above all things. Does that sound easy? Think about all the distractions that compete with God for your attention. Then write down the first three commandments on a poster, decorate it, and place it in your room. This can help you keep your focus on God!

## Review

1. Are the rules that God gave to Moses still important today? Why or why not?
2. What do we celebrate when we obey the Ten Commandments?
3. What are some ways that we can show God that he is number one in our lives, following the first three commandments?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

*1. Yes, they remain important because they help us live a good life and avoid sin; they prepare us to live with God forever in Heaven. 2. We celebrate God’s care for us. 3. Answers will vary.*



## Chapter 3

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# God's People Promise to Live the Covenant

Scripture Focus: Exodus 24:4–7, 12

## Lesson Goals

- to review that God promised to be the God of the people of Israel
- to state that the people of Israel promised to obey the Ten Commandments
- to explain that we are part of this covenant with God

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 140 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Exodus 24:4–7, 12).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.

**Review** with your child what he or she has learned about covenants in the last few lessons. Recall, as needed, the definition of the word *covenant* (key word, chapter 1).

**Tell** your child that today's lesson continues to explore the covenant God made with the Israelites when he gave them the Ten Commandments.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 140 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Exodus 24:4–7, 12).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did Moses build after he wrote down God's commands? (*Moses built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and he set up twelve stones.*)
- What was written in the book of the covenant? (*the Lord's commands*)
- What did the people of Israel promise to do? (*to obey the Lord and do everything that he commanded*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 141 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.  
*Answers: 1. altar, twelve; 2. sacrifices; 3. covenant; 4. obey, everything; 5. tablets*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "We Are Family" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 3 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 3 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 3 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
3

# We Are Family

Think about the rules you must obey in your home, school, and community. Do you think of obeying rules as making you *more free*, or *less free*?

Our society usually thinks of rules as limiting our freedom—making us less free to follow our own wishes. But following God’s rules makes us free to grow in **holiness** and happiness. When we don’t follow his commands, we find it hard to become holy. We may find ourselves in difficult and unhappy situations.

In the covenant he made through Moses, God promised to be the God of the people of Israel. He gave them the Ten Commandments as “family rules” to help them see him as their Father—and see themselves as his children. In return, the people of

Israel promised to obey the Ten Commandments. Today, we are part of this covenant with God. We still follow the Ten Commandments because we too are his children.

Look at the Ten Commandments on page 1988 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible*. Notice that the first three commandments tell us how to love God. What do you think the last seven commandments teach us? If you look at what they all have in common, you’ll see that they teach us how to love our neighbor—how to love one another as God wants us to love.

The God of the Israelites is our God too, and we are his children. What one thing can you do this week to show your commitment to this covenant with God?

## Key Word

**holiness** Happiness that comes from life in union with God and with one another.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “The Fourth Commandment” and “The Fifth Commandment,” pages 55–56
- “The Seventh Commandment” and “The Eighth Commandment,” pages 58–60

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child’s understanding.

## Review

1. What did God promise in his covenant with the Israelites?
2. What did the people of Israel promise as part of this covenant?
3. Why do we still follow the Ten Commandments today?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. God promised to be the God of the people of Israel.  
2. They promised to obey the Ten Commandments.  
3. We are part of this covenant with God. We still follow the Ten Commandments because we too are God’s children.



© 2019 Saint Mary’s Press



## Chapter 4

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Promise to Care for the Earth

Scripture Focus: Genesis 1:26–31

## Lesson Goals

- to review that God made the Earth, and us, out of love
- to identify that God placed human beings in charge of caring for the Earth
- to state that God asks us to care for the Earth, and we agree to do our part

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 22 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:26–31).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to brainstorm a list of regular chores she or he is expected to do. Discuss with your child the importance of everyone helping with chores.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn that just as we have responsibilities at home and at school, we must all do our part to care for God's creation.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 22 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:26–31).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did God put human beings in charge of? (*fish, birds, and all wild animals*)
- What did God provide for human beings to eat? (*all kinds of grains and fruit*)
- What was God's reaction to everything he created? (*God was very pleased.*)
- On what day of Creation did God create human beings? (*the sixth day*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 23 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.  
*Answers: 1. T, 2. T, 3. F, 4. F, 5. F, 6. T, 7. T*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Care for God's Creation" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 4 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 4 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 4 activity booklet.





## Chapter 4

# Care for God's Creation

Saint Francis of Assisi (c. 1181–1226) loved all of God's creation. He loved the plants and animals, the seas and mountains, the Earth and sky, the sun and moon. Because of his love for creation, he saw a purpose for everything God created. He even used to move worms off the road, so they would not be crushed by people and carts. Why? He knew that God created worms to keep the soil healthy, so that plants might grow.

Like Saint Francis, we must recognize that God made us and all creation out of love, and he gave us **dominion** over everything on Earth. The word *dominion* might sound like *dominate*—but it means so much more than just having power over something. Having dominion means being responsible for taking care of something.

God loved us so much that he provided for us by giving us everything on Earth. In return, he made us responsible for all his creation. We must not abuse his creation or use it in a way that causes harm. Instead, we are called to be stewards of creation.

**Stewardship** means protecting and caring for God's creation through responsible actions. It means treating everyone and everything with respect. When we take our responsibility as stewards seriously, we participate in God's plan for creation.

What are some ways your family and your parish care for God's creation on a regular basis? Talk with your family about one thing you can start doing to care for our Earth and everything and everyone on it.

### Key Words

**dominion** Having rule over; the responsibility to care for something.

**stewardship** Protecting and caring for everyone and everything in God's creation through responsible actions.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "We Are in Charge," page 71

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

### Review

1. Why did God make us and all creation?
2. When we say that God put human beings in charge, does that mean we get to do whatever we want?
3. What do we call caring for God's creation with respect and responsibility?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. God made everything and everyone out of love.  
2. No, we must be responsible in our actions and take care of God's creation.  
3. Stewardship.



## Chapter 5

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## We Are Part of a New Covenant

Scripture Focus: Mark 14:22–24

### Lesson Goals

- to identify that God promised to send us a savior, Jesus
- to explain that Jesus gave us his Body and Blood and made a New Covenant with us
- to state that every Mass is a celebration of the New Covenant

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1560 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 14:22–24).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 5 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 5 activity booklet.

**Recall** the patriarchs Abraham and Moses. Ask your child to recall everything previously learned about each of these two leaders and the covenants given through them.

**Explain** that through these covenants, God was preparing his people for the savior, Jesus, to come.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn about the Last Supper and the New Covenant that Jesus came to establish with everyone.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1560 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 14:22–24).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did Jesus say when he offered the piece of bread to his disciples? (See verse 22.)
- What did Jesus say when he handed the cup to his followers? (See verse 24.)
- What did Jesus say would seal God's covenant? (See verse 24.)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1561 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 2 of the chapter 5 activity booklet. *Answers: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Follow the Leader" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 5 activity booklet. *Answers will vary.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 5 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 5 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 5 activity booklet.



## Chapter 5

# Follow the Leader

Think of the game “Follow the Leader.” A leader performs silly actions or fast movements that the group must imitate. What makes a good leader for that game? What makes it easy or difficult to follow the leader?

You have been learning about the **Old Covenant**. The Old Covenant refers to God’s covenants with Abraham and Moses in the Old Testament. His covenant with Abraham united his people in faith. His covenant through Moses showed us the right way to live by giving us the Ten Commandments.

The Old Covenant was not perfect. God’s people found it difficult to follow their leaders and keep their promises to God. Sometimes their leaders were

flawed. Other times, the people did not listen to or remember what God had told them.

As part of the Old Covenant, God promised to send a savior to the people of Israel. That savior was Jesus! As our new leader, Jesus fulfilled all the promises God made through the Old Covenant. He gave us the **New Covenant**, a perfect covenant. As part of this New Covenant, Jesus **instituted** (or set up) the Eucharist.

We celebrate the New Covenant every Sunday at Mass. Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine when they become his Body and Blood. When we receive him in the Eucharist, we are strengthened to follow him, serve him, and say yes to him every day. Thanks be to God!

### Key Words

**instituted** Set up something, and gave instructions to others to hand it on.

**New Covenant** The perfect covenant established through Jesus Christ, our savior.

**Old Covenant** God’s covenants with his Chosen People, found in the Old Testament.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “The Ark of the Covenant” (second paragraph), page 17

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child’s understanding.

### Review

1. As part of the Old Covenant, whom did God promise to send the people of Israel?
2. What did Jesus give to us to establish the New Covenant?
3. How do we participate in this New Covenant?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

*1. He promised to send them a savior. Jesus was that savior. 2. He instituted the Eucharist, his Body and Blood. 3. We say yes to Jesus by receiving him in the Eucharist and by following him in our daily lives.*





# The Passover Lamb

Scripture Focus: Exodus 12:21–23

## Lesson Goals

- to explain that the Israelites were spared from death because their doorways were marked with the blood of a lamb
- to identify Jesus as “the Lamb of God” who saved us from sin and death
- to state that we receive the Lamb of God at Mass in the Body and Blood of Christ

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 116 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible* (Exodus 12:21–23).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to think of someone among family, teachers, and friends who protects your child. Ask your child why this person is trustworthy.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn that God showed his love and concern for us by sending Jesus to save and protect us.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 116 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible* (Exodus 12:21–23).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did Moses ask each family to choose and kill? (*a lamb or young goat*)
- What did he ask the families to celebrate? (*Passover*)
- What were the families to do with the blood of the lambs? Why? (*They were to use the blood to mark the beams and doorposts of their houses. This would be a sign telling the Angel of Death to pass by these houses without killing anyone.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 117 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.  
*Answers: Israel, lamb, families, Passover, doorposts, door, Egypt, beams, Angel of Death*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article “Jesus, Lamb of God” on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child’s understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the puzzle on page 3 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.  
*Answers: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today’s lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 6 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 6 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 6 activity booklet.





## Chapter 6

# Jesus, Lamb of God

“Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us” (*Roman Missal*). Do these words sound familiar? You hear them every time you go to Mass! But why do we sing or say the “Lamb of God” **litany** right before Communion?

At Mass, when we receive Jesus’ Body and Blood in the Eucharist, we receive the Lamb of God. We call Jesus the Lamb of God because he sacrificed himself to save us from sin and death.

At the Last Supper, Jesus established the New Covenant. But the Last Supper was also a Passover meal, celebrated by the Jewish People to

commemorate the first Passover that you learned about in today’s reading. When Jesus offered his disciples bread and wine in the Last Supper, he told them these were his Body and Blood. He was telling his disciples that he was the new sacrificial lamb.

Like the lambs sacrificed at the first Passover, Jesus sacrificed himself to save us. The next time you receive Communion, recall that Jesus truly is the Lamb of God. Say an extra prayer of thanks to the Lamb of God, who takes away our sins and the sins of the world.

### Key Word

**litany** A prayer with a repeated response in which we call on the Father, Jesus, or the saints, asking for their help or prayers.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “Jesus, the New Covenant” + activity, pages 24–26

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

### Review

1. What meal did Jesus celebrate with his disciples at the Last Supper?
2. Under the New Covenant, Jesus sacrificed himself for us. What is another name for Jesus that reminds us of this sacrifice?
3. What do we receive at Mass in Communion?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

*1. Jesus and his followers celebrated the Jewish Passover meal. 2. The Lamb of God. 3. The Body and Blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God.*



# Answer Key



Chapter  
**7**

**Discover!**  
Finding Faith in Life

# Jesus Gives His Life for Us

Scripture Focus: Matthew 27:50–54

## Lesson Goals

- to recognize that Jesus, the Son of God, died on the cross for us
- to state that through his death and Resurrection, Jesus brought us back to God
- to identify the Mass as a celebration of Jesus' death and Resurrection

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1516 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 27:50–54).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to name someone who loves him or her. Ask your child to pray for that person each day this week.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores how much Jesus loves us. Explain that Jesus gave us the ultimate example of love when he died for us.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1516 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 27:50–54).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What happened to the curtain hanging in the Temple when Jesus died? (*It was torn in two.*)
- What else happened after the curtain was torn in two? (*The Earth shook, rocks split, graves opened, and dead people came back to life and went into the city.*)
- What did the soldiers say when they saw the earthquake and other strange events? (*that Jesus really was the Son of God*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1517 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.  
*Answers: 1. c, 2. g, 3. h, 4. a, 5. b, 6. d, 7. e, 8. f*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Jesus Died for Us" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 7 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 7 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 7 activity booklet.



