

# Family Page

## Background Reflection

Saint Rose of Lima once said, “Apart from the cross there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). Today’s Scripture from Matthew reminds us that Christ died on the cross for our sins. His death and Resurrection are so important because they brought us back to God. Through the death and Resurrection of his Son, God showed his love for all of us and saved us from sin and death.

At every Mass, we celebrate Christ’s death and Resurrection. We remember Christ’s sacrifice on the cross, which established the New Covenant between God and all humanity. We have never been given a greater gift: “For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life” (John 3:16). We celebrate this gift at every Mass.

## Family Activities

- Read together Matthew 27:50–54 on page 1516 of *The Catholic Children’s Bible*. Ask your child to look at the artwork on pages 1516–1517 and to imagine what the people in the pictures are feeling. Then invite your child to retell the story by explaining the images in the Tell It! on page 1517.
- Pray the Rosary together using the Sorrowful Mysteries, found on page 1997 in *The Catholic Children’s Bible*. Explain to your child that the Sorrowful Mysteries are one way we can meditate on how much Jesus loves us.
- Watch the video “The Story of Easter (Jesus’ Sacrifice)” (YouTube, 5:22) together. Discuss with your child what the video says about how Jesus loves us so much that he died for us and brought us back to God.

## People of Faith

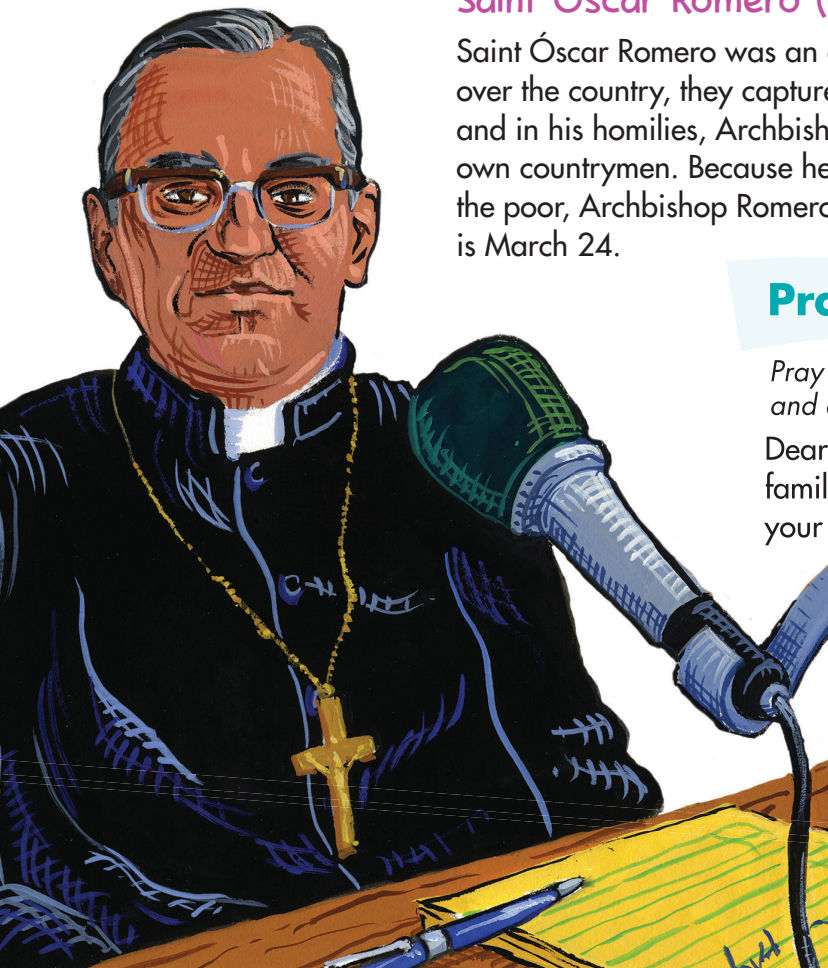
### Saint Óscar Romero (1917–1980)

Saint Óscar Romero was an archbishop in El Salvador. When the military took over the country, they captured and killed those who opposed them. On the radio and in his homilies, Archbishop Romero begged the soldiers not to hurt their own countrymen. Because he opposed the violent government and stood up for the poor, Archbishop Romero was killed while celebrating Mass. His feast day is March 24.

## Prayer

Pray this prayer together as a family, beginning and ending with the Sign of the Cross.

Dear Jesus, you gave your life for us. We offer our family life to you. Help us to remember and celebrate your sacrifice and love at every Mass. Amen.



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