

The Church Is One and Holy

Scripture Focus: John 17:20–21, 23

Lesson Goals

- to identify that Jesus prayed for his followers to be one
- to describe oneness and holiness as made up of love, patience, and kindness
- to name oneness and holiness as two of the Marks of the Church

Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 1696 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 17:20–21, 23).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.
- Review this chapter 11 home guide.

Get Ready!

Pray the Opening Prayer on page 1 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.

Brainstorm the names of different religions you know. Include churches you pass while driving, as well as religions followed by family and friends.

Tell your child that today you will explore Jesus' desire for the world to be united by love and by belief in him.

Dive In!

Read the Featured Story on page 1696 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 17:20–21, 23).

Ask your child these questions:

- Who is Jesus praying for? (All who believe in his message.)
- Why does Jesus want us to be one? (*He wants everyone to believe that God sent him and understand that God loves them.*)

Read the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 1697 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 11 activity booklet. *Answers: 1. message, 2. one, 3. Father, 4. world, 5. believe.*

Discover!

Read with your child the article on page 2 of this home guide. Review the vocabulary. 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.

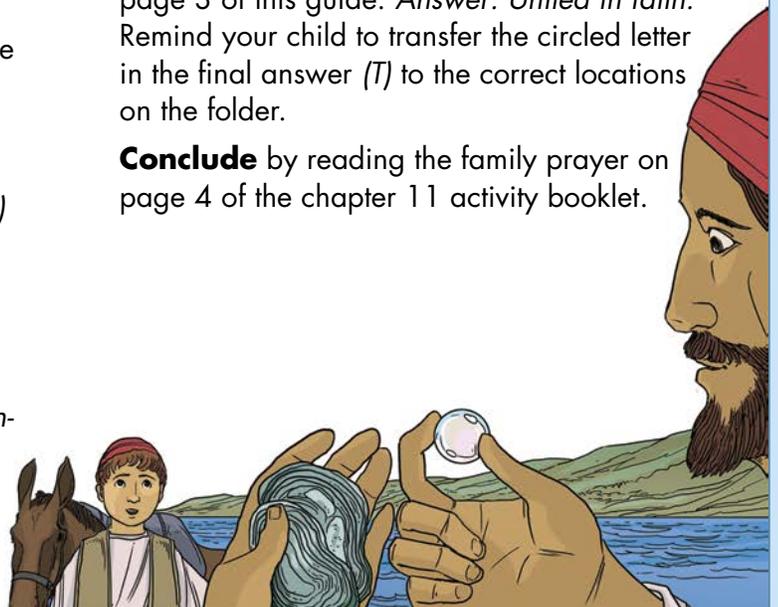
Go!

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 11 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

Invite your child to complete the puzzle on page 3 of this guide. *Answer: United in faith.* Remind your child to transfer the circled letter in the final answer (*T*) to the correct locations on the folder.

Conclude by reading the family prayer on page 4 of the chapter 11 activity booklet.



Becoming One and Holy

What makes you special? Maybe you are funny, honest, or kind. Maybe you take good care of pets, or you listen to your friends. Maybe you love to read. Maybe you're really good at hitting a baseball or playing piano. These are all qualities that make you who you are.

The Catholic Church also has four important qualities. It is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. These qualities are also called **Marks of the Church**. When we pray the Nicene Creed during Mass, we say we believe in the "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church." In today's reading we learned how Jesus prayed for us to develop the first two marks, or qualities: to be *one* and *holy*.

Vocabulary

Marks of the Church The four qualities of the Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.

one United by our faith in Jesus.

holy Being kind, patient, and helpful, just as God is.

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 Is the Bride of Christ," page 8
- "The Church Is One," page 15
- "The Church Is Holy," page 15
- "Other Churches and Faith Communities," page 24

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

What does Jesus mean when he prays for us all to be **one**? He means that he wants us to come together, or unite, in our faith in him. Jesus wants us to be together as Christians, just like God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are one in the Trinity. Jesus says that when we are one as Christians, we help the entire world believe that God sent Jesus to save us.

Jesus also wants us to be **holy**. Think of all the ways Jesus showed his love for us during his life on earth—and all the ways he still shows his love. We are holy when we show love for one another, just like Jesus does. We show our love by being kind, patient, and helpful.

Review!

Turn this page upside down to read the answers!

1. What do we call the four qualities of the Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic?
2. What did Jesus want for his followers?
3. What is one way we unite with other Christians?
4. What are some qualities of a person who is holy?