## Chapter 7

# Jesus Died for Us

If you have experienced the death of a family member or a pet, you probably have felt like death is an ending. You no longer physically get to see, snuggle, or talk with your loved one who has died. You miss your loved one and grieve this loss in your day-to-day life.

In today's reading, we learn how Jesus died for us on the cross. By his death, he saved us from sin and brought us back to God. But we know his death was not the end! He rose on the third day and conquered death. We celebrate the Resurrection in a special way every Easter.

**Paschal** is another word for Passover. In the previous lesson, you learned that lambs were

sacrificed at the first Passover to save the Jewish People from the Angel of Death. Today, Jews continue to celebrate the Old Covenant with God with a Passover meal.

As the Lamb of God, sacrificed to save us, Jesus made a New Covenant between us and God. He took away the sins of the world! In the meal of the Eucharist, the bread and wine become Jesus' Body and Blood. At every Mass, we celebrate our **redemption**, or salvation, from sin in the **Paschal Mystery**—Jesus's Passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension.

Through the Paschal Mystery, Jesus brought us back to God. Thank you, Jesus!

### Key Words

**paschal** Related to Passover.

**Paschal Mystery** The mystery of Christ's Passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension.

**redemption** Our salvation from sin through Jesus' death on the cross.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Death of Jesus," page 27
- "The Resurrection of Jesus" + activity, pages 28–29

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

### Review

1. God loves us so much that he sent us his Son. What did his Son do for us?
2. What did Jesus' death and Resurrection do for us?
3. When do we celebrate Jesus' death and Resurrection?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. Jesus died on the cross for us. 2. Jesus' death and Resurrection freed us from sin and brought us back to God. 3. At every Mass and in a special way at Easter.



# The Great Commandment

Scripture Focus: Mark 12:28–31

## Lesson Goals

- to summarize the Great Commandment as the commandment to love God and others
- to identify that Jesus taught the Great Commandment as part of the New Covenant
- to explain that if we love God and others, we will be keeping all the other commandments as well

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1556 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 12:28–31).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 8 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 8 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to describe how he or she shows love for God, others, and self. Give suggestions as needed.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn what Jesus taught us about love in something called the Great Commandment.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1556 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 12:28–31).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did Jesus say is the most important commandment? (*to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength*)
- What did Jesus say is the second most important commandment? (*to love our neighbor as we love ourselves*)
- What commandment is more important than these two commandments? (*No other commandment is more important.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1557 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 8 activity booklet. *Answers: Israel, only, Love, heart, soul, mind, strength, second, neighbor, love, important, two*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "The Great Commandment" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 8 activity booklet. *Answers will vary.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 8 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 8 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 8 activity booklet.





## Chapter 8

# The Great Commandment

Have you ever tried to do two things at once? Try it now: Pat your head and rub your stomach. Can you do them both perfectly?

In today's reading, Jesus commands us to do two things at the same time: to love God, and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. These commandments together are called the **Great Commandment**. The Great Commandment is an important teaching of the New Covenant that Jesus made with us.

So is Jesus saying that we can ignore the Ten Commandments? Not at all! Look closely at the Ten Commandments on page 1988 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*. What do the first three

commandments have in common? They tell us ways to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. And what do the remaining seven commandments have in common? They tell us ways to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Each part of the Great Commandment supports the other. We live out our love for God when we love one another as we love ourselves. Loving ourselves means taking care of ourselves as God's children, created in his image. When we love others as we love ourselves, we show others the same kindness we show ourselves by staying healthy, strong, and safe. And when we love God, we naturally love all his creations, including our neighbors.

### Key Word

**Great Commandment** Love God, and love your neighbor as yourself.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Church," pages 30–31
- "The Moral Law," page 47

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

### Review

1. What is the Great Commandment?
2. Can we love God but be mean to our neighbor? Why or why not?
3. Can we ignore the Ten Commandments and just keep the Great Commandment?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. The Great Commandment is "Love God and love your neighbor as yourself". 2. No, we live our love for God by how we act toward our neighbors here on Earth. 3. No, if we love God and others, we will keep all the other commandments as well.



## Our Covenant Includes Others

Scripture Focus: Ephesians 4:1–6

### Lesson Goals

- to identify that keeping the covenant includes treating others with kindness and respect
- to indicate that we care for others because we are all children of God with equal dignity
- to recall that the last seven commandments are about loving others

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1846 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Ephesians 4:1–6).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.

**Take** turns using the letters in your child's first name as the initial letters to name acts of kindness.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson focuses on the need to care for one another, because we are all children of God.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1846 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Ephesians 4:1–6).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- How does this passage describe how we should always act? (*We should be humble, gentle, patient, and tolerant.*)
- What are we called to protect, or preserve? (*unity*)
- How many faiths, baptisms, and gods does this passage say there are? (*See verse 5.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1847 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.  
*Answers: patient, humble, tolerant, gentle, preserve unity*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Made in God's Image" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 9 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 9 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 9 activity booklet.



## Chapter 9

# Made in God's Image

Think about someone with whom you argued recently. Do you normally like that person, or does she or he usually annoy you? Now remember that God made that person in his image. How does that change how you feel about her or him?

Recall that as God's stewards, we must treat his creation with respect. How much more respect must we show to one another, given that God made every human being in his image? He created humans with a special **dignity**, which means that each of us is worthy of respect and kindness.

We are all part of God's creation. Because we are made in God's image, we must take care of others and love everyone as God loves us. When we treat others with kindness and respect, we are keeping the New Covenant that Jesus gave us. Look

again at the last seven commandments on page 1988 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*. All of them tell us how to love one another.

Loving one another does not mean it's okay for others to bully you or treat you badly. You are not required to ignore bad treatment. In such cases, being respectful simply means that you never return unkindness with unkindness. Instead, showing respect might mean walking away, and perhaps asking a trusted adult for help.

We must always be kind and work for peace—even when it is hard, even if we are the only ones doing so! Jesus' Great Commandment called us to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. How can you love your neighbor today?

## Key Word

**dignity** Worthy of respect because we are made in the image of God.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Natural Law," page 71

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

## Review

1. What is dignity, and why do we have it?
2. How does recalling that we are made in God's image help us keep the New Covenant?
3. What are the last seven commandments about?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. Dignity means each of us is worthy of respect and kindness. This is because God made us in his image. 2. When we recall that each of us is made in his image, we take care of others, love others, and treat them with respect and kindness. We keep the New Covenant in this way. 3. The last seven commandments are about loving others.



## Chapter 10

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## Jesus Is Our King

Scripture Focus: Isaiah 9:6–7

### Lesson Goals

- to identify Jesus as the royal son foretold by Isaiah
- to describe the meaning of some of the titles of the special king
- to summarize the meaning of “Jesus the King” as the one who cares for us always

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1102 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible* (Isaiah 9:6–7).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to brainstorm what a crown symbolizes (such as kings or queens, royalty, power, and so on).

**Tell** your child that today’s lesson explores different titles that we give Jesus, including calling Jesus our King, a kind and loving king.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1102 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible* (Isaiah 9:6–7).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What names does Isaiah give to the child to come? (*Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, and Prince of Peace*)
- Whose successor will this child be, and what does this make him? (*The child will rule as King David’s successor. That means he will also be a ruler or king.*)
- On what will he base his power? (*on right and justice*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1103 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.  
*Answers: darkness, light, shadows, shining, joy, happy, rejoice, harvest*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article “Jesus Our King” on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child’s understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today’s lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 10 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 10 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 10 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
10

# Jesus Our King

When you think of a king, do you think of someone wise and kind? Or someone who uses his power to mistreat people?

In today's reading, the prophet Isaiah foretells that a savior, a wonderful king, would come to rule the Israelites. But when the Israelites thought about a savior, they imagined an earthly king who would rule them like King David did. They never imagined someone like Jesus, who lived a humble life as the adopted son of a carpenter.

But we know that Jesus is so much more than any earthly king could be. Jesus gave us the greatest gift when he died for us on the cross and rose again. He freed us from darkness when he **triumphed**, or won, over sin and death itself.

Recognizing Jesus as our King is so important that we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King on the last

Sunday of the Church year, right before Advent. This celebration reminds us that Jesus loves us and cares for us always. He gives us the help we need to join him in Heaven.

When you pray to Jesus tonight, consider using one of the titles Isaiah used to describe how wonderful Jesus is. These titles can help you recall the kind of King Jesus is for us.

- Wonderful Counselor: Jesus gives advice, or counsel, and shows us how to live.
- Mighty God: Jesus conquered death and brought us life.
- Eternal Father: Jesus lives forever.
- Prince of Peace: Jesus shows us how to treat others and live in peace.

## Key Word

**triumphed** Won.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Vocal Prayer and Meditation," page 77

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

## Review

1. What kind of king were the Israelites expecting?
2. What kind of darkness did Jesus free us from?
3. What is the name of the feast day when the Church celebrates Christ's kingship? When is it celebrated?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. An earthly king like King David. 2. The darkness of sin and death. 3. We celebrate Christ's kingship on the Feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the Church year, the Sunday before Advent.



© 2019 Saint Mary's Press



## Chapter 11

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## Good Leaders Help Us Keep the Covenant

Scripture Focus: 1 Samuel 16:10–13

### Lesson Goals

- to explain that Samuel anointed David as leader of the Israelites in the Old Covenant
- to identify the Church and its leaders as the community that helps us keep the New Covenant
- to state that God gives us certain gifts to help one another keep the New Covenant

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 390 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 Samuel 16:10–13).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.

**Explain** that leaders can be good or selfish. Brainstorm good leadership qualities and selfish leadership qualities.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn about leaders whom God has sent us, beginning with David, a shepherd boy whom God called to be king of Israel.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 390 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 Samuel 16:10–13).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Did God choose one of Jesse's oldest sons? (*No, Samuel said God didn't choose any of them.*)
- Where was David when Samuel came? (*out taking care of the sheep*)
- What did God tell Samuel about David? What did Samuel do? (*God told Samuel to anoint David. Samuel anointed David immediately, in front of his family.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 391 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.  
*Answers: seven, Samuel, Lord, sons, sheep, anoint*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Called by Jesus" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

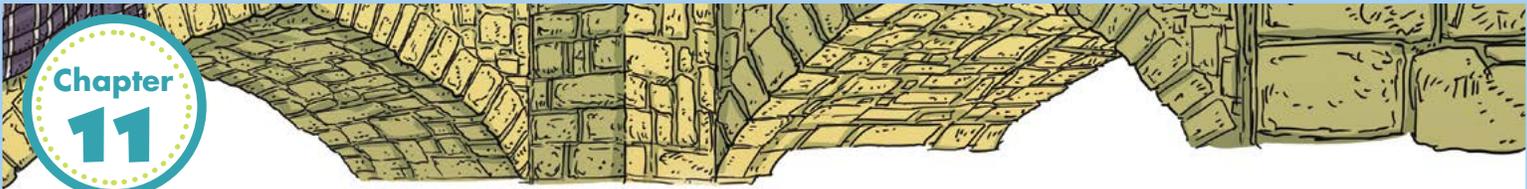
**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 11 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 11 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.





## Chapter 11

# Called by Jesus

Imagine that you have been in the fields all day, herding sheep. You return to meet a man who is visiting your father. The visitor pours oil on you and says you are king of all the Israelites! From that moment onward God is with you.

When Samuel visited David, Israel already had a king: Saul. But Saul had turned against God and no longer helped his people follow God's commands. God needed a new leader to listen to him and to help the Israelites keep the Old Covenant. David didn't look important to anyone else, but God knew his heart. He knew that David would be the leader Israel needed.

God always watches out for us. He gave the Israelites David to be the king who would keep them safe. He sent us Jesus, his only Son, to be our King.

Jesus established the Church and called leaders to help us keep the New Covenant.

Today's Church leaders **descend** from those called by Jesus. The Pope leads the Church throughout the world. Our bishops are responsible for dioceses, and our priests lead parishes. The Pope, bishops, and priests have all been anointed with holy oil, showing that God has chosen them to lead us in the New Covenant.

Our Church leaders must listen to God's call, just as David did. But they cannot do everything on their own. We must do our part by **obeying** our leaders and sharing the gifts God has given us. When we use our gifts, we help one another keep the New Covenant!

### Key Words

**descend** To come down to us from an earlier time.

**obeying** Listening to and respecting leaders and others in authority.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Why Did God Make You?" + activity, pages 9–10

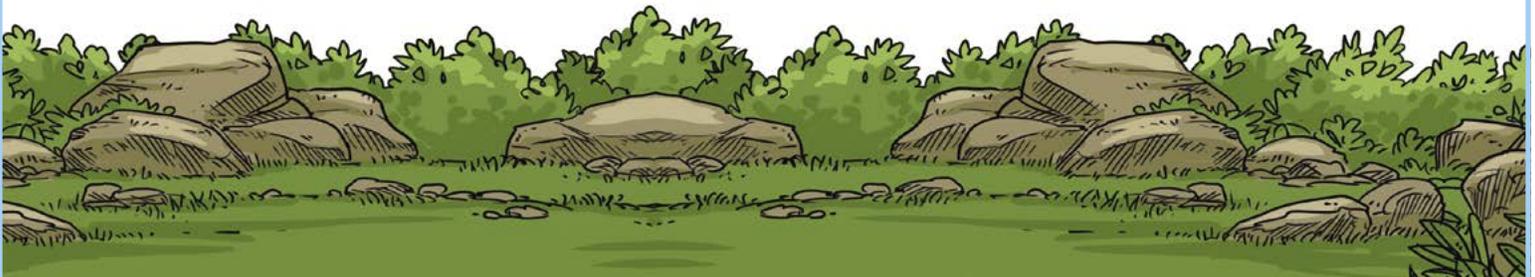
If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

### Review

1. Why did God choose David to be king, when David didn't seem very important?
2. Who helps us keep the New Covenant today?
3. Who are some of the leaders in the Church today?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. God knew that David would listen and would help the Israelites keep the Old Covenant. 2. The Church and its leaders help us keep the New Covenant today. We also help one another, using our gifts. 3. Affirm correct answers, and name your own bishop and priest.



## Chapter 12

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# The Church Helps Us Keep the Covenant

Scripture Focus: 1 Corinthians 12:14–18, 27

## Lesson Goals

- to review that the Sacrament of Baptism brings us into the Body of Christ, the Church
- to state that Baptism is a covenant between God and us
- to identify each one of us as an important and necessary part of the Body of Christ

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.

**Discuss** how one person's actions can help or hurt in completing a task (for example, cleaning the house or yard).

**Tell** your child that together you will learn how we all must work together to build the Church, because each of us is important to God and to one another.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1808 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 Corinthians 12:14–18, 27).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Does Saint Paul say in this Scripture that every part of the body is the same? (*No, he says the body is made of up many parts.*)
- What are some parts of the body that do different things? (*Feet, hands, ears, and eyes are examples of different body parts that do different things.*)
- Who put every different part in the body? (*God*)
- Who is part of Christ's Body? (*each of us*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1809 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.  
*Answers: 1. God, 2. eye, 3. Christ, 4. body, 5. ear, 6. parts*

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1808 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 Corinthians 12:14–18, 27).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "We Are One Body" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.  
*Answers: 1. sacrament, 2. water, 3. anointing, 4. oil, 5. priest, 6. prophet, 7. king, 8. covenant, 9. Heaven. The six-letter word is CHURCH. The last sentence reads, "Baptism brings us into the Body of Christ, the Church."*

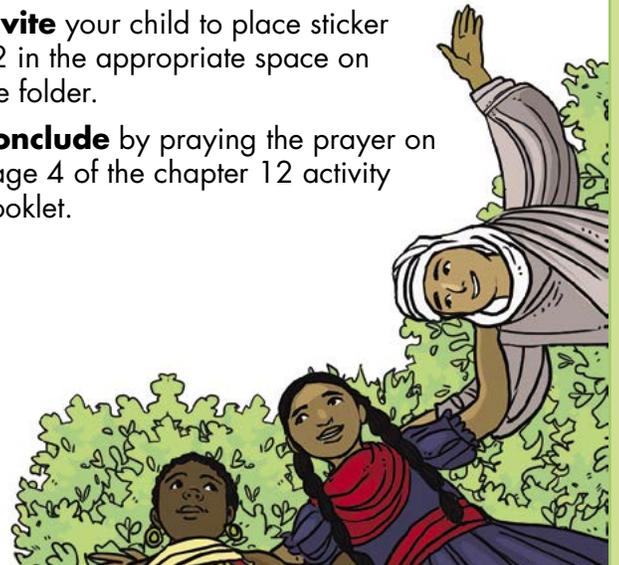
## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 12 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 12 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 12 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
12

## We Are One Body

What do you suppose would happen if everyone were the same? What would happen if we all acted the same and followed the same schedule? Now imagine: What would happen if we all refused to work with together? Would either of these scenarios help or hurt our community?

As you learned in today's reading, our bodies include many unique parts that serve important functions. So too is our Church community—the Body of Christ—made up of unique individuals. God gave us each special talents and gifts to serve others. Each of us has a special part to play in building up the Church.

The Body of Christ includes all the baptized on Earth, in Heaven, and in Purgatory. Each of us becomes part of the Body of Christ, the Church, in

the Sacrament of Baptism. We are baptized with water and anointed with holy oil for the new roles of priest, prophet, and king. These new roles call us to grow in holiness, tell others about Jesus, and serve others with our gifts.

As you can see, Baptism forms a covenant, a solemn promise, between us and God. We participate in that covenant by living out our faith: for example, going to Mass, receiving Holy Communion, and using our talents to support the Church.

You can begin today by supporting your **parish!** Your parish is your local Church community where you come together to worship and help one another. How is your family already using its unique gifts and talents to support your parish?

### Key Words

**parish** Local Church community where people gather to worship and help one another.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Sacraments and Sacramentals" (paragraph 1), page 38
- "Life in Christ," page 47

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

### Review

1. How is the Body of Christ like our physical bodies?
2. What Sacrament makes us part of the Church, the Body of Christ?
3. What three roles are we anointed for during Baptism?
4. Who is included in the Body of Christ?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. Our bodies include many unique parts, and the Body of Christ is made up of many unique individuals. 2. The Sacrament of Baptism. 3. The roles of priest, prophet, and king. 4. All the baptized on Earth, in Heaven, and in Purgatory.



## Chapter 13

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## A Covenant of Love

Scripture Focus: Deuteronomy 6:4–9

### Lesson Goals

- to state that loving God is part of the Old Covenant
- to identify that Jesus made loving God part of the New Covenant also
- to recall that the first three commandments are about loving God

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 254 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Deuteronomy 6:4–9).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.

**Brainstorm** unloving attitudes (anger, resentment, etc.). Explain that a loving attitude (respect and appreciation) leaves no room for unloving attitudes.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn what it means to love God with everything we are and everything we do.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 254 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Deuteronomy 6:4–9).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- How does the Scripture say we should love God? (*We should love God with all our heart, soul, and strength.*)
- To whom does Moses say the Israelites should teach these commands? (*to their children*)
- When does Moses say the Israelites should repeat these commands? (*when they are at home and also when they are away*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 255 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.  
*Answers: Pictures and symbols will vary but should depict the words God, heart, soul, and strength.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Love Our Loving God" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 13 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 13 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 13 activity booklet.



## Chapter 13

# Love Our Loving God

Think about giving a handmade gift to someone. How do you expect the person who receives your gift to act? If they say thank you, how do you feel? If they throw it away, how do you feel?

God created us out of love, and our life is a gift from him. In today's reading, Moses calls the Israelites to love God in return. Loving God was part of the Old Covenant God made with Moses and the Israelites. Moses says that everything they do should be done for God's glory and love. Look at the list of the Ten Commandments on page 1988 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*. Do you remember what the first three commandments have in common? They tell us specifically how to love God!

Jesus also made loving God part of the New Covenant he made with us. When he gave us the

Great Commandment, he told us to love God, first, with all our heart, soul, and strength—and then to love one another as we love ourselves. But loving God comes first. We are to love God more than anything or anyone else.

In previous lessons, you have been learning about **consistency** in thought and action—acting and believing in the same way, every day. We can't say we love God, but then do something that goes against his love. We certainly can't say we love God, but not one another. Our actions must match, or be consistent with, our words and beliefs.

God created us out of love. He calls us to love him and to share his love with others. Give thanks to God!

## Key Word

**consistency** Acting and believing in the same way, every day.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The First Commandment," page 52
- "The Second Commandment," page 53
- "The Third Commandment," pages 54–55

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

## Review

1. Where do we hear the commandment to love God?
2. Why did God create us?
3. What does it mean to be consistent in actions and words when we talk about loving God?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. We hear it in the commands Moses gave to the Israelites, we hear it repeated in the first three of the Ten Commandments, and we hear it in the Great Commandment from Jesus. 2. God created us out of love so that we can love him and share his love with others. 3. Being consistent means that our actions must match our words.



© 2019 Saint Mary's Press



## Chapter 14

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# The Peaceful Kingdom

Scripture Focus: Isaiah 11:6–9

## Lesson Goals

- to explain that the prophet Isaiah has shown us a picture of the peace of the Kingdom of God
- to identify Jesus as the king who will bring about this peaceful kingdom
- to describe peaceful ways we can contribute to the coming of the Kingdom of God

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1106 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Isaiah 11:6–9).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 14 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 14 activity booklet.

**Brainstorm** examples of what a *peacemaker* would say or do in a conflict situation.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn about Jesus as the Prince of Peace who helps us spread peace in our world.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1106 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Isaiah 11:6–9).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What were some creatures that the prophet Isaiah said would live in peace? (*wolves, sheep, leopards, goats, calves and cows, lions, bears, snakes, and children*)
- What did he say would not be harmed if it played near a dangerous snake? (*a baby*)
- What will not exist on God's sacred hill, Zion? (*harmful and evil things*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1107 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 14 activity booklet. *Answers will vary.*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Jesus, the Prince of Peace" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 14 activity booklet. *Answers will vary.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

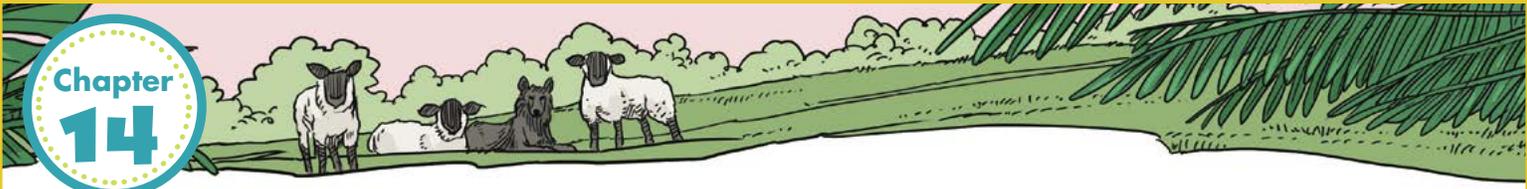
**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 14 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 14 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 14 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
14



# Jesus, the Prince of Peace

Think of a recent time when you apologized to someone. How did you feel before and after? Now think of a time when someone apologized to you. How did you feel before and after?

Sometimes we hurt others, and sometimes we are hurt by others. We need to make peace to move forward. In today's reading, the prophet Isaiah describes the peace of the Kingdom of Heaven: no conflict, no sadness. He even foretold the coming of a Prince of Peace who would guide us to this Kingdom. That prince is Jesus!

But we don't have to wait for Heaven to live out our call to peace. Jesus showed us how to live in peace with one another right here on Earth. He called us to make love the center of everything we do, even

when we don't feel like it. Sometimes we even have to "be the bigger person" by apologizing or working to fix a relationship, even if it would be easier to stay angry.

Jesus called us to live in **harmony**—working together to do what is best for everyone. Think about a music performance. If the musicians each did what they wanted, the result would be noise, not harmony. But when all the instruments or voices work together, the music is beautiful! Like the conductor of an orchestra or choir, Jesus guides us to work together. He shows us the way to hope and healing.

What are some things standing in the way of peace right now in your family or school? What can you do to help make peace?

## Key Word

**harmony** Working together.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Jesus, the New Covenant" (paragraph 7), page 25
- "A Society of Justice," page 73

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

## Review

1. What kind of kingdom was the prophet Isaiah describing?
2. Who is our king, the Prince of Peace?
3. What are some ways that we can work toward peace here on Earth?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. Isaiah was describing the Kingdom of Peace, or Heaven. 2. Jesus. 3. We can follow Jesus, who showed us how to live in peace and how to love. We can apologize or work to fix a relationship.