Answers: 1. The Marks of the Church. 2. He wanted them to be one—united in faith. 3. through Baptism. 4. They are loving, kind, and patient.

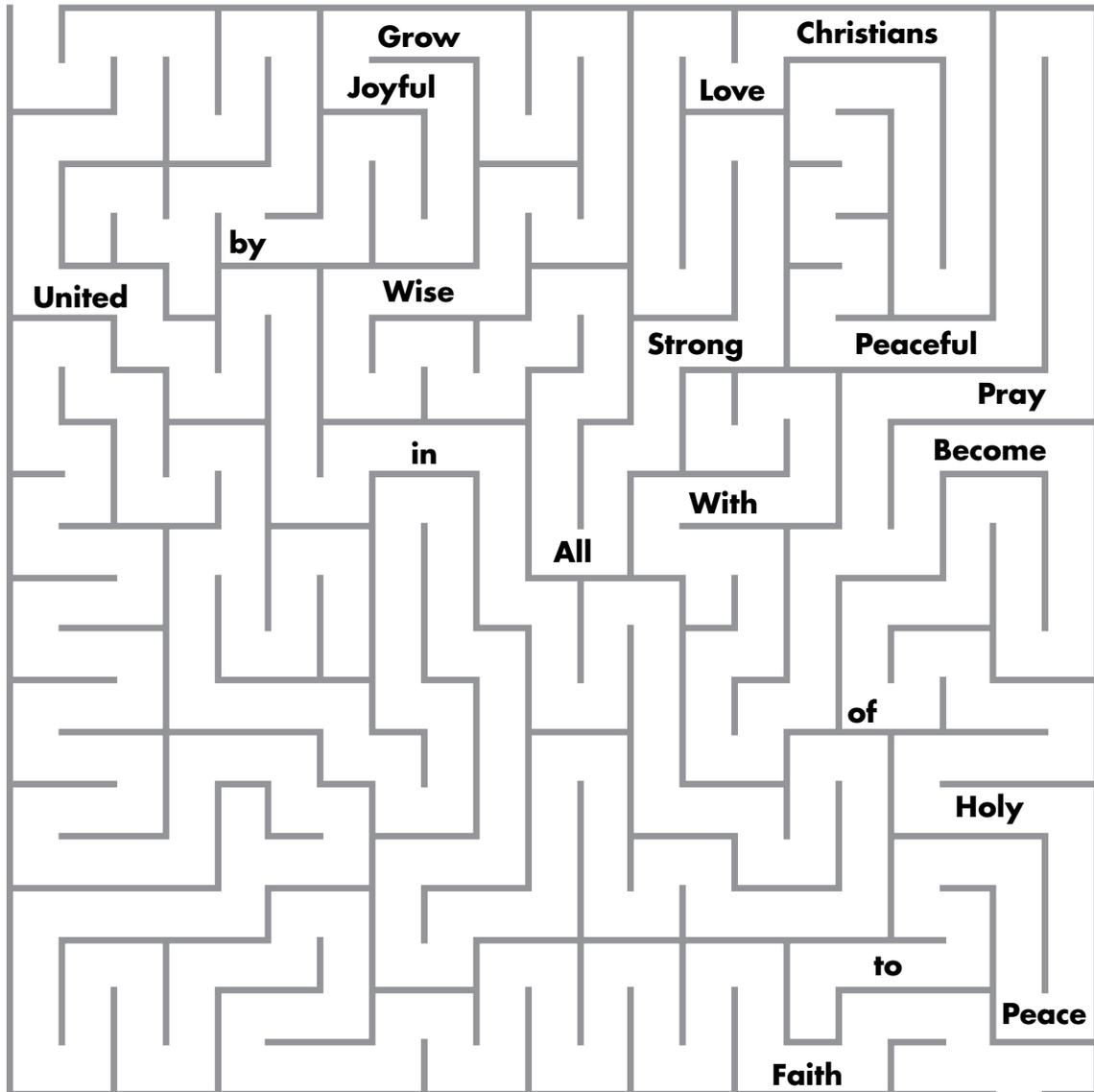




Jesus' Prayer

Solve the maze to discover what Jesus wanted all his followers to become. Use the Featured Story on page 1969 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 17:20–21, 23) to help you navigate to the correct words. Then write the words that you find on the correct path in the spaces below. Finally, transfer the circled letter in your final answer to the spaces marked with the number 11 on the back of your folder.

Start



Finish