## Chapter 15

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# We Renew Our Baptismal Promises

Scripture Focus: John 3:4–6

## Lesson Goals

- to recall that Baptism is a new birth that makes us children of God and members of the Church
- to review that Baptism makes us part of the New Covenant of Jesus
- to discuss the meaning of the promises made at Baptism for us by our godparents

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1658 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 3:4–6).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter, including the handout "Baptismal Promises."

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child why water is important, and what would happen to us without water.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores the significance of Baptism and how it makes us an important part of the Church.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1658 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 3:4–6).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did Nicodemus ask Jesus? (*Nicodemus asked how a grown man can be born again, because we cannot reenter our mother's womb to be born a second time.*)
- What did Jesus say is necessary to enter the Kingdom of God? (*Jesus says we must be born of water and the Spirit.*)
- Jesus said that a person is born physically of human parents, but how is a person born spiritually? (*A person is born spiritually of the Holy Spirit.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1659 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.  
*Answer: We are born again through Baptism.*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Our Baptismal Promises" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 15 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 15 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 15 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
15

# Our Baptismal Promises

If you're like most Catholics, you might have been baptized as a baby. If so, you might only know about your Baptism from family stories and photos. But just because you don't remember your Baptism doesn't mean that you didn't play an important part. The Sacrament of Baptism brought you into the Body of Christ, the Church!

Baptism is like birth. In today's reading, Jesus says Baptism is a spiritual rebirth. This birth makes us children of God and brings us into the New Covenant. Just as water strengthens our physical life, the waters of Baptism signify the new spiritual life of our souls.

In covenants, all parties must make and keep promises to one another. At your Baptism, your parents and your **godparents**—adults your parents

chose—made solemn promises before God to support your faith. God agreed to adopt you into his family as his child. Your part is to live out your faith every day.

The handout for this lesson provides those baptismal promises that your parents and godparents (or you, if you were old enough) made at your Baptism. Look at the first three questions. They ask us to reject Satan, his works, and his empty promises. We begin with these promises because we must first reject sin. Do the next three promises sound familiar? They echo the beliefs we state in the Creed at Mass. Like the Creed, they form a profession of faith.

These solemn promises tell God that we will live out our faith every day of our lives. Every Easter, with the entire Church, we renew our baptismal promises to reject sin and to follow Jesus.

## Key Words

**godparents** Adults your parents chose to support your faith.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Sacraments and Sacramentals" (paragraph 1), page 38
- "Life in Christ," page 47

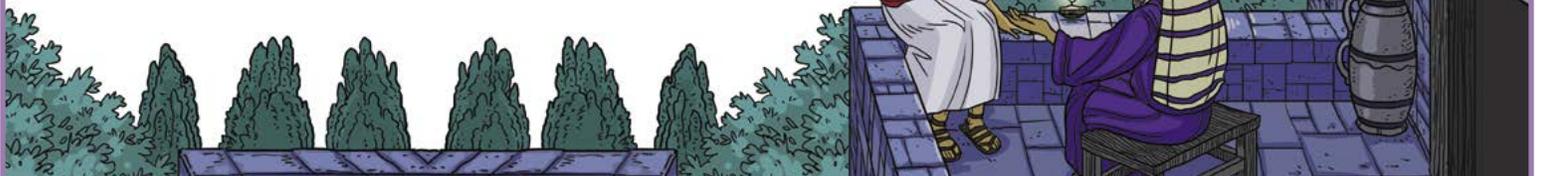
If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

## Review

1. What role do parents and godparents play in the Baptism of an infant or young child?
2. How is Baptism like birth?
3. What do we promise first in our baptismal promises? What do we promise next?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. They promise God that they will support the child in living the faith. 2. Baptism is a spiritual rebirth. 3. First we promise to reject Satan and sin. Next we profess our faith and promise to live out our faith every day.



## Baptismal Promises

**Celebrant: Do you reject Satan?**

Parents and godparents: I do.

**Celebrant: And all his works?**

Parents and godparents: I do.

**Celebrant: And all his empty promises?**

Parents and godparents: I do.

**Celebrant: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?**

Parents and godparents: I do.

**Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?**

Parents and godparents: I do.

**Celebrant: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?**

Parents and godparents: I do.

**Celebrant: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

All: Amen.

(This handout is taken from *Rite of Baptism for Children* © 1969, International Commission on English in the Liturgy [ICEL] as found in *The Rites of the Catholic Church*, volume one, prepared by the ICEL, a Joint Commission of Catholic Bishops' Conferences [Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1990], numbers 57, 58, and 59. Copyright © 1990 by the Order of St. Benedict, Collegeville, MN. Used by permission of the ICEL. Texts contained in this work derived whole or in part from liturgical texts copyrighted by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy [ICEL] have been published here with the confirmation of the Committee on Divine Worship, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. No other texts in this work have been formally reviewed or approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.)

## Chapter 16

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# The Way to Happiness

Scripture Focus: Matthew 5:6–9

## Lesson Goals

- to identify that Jesus shows us the way to God's Kingdom
- to define three ways to be happy as taught by Jesus
- to describe how we can follow the ways to happiness today

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1456 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 5:6–9).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 16 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 16 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child to name ten things (or experiences) that make him or her happy.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores Jesus' teachings on true happiness and examines how we find happiness by following him and living the New Covenant.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1456 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 5:6–9).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Whom did Jesus say God will satisfy fully? (*those who want to do what God requires*)
- To whom will God be merciful? (*those who are merciful to others*)
- Who will see God? (*the pure of heart*)
- Whom will God call his children? (*those who work for peace*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1457 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 16 activity booklet. *Answers: 1. heart, 2. peace, 3. requires, 4. merciful. The unscrambled word is Heaven.*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "What Is Happiness?" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 16 activity booklet. Encourage your child to sign the Beatitudes Pledge. *Answers: 1. happiness, 2. Jesus, 3. joy, 4. merciful, pure in heart, peace*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 16 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 16 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 16 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
16

# What Is Happiness?

Think about a time when you were happy doing something for another person—something that seemed difficult. Perhaps you gave the last cookie to your brother or sister, or you took out the trash even when you didn't feel like it.

God wants us to be happy. But **happiness** is not just a feeling in a moment. True happiness is a lasting sense of peace and joy that comes from doing the right thing, even when it is hard. Our final goal is life forever in God's Kingdom, where we will be truly happy.

In today's Scripture reading, Jesus gives us the **Beatitudes**: attitudes that lead us to true happiness on Earth. Jesus says we can be happy if we show

mercy, are pure in heart, and work for peace. Remember how Jesus wasn't always treated nicely? It didn't matter! He always responded with love. He did God's will here on Earth—and he asks us to do the same.

So we are called to love everyone and do the right thing, even when it is difficult. In this way, we love as God loves, and we keep our part of the New Covenant. Living the New Covenant requires us to act on our beliefs every day, especially in our actions toward others.

Look around you. Who do you see showing mercy, being pure in heart, and working for peace? How can you follow their example?

## Key Words

**Beatitudes** Jesus' guidelines to live a life that is happy or blessed (the word *beatitude* means "blessedness").

**happiness** Lasting sense of peace and joy that comes from doing the right thing, even when it is hard.

## Review

1. According to Jesus in today's reading, what are three ways to be happy?
2. What are these ways to happiness called?
3. What do we have to do to live the New Covenant?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Beatitudes" + activity, pages 67–68

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

*1. We can be happy by being merciful, by being pure of heart, and by working for peace. 2. The Beatitudes. 3. We must act on our beliefs through our actions toward others every day. We can live the covenant by following the Beatitudes.*



## Chapter 17

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## We Celebrate Our Covenant with God

Scripture Focus: 2 Samuel 6:12–15

### Lesson Goals

- to state that the Ark of the Covenant was a sign of the presence of God and his covenant among the community
- to identify that God's presence among us brings us joy
- to name the Mass as the way we celebrate our covenant with God today

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 424 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (2 Samuel 6:12–15).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 17 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 17 activity booklet.

**Invite** your child to get up and dance! Demonstrate some moves for each other.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn how King David danced to celebrate God's presence—and how we celebrate God's presence today.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 424 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (2 Samuel 6:12–15).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did David bring from the house of Obed-edom into the City of David? (*David brought the ark of the Lord into his city, Jerusalem.*)
- What did David sacrifice in thanksgiving? (*David sacrificed "an ox and a fatling" [verse 13], or a fatted calf.*)
- What else did David do in thanksgiving to show his joy? (*He danced "with abandon" [verse 14], meaning he danced wildly.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 425 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 17 activity booklet. *Answers will vary.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Sing and Dance with Joy" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 17 activity booklet. *Answers: See solution on the third page of this home guide.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 17 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 17 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 17 activity booklet.



## Chapter 17

# Sing and Dance with Joy

What comes to your mind when you think of a celebration? Do you think of a birthday party with streamers and noisemakers? a dance party? a special dinner with lots of family?

In today's reading, King David celebrated God's presence in the Ark of the Covenant with special food and wild dancing. The Israelites considered the Ark of the Covenant the throne of God because it held the tablets stating the Ten Commandments. The Ark of the Covenant was a sign of God's presence and a symbol of the Old Covenant. So the Israelites always handled the Ark with respect and awe. David brought the Ark to Jerusalem, the capital city, so everyone could worship God in his very presence.

Today, we celebrate the New Covenant at Mass. Compare David's celebration to our own celebration

of God's presence at Mass! Just as the people played horns to welcome the Ark, we sing songs of praise. Just as David sacrificed animals, we know that Jesus is present in the sacrifice of the Eucharist: the bread and wine that become his Body and Blood.

In fact, the **tabernacle** in each church is like the Ark of the Covenant. This box, usually made of gold, sits in or near the sanctuary. The priest puts consecrated hosts—the Body of Christ—into the tabernacle at the end of Mass. So the tabernacle holds the Real Presence of Jesus Christ.

At Mass, we come together as a community to celebrate God's presence. We might not dance wildly at Mass, but we can sing and participate with all our hearts!

### Key Word

**tabernacle** The box, usually made of gold, that sits in or near the sanctuary and holds consecrated hosts—the Body of Christ.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Ark of the Covenant," page 17

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

### Review

1. Why was the Ark of the Covenant special?
2. How do we celebrate God's presence and our New Covenant with him today?
3. Where do we find the Real Presence of Jesus in every Catholic church or chapel?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. The Israelites considered it the throne of God because it contained the tablets with the Ten Commandments. It was a symbol of the covenant between God and the Israelites.  
2. We celebrate God's presence and the New Covenant in the Mass.  
3. Jesus is really present in the consecrated hosts inside the tabernacle.



© 2019 Saint Mary's Press



# Answer Key

P	T	L	M	V	P	A	R	K	H
R	A	C	E	A	M	U	S	I	C
E	B	J	O	Y	S	R	W	O	E
S	E	D	O	V	B	S	R	Q	L
E	R	A	Q	M	E	I	P	L	E
N	N	N	F	L	X	N	R	J	B
C	A	C	U	O	O	G	A	Y	R
E	C	I	S	D	U	I	I	N	A
P	L	N	Z	M	S	N	S	V	T
X	E	G	E	E	A	G	E	G	E

## Chapter 18

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

# Living the Covenant

Scripture Focus: 1 John 3:11, 16–18

## Lesson Goals

- to identify that love was Jesus' message in the New Covenant
- to name love in action as something that can help those who are in need
- to state that the Sixth, Ninth, and Tenth Commandments are against unloving thoughts and actions

## Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1936 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 John 3:11, 16–18).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

## Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child to recall a time when he or she showed love in action.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores ways to place love at the center of everything you do.

## Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1936 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (1 John 3:11, 16–18).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What message does the writer of this letter, the Apostle John, say we have heard from the very beginning? (*that we should love one another*)
- How do we know what love is? (*We know what love is because Christ gave his life for us.*)
- Can we claim to love God if we turn away from those in need? (*No.*)
- How do we show our love for one another? (*through our actions, not just words and talk*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1937 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.  
*Answers: 1. F, 2. T, 3. F, 4. T, 5. T*

## Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Love in Action" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.  
*Answers will vary.*

## Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 18 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 18 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 18 activity booklet.



## Chapter 18

# Love in Action

Turn to page 1988 in *The Catholic Children's Bible*, and read the Sixth, Ninth, and Tenth Commandments. What do these commandments have in common? They all describe ways to avoid unloving thoughts and actions and warn us of the dangers of selfishness and **envy**.

Envy means wanting what others have, and it steals our joy. When we are envious, we forget to love because we focus on ourselves and what we have or don't have. The world today can tempt us to think we need every new thing in order to be happy. And it can tempt us to envy what others have.

But as today's reading reminds us, Jesus called us to love—a specific kind of love, called **charity**. You might think of charity in terms of giving away money

or things. But charity means something much bigger: loving others as God loves us, even if we must make sacrifices to do so. Jesus gave us the ultimate example of charity when he sacrificed himself on the cross for our sake.

Love and charity were Jesus' entire message in the New Covenant. Jesus called us to model his love and desire good for one another, even if that means sacrificing our own needs and wants. When we focus on acting out of love, we will always remember to do what is best for others.

Love in action means helping those who are in need. How does your family help those who are in need? Talk as a family about new ways you can help people in need.

### Key Words

**charity** Loving others as God loves us, even if that means sacrificing our own needs and wants.

**envy** Wanting what others have, instead of being happy for their good fortune or accomplishments.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Sixth Commandment," page 57
- "The Ninth Commandment," pages 61–62
- "The Tenth Commandment," pages 62–63

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

### Review

1. What is charity? What is the ultimate example of charity?
2. What do the Sixth, Ninth, and Tenth Commandments have in common?
3. What are we called to do as part of the New Covenant? Whom should we especially help?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. Charity is loving others as God loves us. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate example of charity; his love for us. 2. They all call us to avoid unloving thoughts and actions and warn us of the dangers of selfishness and envy. 3. We are called to love in a way that models Christ's love. We should especially help those in need.



## Chapter 19

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## We Care for Those Who Are Poor

Scripture Focus: Amos 8:4–7

### Lesson Goals

- to summarize that the prophet Amos called people to treat others fairly and justly
- to identify that we are called to share what we have with others who may not have enough
- to state that following the covenant means treating others fairly and justly

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1390 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Amos 8:4–7).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 19 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 19 activity booklet.

**Brainstorm** various times and ways your child and your family have helped others.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores the importance of helping and sharing what we have with others, especially those who are poor or in need.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1390 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Amos 8:4–7).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Who does the prophet Amos say he is talking to in this Scripture passage? (*those who take advantage of those in need and who try to destroy the poor*)
- What are some of the evil deeds that the prophet Amos says are wrong? (*overcharging, changing the measuring scales so as to cheat people, and buying someone who is poor to make them a slave*)
- According to Amos, what will the Lord do about these evils? (*The Lord will never forget when someone does evil.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1391 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 19 activity booklet.  
*Answers: 1. Amos, 2. slaves, 3. false, 4. grain, 5. worthless, 6. evil*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Sharing Is Caring" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 19 activity booklet.  
*Answers may vary.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

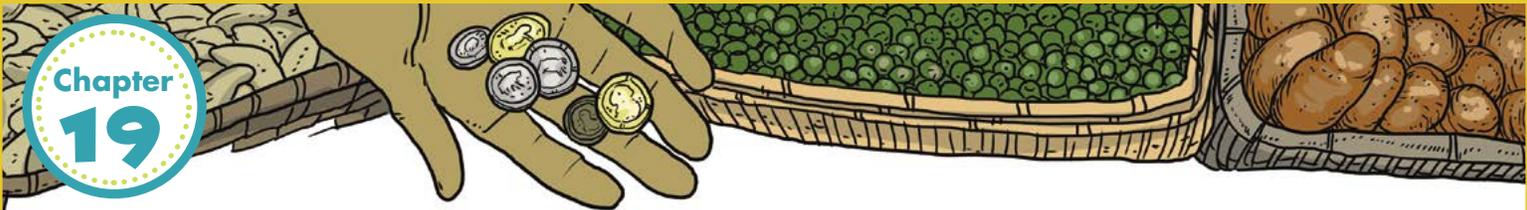
**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 19 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 19 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 19 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
19

# Sharing Is Caring

From an early age, you were probably taught to share toys with friends or to share cookies with your brother or sister. Now think about all the ways people share with you. Your parents share love, shelter, and food. Your friends share time. Your teachers share knowledge.

How do you feel when you realize how much others share with you? And how do you feel when someone doesn't share with you?

In today's reading, the prophet Amos reminds God's people to treat others fairly and justly. The Old Testament tells us how God called prophets to remind God's people to return to the commandments of the Old Covenant. Amos was one of those prophets. He had noticed that people were becoming greedy and

were breaking the covenant by not sharing what they had. Amos reminded the people that God always sees and remembers what they do—right or wrong.

The Seventh Commandment says, "You shall not steal." Yes, God was literally telling us not to steal—but he also meant that we must treat one another with **justice**. Justice means giving to others what they need, and what is rightly owed to them. It is not enough to *not* do something (like not stealing, or not cheating). The commandments also require us to do good things. Following the Seventh Commandment calls us to share what we have with others who may not have enough.

Following the covenant means treating others fairly or justly. Today, notice those who treat you fairly or justly, and thank them!

## Key Word

**justice** Giving to others what they need, and what is rightly owed to them.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Legitimate Authority" (last paragraph), page 72
- "A Society of Justice," page 73

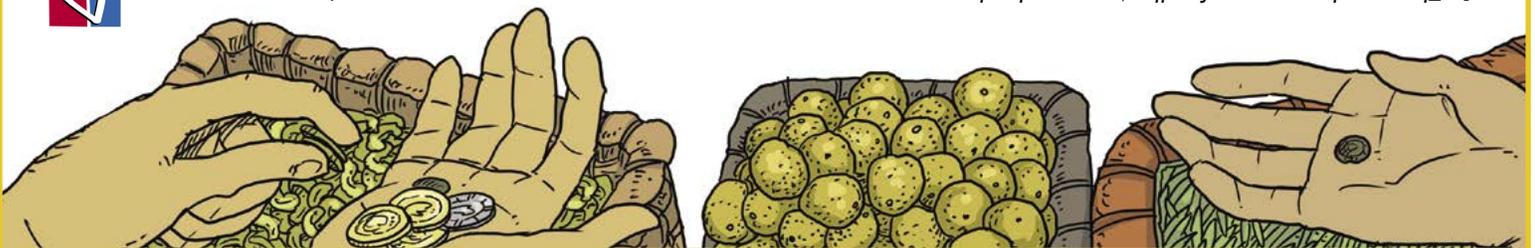
If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

## Review

1. Whom did God send to remind his people of how to keep the covenant in the Old Testament?
2. What is justice?
3. What does the Seventh Commandment call us to do and not do?
4. When we follow the commandments, is it enough to just avoid doing bad things?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. The prophets—specifically Amos in this lesson.  
2. Justice is giving to someone what they need and  
deserve. 3. The Seventh Commandment tells us not to  
steal, but it also calls us to share with others who do  
not have enough. 4. No, we must also do good things.



## Chapter 20

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## God's Covenant Love

Scripture Focus: Romans 8:35, 37–39

### Lesson Goals

- to identify that Jesus showed us that nothing can separate us from God's love
- to recall the love of God and how it has been shown to us in our lives
- to state that prayer is our connection with God who loves us

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1780 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Romans 8:35, 37–39).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 20 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 20 activity booklet.

**Ask** your child what comes to mind when he or she thinks of God's love, especially after finishing this course. Point out that the word *love* summarizes both the Old and New Covenants.

**Tell** your child that together you will review that God's love for us never ends and that nothing can separate us from that love.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1780 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Romans 8:35, 37–39).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Can trouble, hardship, persecution, hunger, poverty, danger, or death separate us from the love of Christ? (*No, they cannot.*)
- What does Saint Paul say grants us victory? (*We have victory through Jesus Christ.*)
- What can separate us from God's love? (*nothing in all of creation*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1781 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 20 activity booklet. *Answers: 1. poverty, 2. hardship, 3. persecution, 4. trouble, 5. hunger, 6. death. The unscrambled word in the last sentence is victory.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Thanks Be to God" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 20 activity booklet. *Answers will vary.*

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

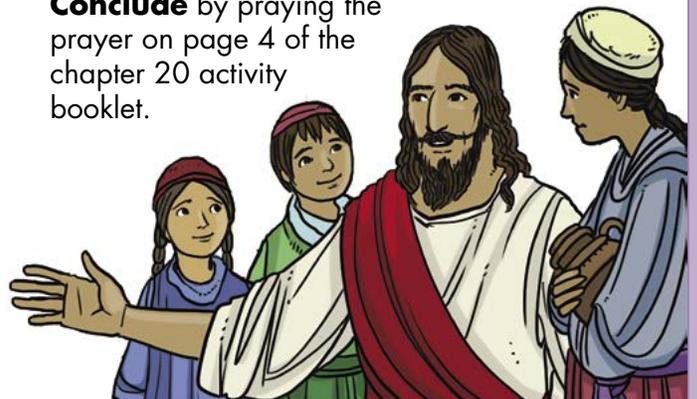
**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 20 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Invite** your child to place sticker 20 in the appropriate space on the folder.

**Allow** your child to add stickers from any uncompleted lessons.

**Discuss** the resulting picture, asking your child to identify the figures portrayed and the meaning of the completed scene.

**Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 20 activity booklet.




 Chapter  
20



# Thanks Be to God

Have you ever been afraid of something, but then God showed you how to overcome your fear? Have you worried how something would go—only to have it work out even better than you hoped?

It is not always easy to remember that God loves us. When difficult things happen, we find it hard to understand why. But Jesus tells us that no matter what happens, God loves us.

When it is difficult to remember that God loves you, prayer is a way you can always connect with God and feel his love once more. When you love someone, do you ignore her or him? Of course not! Prayer is our communication with God—and he always pays attention to us, because he loves us.

We have many different ways to pray. Some people like to pray memorized prayers like the Our Father or Hail Mary. Others like to read and reflect on Scripture and think about the way God is speaking through the words. We can also pray just by talking to God, like we talk to a loved one. We can tell him what's going on in our lives, thank him for the good things, and ask him for help with our struggles.

The ultimate prayer is going to Mass and receiving Jesus in Holy Communion. Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. Participating in Mass is how we celebrate the new Covenant and reconnect with God.

Nothing can separate us from God's love! Think of all the ways God shows his love in your life, and give thanks to God!

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Prayer Is God's Idea" and "Praying to Go Our Father," page 76
- "Three Kinds of Prayer" + activity, pages 77–79

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

## Review

1. When bad things happen, does this mean God has forgotten about us?
2. What do we call our way of communicating with God?
3. What are some different ways of praying?
4. What is the ultimate prayer?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

*1. No, God always loves us. 2. Prayer is our communication with God. 3. Praying memorized prayers, reflecting on the Bible, or just talking with God. 4. Participating in the Mass and receiving Holy Communion are the ultimate prayer.*





Our Lady of the Rosary

# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## Holy Mary, Mother of God

Scripture Focus: Luke 2:46–52

### Lesson Goals

- to recall that Mary is the Mother of Jesus
- to state that Jesus gave Mary to us to be our Mother too
- to identify Jesus as being obedient to his parents

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1582 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 2:46–52).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Our Lady of the Rosary activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Our Lady of the Rosary activity booklet.

**Pray** a Hail Mary with your child. Explain that the first part of this prayer comes from the Angel Gabriel's greeting to Mary.

**Tell** your child that together you will learn more about Mary and will learn about the Rosary, a special prayer to Mary.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1582 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 2:46–52).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Where did Mary and Joseph find the young Jesus, and what was he doing? (*They found him in the Temple. He was listening to the Jewish teachers and asking questions.*)
- Why had Mary and Joseph been worried? (*They did not know where Jesus was.*)
- How did Jesus answer them? (*See verse 49.*)
- What happens at the end of this account? (*Jesus obeys Mary and Joseph and returns with them to Nazareth.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1583 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Our Lady of the Rosary activity booklet. *Answer: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Mary, Our Mother" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Our Lady of the Rosary activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Our Lady of the Rosary activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. Place images of Mary around your prayer area. Consider having five flowers for your child to offer in the prayer area, one flower for each response.





# Mary, Our Mother

When is it hard to obey your parents and teachers? Is it easier when you agree with what they ask? Is it harder when you don't understand their reasons?

God gave his people the Ten Commandments as part of the Old Covenant. The Fourth Commandment—"Respect your father and your mother" (Exodus 20:12)—calls us to obey anyone who takes care of us. By obeying those who care for us, we are obeying and honoring God.

When you find this difficult, look at Jesus' example in today's reading. He was only a couple years older than you when his parents lost him in Jerusalem. When Mary and Joseph finally found him in the Temple, he told them that he had to be in the house of his Father—that is, God the Father. But even

Jesus, the Son of God, obeyed his earthly parents and went back to Nazareth with them.

Today's story is the fifth joyful mystery of the Rosary, and it shows the great care Mary had for Jesus as his Mother. Because Jesus is God, Mary is the Mother of God. Jesus gave us Mary to be our Mother too, and we know that Mary cares for us. We can always call on Mary—Mother of God, Mother of the Church, Mother of us all—to pray for us, asking her Son to help us grow in faith, **holiness**, and obedience.

The Rosary is a beautiful way to ask Mary to pray for us. Refresh your knowledge of the Rosary by reviewing the description on page 1996 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*. Invite your family to pray the Rosary together at bedtime tonight.

## Key Word

**holiness** Happiness that comes from life in union with God and with one another.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary," page 15
- "Sacraments and Sacramentals" (last paragraph), page 38
- "Vocal Prayer and Meditation," pages 77–78

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

## Review

1. What attitudes and behaviors do we owe our parents, following Jesus' example?
2. What is the name of the special prayer devoted to Mary, the Mother of God?
3. Why do we call Mary the Mother of God?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*



© 2019 Saint Mary's Press

*1. We should obey our parents, just as Jesus obeyed Mary and Joseph. 2. The Rosary. 3. Because she was the Mother of Jesus, and Jesus is God.*

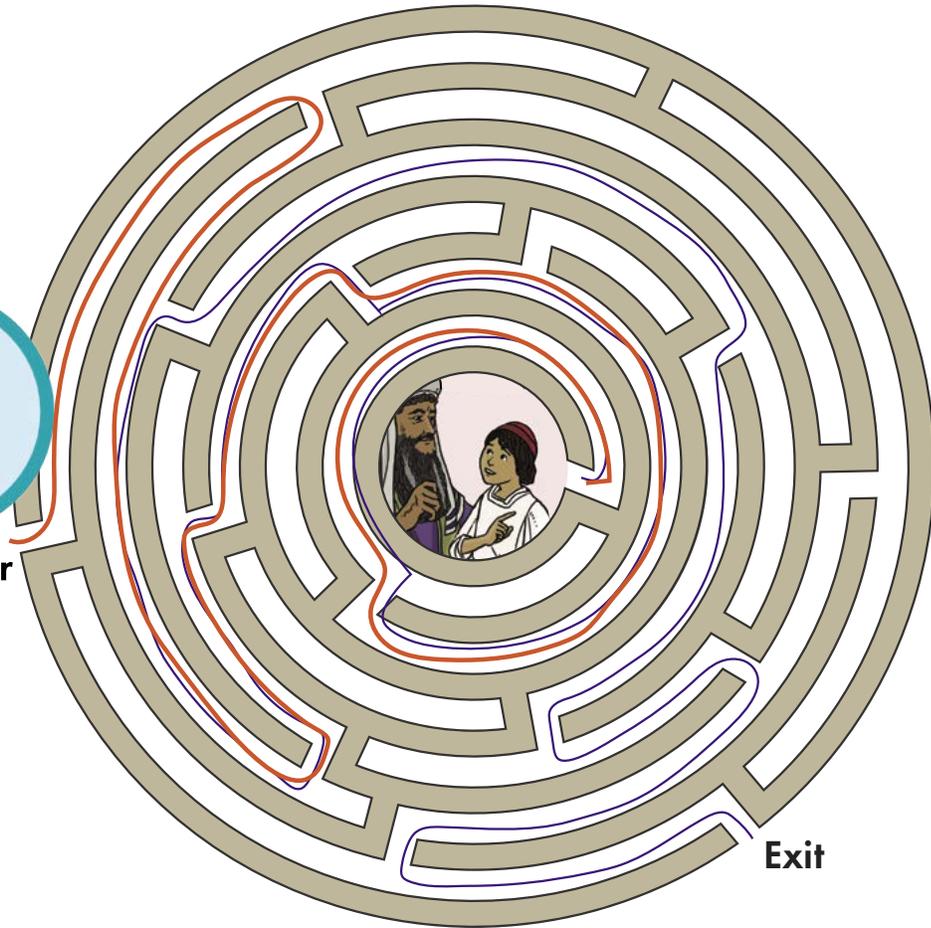




# Answer Key



Enter



Exit



# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## Holy Men and Women, Pray for Us

Scripture Focus: John 11:25, 38–41, 43–44

### Lesson Goals

- to identify All Saints' Day as the day on which we celebrate all the saints who are in Heaven, even those whose names we do not know
- to recall that everyone who believes in Jesus will live forever
- to state that we are all called to become saints

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1680 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 11:25, 38–41, 43–44).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet.

**Brainstorm** the names of groups in your parish or area that help those in need.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores ways the saints helped others because of their love of God—whether they helped others actively in the world or served through prayer and good example.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1680 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 11:25, 38–41, 43–44).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- What did Jesus say about himself when he first talked with Martha? (*Jesus said that he is the resurrection and the life.*)
- Did the people want to follow Jesus' direction to take the stone away from Lazarus' tomb? (*No, they thought the tomb would smell bad because Lazarus had been dead for four days.*)
- After they rolled the stone away, what did Jesus say? (*He thanked the Father and then said, "Lazarus, come out!" [verse 43].*)
- Did Lazarus come out of the tomb alive again? (*yes*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1681 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet.  
*Answers: 1. resurrection, 2. stone, 3. tomb, 4. Father, 5. four, 6. Martha, 7. die, 8. glory*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "For All the Saints" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

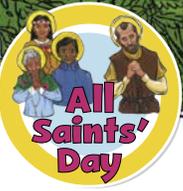
### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the All Saints' Day activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. Prepare your prayer space with pictures of saints, especially those who are patron saints of your family. Prepare a list of saints special to your family that you can invoke at the last petition in the prayer service.





# For All the Saints

From time to time, you might hear that the Pope has recognized new saints for the Catholic Church. Pope Francis has already **canonized** more than four dozen people, including Saint Óscar Romero, Saint Pope Paul VI, and Saint Teresa of Kolkata (Calcutta)—all three of whom lived just in the last century.

The Church names and formally recognizes some people as saints in a process called *canonization*. But an unknown number of believers live with God in Heaven, and we do not know all their names. We only know that because Jesus died and was resurrected, we are all freed from death. Jesus promised that all who believe in him will live forever.

This is how we know the saints are in Heaven with God—whether or not we know their names.

All Saints' Day is the day we celebrate all the saints—the ones we know and the ones we don't—and ask them to pray for us as we make our own journeys toward Heaven. We don't pray to the saints, exactly. Rather, we call on the saints as **intercessors**—those who pray for others. We can ask the saints to pray to Jesus on our behalf, because they are already in Heaven and close to Jesus.

We are all called to be saints, no matter what our age or ability. How can you live your call to holiness every day?

## Key Words

**canonized** Formally recognized as saints in the Catholic Church.

**intercessors** Those who pray for others.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Sacraments and Sacramentals" (last paragraph), page 38
- "The First Commandment" (last paragraph), page 52

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

## Review

1. Whom do we celebrate on All Saints' Day?
2. Why are saints good intercessors for us?
3. Who will live forever in Heaven, according to Jesus?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. We celebrate all the saints in Heaven—those we know and those we don't. 2. Saints are good intercessors because they are close to Jesus in Heaven. 3. Everyone who believes in Jesus.





# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## A King of Peace

Scripture Focus: Isaiah 11:6–9

### Lesson Goals

- to recall Advent as the season in which we await the coming of the Savior, the Prince of Peace
- to define the three comings of Jesus: his coming as a child in Bethlehem, his coming at the end of time, and his coming into our hearts at Christmas
- to identify Jesus as the king foretold by Isaiah

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1106 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Isaiah 11:6–9).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Advent activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Advent activity booklet.

**Observe** 1 minute of silence together. Explain that in Advent, we try to slow down and think about the coming of Jesus to our world.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores Advent as a perfect time to make prayer a priority, especially prayers for peace.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1106 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Isaiah 11:6–9).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Isaiah is describing a peaceful kingdom. Whom do you think might be the king Isaiah promises? (*Jesus*)
- How does Isaiah describe this new kingdom? (*He says animals will live together in peace. There will be no harm or evil.*)
- What will the land be filled with? (*knowledge of the Lord*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1107 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Advent activity booklet.  
Answers: *wolves/sheep, leopards/young goats, calves/lion cubs, cows/bears, calves/bear cubs*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "O Come, Prince of Peace!" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

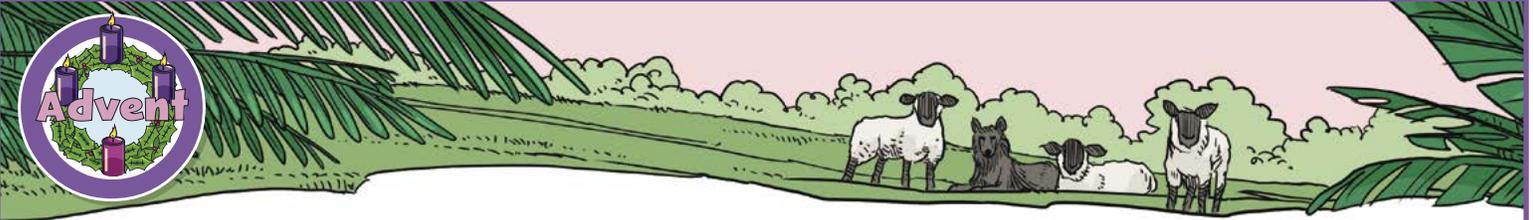
### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Advent activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Advent activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. Arrange an Advent wreath in your family's prayer space, and begin the prayer by lighting the number of candles corresponding to the current week of Advent. Invite your child to take turns reading the part of the Leader.





## O Come, Prince of Peace!

Do you have an **Advent** wreath in your school or home? The Advent wreath contains a lot of symbols. The wreath is round, to remind us that God's love (like a circle) never ends. It is evergreen, to remind us of eternal life. Three candles are purple, a color of waiting, preparation, and repentance. The candle for the Third Sunday of Advent is pink, symbolizing joy and reminding us that Christmas is close.

The Church sets aside the four weeks of Advent as a time for us to prepare for Christmas. Advent marks the beginning of the Church year, just as Jesus' coming at Christmas began his life on Earth. In fact, during Advent, we remember three different comings of Jesus:

- his birth as a tiny baby in Bethlehem
- his coming into our hearts every Christmas, especially when we receive him in Holy Communion on that special day
- his second coming at the end of time, when we all enter into his Kingdom of Peace

The Prophet Isaiah promises the coming of a peaceful kingdom, where there will be nothing harmful or evil. This peaceful kingdom will be filled with knowledge of the Lord. The king of the peaceful kingdom, we now know, is Jesus. Isaiah called Jesus the Prince of Peace. This is one of many titles for Jesus that we hear during Advent, reminding us that Jesus is the promised savior that comes to us at Christmas.

Pray and prepare for Jesus' coming today. O come, Emmanuel! O come, Prince of Peace!

### Key Word

**Advent** The four weeks at the beginning of each Church year, when we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

### We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "God Didn't Give Up on Us," pages 14–15
- "The Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary," page 15

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

### Review

1. Who is the Prince of Peace we hear about in Isaiah?
2. What will Jesus' Kingdom be like?
3. What are the three comings of Jesus?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

*1. Jesus is the Prince of Peace. 2. It will be peaceful, with nothing harmful or evil. Everyone will know the Lord. 3. His birth in Jerusalem, his coming into our hearts each Christmas, and his second coming at the end of time.*





# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## The Gifts We Bring

Scripture Focus: Matthew 2:9–11

### Lesson Goals

- to identify Jesus as not only the King of the Jews but also the King of the entire world
- to explain that the “men from the East” in the Gospel passage are also called “Magi” or “the Three Kings”
- to state that the tradition of Christmas gift-giving comes from the gifts of the Magi

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1448 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible* (Matthew 2:9–11).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Christmas/Epiphany activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Christmas/Epiphany activity booklet.

**Ask** your child: What gifts of love and service to others can you bring to the Infant Jesus this year?

**Tell** your child that today’s lesson explores the gifts brought by the Magi, or the Three Kings, to the newborn Jesus, and how we can use our own gifts to show our love of Jesus.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1448 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible* (Matthew 2:9–11).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Where did the visitors come from? How did they know where to go? (*They came from the East. They followed the star, which went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the Child Jesus was.*)
- What adjectives in the story describe the visitors? (*happy, joyful*)
- What gifts did the visitors bring? (*They brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1449 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Christmas/Epiphany activity booklet. *Answers: 1. frankincense, 2. myrrh, 3. Jesus, 4. gold, 5. star*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article “Gifts Fit for a King” on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child’s understanding.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today’s lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Christmas/Epiphany activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Christmas/Epiphany activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. Use your family’s Nativity scene as the focal point. Teach your child the refrain to “We Three Kings.” Begin the prayer service across the room, and move closer to the Nativity scene with each “All” response.





# Gifts Fit for a King

What gifts do you want for Christmas this year? (Or what gifts did you receive already?) If you're like many fourth graders, you might have asked for toys or electronic devices. What are you giving your parents and family? Are you excited to give those gifts?

We give gifts at Christmas to recall the gifts that the Three Kings gave to Jesus. You probably would be disappointed to receive gold, frankincense, and myrrh this Christmas—but in Jesus' time, these were valuable gifts, usually given to royalty. Gold was essential for a king and showed that Jesus is the king of all people. Frankincense was used in religious worship and showed that Jesus was God as well. And myrrh was used to prepare the dead for burial.

## Key Word

**foretold** Prophesied, or predicted.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "God Didn't Give Up on Us," pages 14–15
- "The Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary" + activity, pages 15–16
- "The Church at Home," page 37

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

It **foretold** that Jesus would die for the sins of all people.

In today's reading, we learn about these travelers from the East, whom we also call the Magi, the Wise Men, or the Three Kings. In the Church, we celebrate the coming of the Magi on the Feast of the Epiphany, the Sunday between January 2 and January 8.

In many cultures around the world, Epiphany is just as important as Christmas. In fact, some people give presents not on Christmas, but on Epiphany. Some cultures even celebrate Epiphany with parades.

The Magi gave the newborn Jesus gifts that were fit for a king. They recognized that he was not only King of the Jews but of the entire world. O come, let us adore him together!

## Review

1. What are some other names for the "men from the East"?
2. What did the gold, frankincense, and myrrh symbolize?
3. Why do we exchange gifts at Christmas?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

*1. They are also called the Three Kings, the Wise Men, and the Magi. 2. They symbolized Christ as king (gold), Christ as God (frankincense), and Christ who came to die for us (myrrh). 3. We follow the example of the Magi.*



© 2019 Saint Mary's Press





# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## A Time of Preparation

Scripture Focus: Exodus 14:21–25

### Lesson Goals

- to explain that the waters of Baptism lead us to freedom from the slavery of sin
- to identify Lent as a season in which we prepare for the renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter
- to define the Easter Vigil as the night when new Christians receive the Sacraments of Initiation

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 122 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Exodus 14:21–25).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Lent activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Lent activity booklet.

**Recall** your child's baptismal day, and explain that Lent is a time when we try harder to follow Christ more closely.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores why Lent is a good time to give extra attention to our relationship with Jesus and to do good works for others.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 122 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Exodus 14:21–25).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Who was able to cross the sea on dry ground? (*the Israelites*)
- Who was following the Israelites? What happened to them? (*The Egyptians were following. They got stuck and realized that God was with the Israelites.*)
- Who was fighting for the Israelites and helping them? (*God*)
- Who fights for us and helps us get through what we need to get through in life? (*God*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 123 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*. (See verses 30 and 31.)

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Lent activity booklet.  
 Answers: 1. Moses, 2. back, 3. sea, 4. water, 5. pursued, 6. panic, 7. chariots

### Discover! (20 minutes)

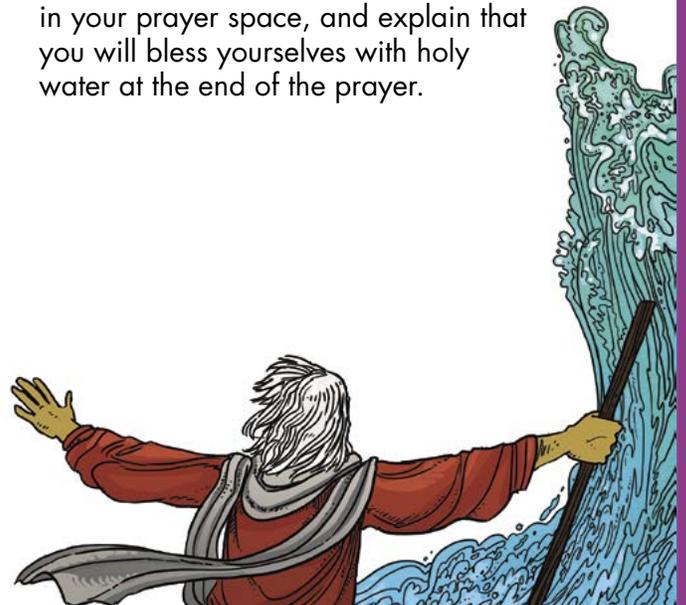
**Read** with your child the article "These Forty Days" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Lent activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Lent activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. Obtain holy water (usually from your parish) that you can place in a small bowl in your prayer space, and explain that you will bless yourselves with holy water at the end of the prayer.





# These Forty Days

Look at a calendar, and count the weekdays between Ash Wednesday and Holy Saturday. (The Church does not count Sundays as “days of Lent” —although we usually continue our Lenten practice on Sundays as well.) You should come up with exactly forty days!

The forty days of Lent remind us of other Scripture passages that mention the number forty. The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for forty years after passing through the Red Sea in today’s reading. And Jesus spent forty days fasting and praying in the desert after his Baptism.

Lent is a time of preparation for Easter. We prepare through three traditional practices: praying, **fasting**, and doing good works (also called **almsgiving**). We spend more time in prayer to reconnect with Jesus and his sacrifice. Fasting means

giving up food, bad habits, or anything that takes us away from time in prayer or with family. Good works can be any action that helps someone else.

Just as the Israelites reached freedom by crossing through the waters of the sea, we are freed from sin by the waters of Baptism. Today’s Scripture reading is read as part of the liturgy of the Easter Vigil. At the Easter Vigil, we renew our own baptismal promises. We say that we believe in God, and we reject the ways of sin. We also welcome adults and older children who are entering the Church and receiving the Sacraments of Christian Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion.

What temptations are you resisting today? Talk to God in prayer, and ask his help to reject sin and follow his Son.

## Key Words

**fasting** Giving up food or bad habits, or making other sacrifices; giving up anything that takes us away from time with our family or time in prayer.

**almsgiving** Doing any good works that help or show care for someone else.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “Life in Christ,” page 47
- “Prayer Is God’s Idea,” page 76

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child’s understanding.

## Review

1. What is the season of Lent?
2. What three traditional practices help us prepare for Easter?
3. What are the three Sacraments of Christian Initiation that new Catholics receive the night before Easter?
4. What do we promise in our baptismal promises?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. Lent is a season of forty days in which we renew our lives in Christ; we prepare for the renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter. 2. Fasting, praying, and doing good works. 3. Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. 4. We promise to follow God’s way in faith and love, and we renounce the ways of sin.





# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## Meeting the Risen Jesus

Scripture Focus: Luke 24:28–32

### Lesson Goals

- to recall that Easter is the season in which we celebrate Jesus' rising from the dead
- to explain that the Risen Jesus is present at every Eucharist, just as he was at the meal with the two disciples
- to compare this event to the celebration of the Eucharist, in which we receive the Body and Blood of Christ with faith and love

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1644 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 24:28–32).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Easter activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Easter activity booklet.

**Ask** your child to suggest one way she or he can be a disciple of Jesus and walk with him (such as reading the Bible, volunteering, greeting people at church, and so on).

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores how Jesus walks with us every day, even when we become confused or discouraged.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1644 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Luke 24:28–32).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Where were the two disciples walking to? (*a village*)
- As they talked about Jesus, who joined them? (*the Risen Jesus*)
- How did the two disciples finally recognize Jesus? (*See verses 30–31.*)
- When Jesus disappeared, what did the disciples say? (*See verse 31.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1645 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Easter activity booklet. *Answers: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "Alleluia, He Is Risen!" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Easter activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Easter activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. Place a loaf of bakery bread and a clear glass of grape juice in your prayer space. Begin the prayer service across the room, and walk toward the prayer area with each response.





# Alleluia, He Is Risen!

The disciples in today's story were confused, discouraged, and sick with sorrow as they walked toward Emmaus. They knew that their teacher and Savior, Jesus, had died on the cross. They had also heard that Jesus was alive, but no one had seen him. They didn't know what to do with themselves except head home. A stranger joined them on the road, and they walked with him for a long way, confiding their fear and sadness.

But they did not recognize him—until he broke bread with them over dinner. Imagine their joy when they recognized Jesus! They hurried back to tell everyone that they had met the Risen Jesus. Like these two disciples, we rejoice at Easter because our Savior rose from the dead. We too can share our Easter joy by telling others about Jesus through our words and actions.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activities in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "Jesus, the New Covenant" + activity, pages 24–26
- "The Resurrection of Jesus" + activity, pages 28–29

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activities.

If you read the full account of the walk to Emmaus (Luke 24:13–35), you can see that the entire journey sounds like the Mass. Jesus reminds the discouraged disciples of what Scripture says, and then he explains it—just as we hear readings and a homily at Mass. Then, over dinner, Jesus breaks the bread and gives it to the disciples, who recognize him with joy and love. In the same way, we receive Jesus' Body and Blood with faith and love in the Eucharist at every Mass.

We celebrate Jesus' Resurrection for fifty days, from Easter Sunday through Pentecost, when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit. What are some ways you can stay full of joy for the entire Easter season?

## Review

1. What do we celebrate during the Easter season? How long does this season last?
2. How did Jesus show himself to the disciples? How did they respond?
3. When do we encounter Jesus the same way?
4. What are some ways followers of Jesus can keep the Easter celebration alive?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. We celebrate Jesus' Resurrection for fifty days.  
2. Jesus explained the Scriptures and broke the bread.  
The and they hurried back to tell everyone. 3. We  
enc disciples recognized him in the breaking of the  
bread, unter Jesus the same way during Mass, when  
we listen to Scripture and receive the Eucharist with  
faith and love. 4. Answers will vary.





## Answer Key

D	B	N	Q	U	E	M	M	A	U	S
D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	P	E
X	Q	S	A	Y	U	M	M	J	R	O
Y	B	J	A	E	U	L	P	U	K	O
S	C	R	I	P	T	U	R	E	S	N
A	C	K	E	T	P	C	Y	F	T	J
Y	U	S	N	A	O	E	R	S	A	I
B	V	U	N	X	D	D	A	N	Y	B
Y	T	B	J	S	O	U	M	R	G	S
T	B	U	R	N	I	N	G	I	E	D
N	R	E	C	O	G	N	I	Z	E	D



# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## Strengthened by the Spirit

Scripture Focus: Genesis 1:1–5

### Lesson Goals

- to state that the Holy Spirit moved over the disciples at Pentecost, forming a new creation, the new Kingdom of God
- to identify that the Holy Spirit moves over us at Baptism and Confirmation, which makes us a new creation
- to recognize that the Holy Spirit guides and strengthens us with the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

### Parent Preview

- Review the Scripture on page 21 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:1–5).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Pentecost activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Pentecost activity booklet.

**Discuss** the ways we experience the qualities of wind (playful, beneficial, cleansing, destructive). Remind your child that wind is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

**Tell** your child that today's lesson explores how the Holy Spirit has been at work from the very beginning of God's creation right through today in the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Scripture on page 21 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:1–5).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- How does Genesis describe the Earth before creation? (*Genesis says the Earth was formless and desolate, or empty.*)
- What was moving over the water? (*the Spirit of God*)
- What did God create first? How did he feel afterward? (*God created light first. He was pleased by it.*)

**Read** the Understand It! and Live It! sections on page 1 of the Pentecost activity booklet. Invite your child to retell the Scripture passage in his or her own words.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Pentecost activity booklet. *Answers: See solution on the third page of this home guide chapter.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

**Read** with your child the article "A New Creation" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Pentecost activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Pentecost activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet.





# A New Creation

Why do we associate the Holy Spirit with wind and fire? At his **Ascension**, Jesus promised to send his followers the Holy Spirit. At the first **Pentecost**, the Holy Spirit came on the Apostles as a strong wind and flames of fire that landed on their heads.

This Spirit who moved over the disciples at Pentecost is the same Spirit who moved over the water in Genesis. The Holy Spirit empowered Jesus' followers to go out, preach the Good News in many languages, and baptize people. And the same Spirit who made the disciples a **new creation** at Pentecost makes us a new creation at Baptism. Becoming a "new creation" means being washed clean of sin and becoming a child of God.

In the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Spirit strengthens the gifts we received at Baptism and calls us to proclaim the Good News and the new Kingdom of God. At Confirmation, we receive the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit:

- Wisdom—helps us value things rightly.
- Understanding—helps us to comprehend our faith.
- Counsel (Right Judgment)—helps us know the right thing to do, even in difficult situations.
- Fortitude (Courage)—gives us strength and courage to do what is right, even when it is difficult.
- Knowledge—helps us see the world as it really is, as God sees it.
- Piety (Reverence)—helps us love God and neighbor as Jesus taught us.
- Fear of the Lord (Wonder and Awe)—helps us not want to offend God; helps us remember how good God is.

Look over this list of Gifts of the Holy Spirit. How is each one a gift?

## Key Words

**Ascension** The day Jesus ascended (or rose) into Heaven, after his Resurrection.

**Pentecost** The birthday of the Church, fifty days after Easter, when the Holy Spirit descended and empowered Jesus' followers to preach the Good News.

**new creation** A child of God, washed clean of sin.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "How God Created the World," page 6
- "The Church," pages 30–31

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

## Review

1. Who is the Spirit of God we learn about in the first five verses of Genesis?
2. When do we personally receive the Holy Spirit?
3. What happened at the first Pentecost?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. The Spirit of God is the Holy Spirit. 2. We receive the Holy Spirit at Baptism and are strengthened with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation. 3. The Holy Spirit came to Jesus' followers and empowered them to proclaim the message of Jesus, to preach in many languages, and to baptize people.





## Answer Key





# Discover!

Finding Faith in Life

## Jesus' Life and Teachings

Scripture Focus: Matthew 25:34, 37–40

### Lesson Goals

- to recall that Ordinary Time is the season of the year when we learn more about Jesus' life and teachings
- to identify that caring for others was a key part of Jesus' life and teaching
- to name ways we can care for people in need all through the year

### Get Ready! (10 minutes)

**Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet.

**Brainstorm** with your child those persons you know, in your parish or family, who are homebound or who have mobility issues. Ask: How can we help them?

**Tell** your child that together you will learn that when we help someone in need, we are really caring for Jesus himself, following his example.

### Dive In! (20 minutes)

**Read** the Featured Story on page 1510 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 25:34, 37–40).

**Ask** your child these questions:

- Who are the "righteous" people sitting on Jesus' right? (*Righteous people are good people.*)
- What are some ways these people showed they were good? (*feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, welcoming strangers, clothing the naked, and visiting the sick and imprisoned*)
- When the good people did all these things, who were they really helping? (*They were really helping Jesus.*)

**Read** the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1511 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

### Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1510 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Matthew 25:34, 37–40).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

**Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet. *Answers will vary.*

### Discover! (20 minutes)

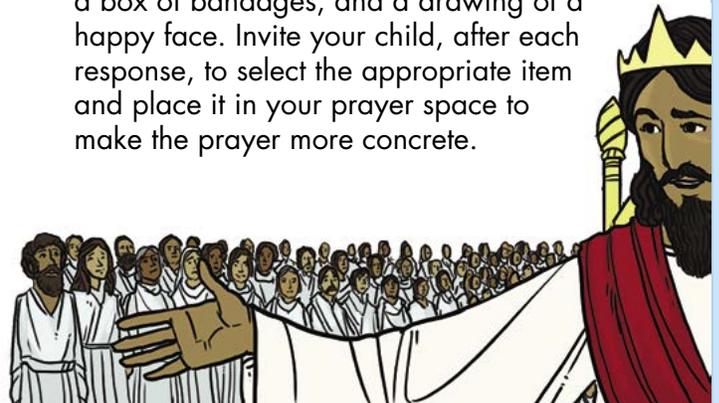
**Read** with your child the article "Extraordinary, Ordinary Things" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key word. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

### Go! (10 minutes)

**Invite** your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

**Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

**Conclude** by praying the Family Prayer on page 4 of the Ordinary Time activity booklet, or use the prayer service on page 3 of the activity booklet. Gather the following items: a slice of bread, a glass of water, a coat, a box of bandages, and a drawing of a happy face. Invite your child, after each response, to select the appropriate item and place it in your prayer space to make the prayer more concrete.





Ordinary  
Time

# Extraordinary, Ordinary Things

Look at the colorful **liturgical** calendar on the third page of this home guide chapter. The calendar is shaped like a pizza, with slices representing the various seasons during the Church year. It is round because the Church year is a cycle that begins anew every Advent. Seasons like Advent and Lent are purple, the color of preparation and repentance. Seasons like Christmas and Easter are white and gold, colors pointing to purity and the Kingdom of Heaven.

Now notice the two green “slices” labeled Ordinary Time. Together they form the longest Church season of the year. “Ordinary” doesn’t mean that nothing interesting happens. On the contrary, Ordinary Time is green because it is a time of growth and learning. We hear Gospel stories filled with

Jesus’ teachings and miracles. These include today’s reading, when Jesus teaches us what it means to help the least among us.

We often think of helping others mainly during the holidays, especially Christmas. But Jesus doesn’t limit us to helping people only a few times a year. Think about some other ways Jesus taught and served others during his earthly life. He healed the sick, fed crowds of hungry people, and forgave sins. In all these stories, we see examples of how Jesus showed love for others every day.

Recall Jesus’ Great Commandment: to love God and to love others as ourselves. Love and caring for others was a key part of Jesus’ life and teachings. What is one way you can reach out and show care for someone else right away?

## Key Word

**liturgical** Related to the seasons of the Church year and the worship of the Church.

## We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- “The Cardinal Virtues,” pages 69–70
- “The Old Law and the New Law,” page 66
- “The Beatitudes” + activity, pages 67–68

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

## Review

1. When is Ordinary Time, and what do we learn during Ordinary Time?
2. What does the second part of Jesus’ Great Commandment say we should do?
3. What time of the year is the best to focus on helping others?

*Turn this page upside down to check your answers!*

1. Ordinary Time is two seasons: between Christmas and Lent, and between Pentecost and Advent. During Ordinary Time, we learn about Jesus’ teachings and miracles. 2. The second part says we should love our neighbors as ourselves. 3. We are called to love and serve others throughout the whole year.

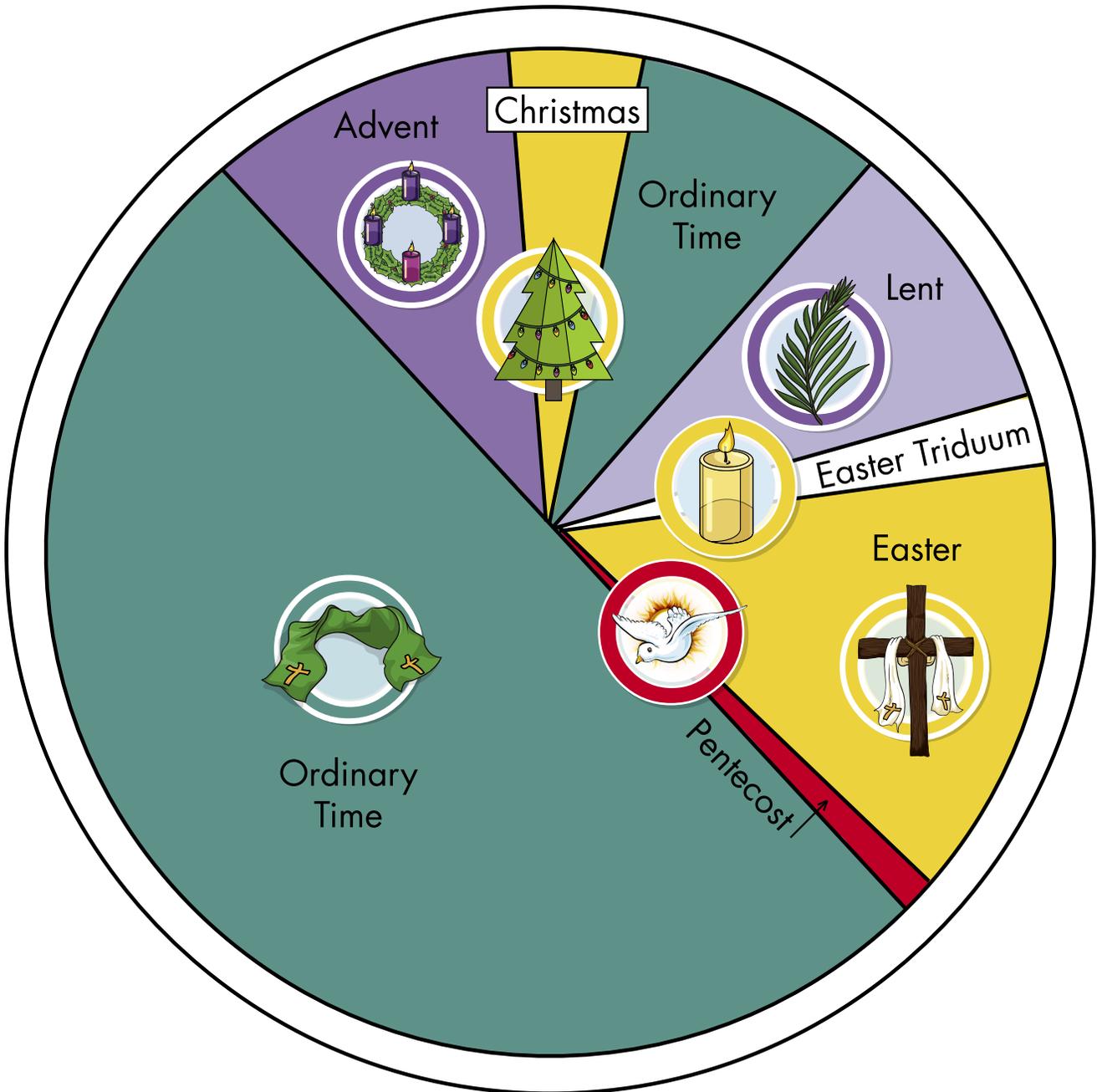


© 2019 Saint Mary’s Press





# Church Year Calendar



# Acknowledgments

The scriptural quotations in this publication are from the *Good News Translation*® (*Today's English Version, Second Edition*). Copyright © 1992 by the American Bible Society. All rights reserved. Bible text from the *Good News Translation (GNT)* is not to be reproduced in copies or otherwise by any means except as permitted in writing by the American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York, NY 10023 ([www.americanbible.org](http://www.americanbible.org)).

The excerpt on page 19 is from the English translation of *The Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL) (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2011), page 667. Copyright © 2011, USCCB, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved. Used with permission of the ICEL. Texts contained in this work derived whole or in part from liturgical texts copyrighted by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) have been published here with the confirmation of the Committee on Divine Worship, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. No other texts in this work have been formally reviewed or approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The handout "Baptismal Promises" on page 39 is from *Rite of Baptism for Children* © 1969, International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), as found in *The Rites of the Catholic Church*, volume one, prepared by the ICEL, a Joint Commission of Catholic Bishops' Conferences (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1990), numbers, 57, 58, and 59. Copyright © 1990 by the Order of St. Benedict, Collegeville, MN. Used by permission of the ICEL. Texts contained in this work derived whole or in part from liturgical texts copyrighted by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) have been published here with the confirmation of the Committee on Divine Worship, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. No other texts in this work have been formally reviewed or approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

To view copyright terms and conditions for Internet materials cited here, log on to the home pages for the referenced websites.

During this book's preparation, all citations, facts, figures, names, addresses, telephone numbers, internet URLs, and other pieces of information cited within were verified for accuracy. The authors and Saint Mary's Press staff have made every attempt to reference current and valid sources, but we cannot guarantee the content of any source, and we are not responsible for any changes that may have occurred since our verification. If you find an error in, or have a question or concern about, any of the information or sources listed within, please contact Saint Mary's Press.