

Jesus Is with Us on Our Way

- ✦ Before beginning Unit 5, read A Letter Home, found on page 178 of your child's book. Then begin the next paragraph with your child.
- ✦ Say: **In Unit 5, we will learn how Jesus helps us answer our call to be holy through the sacraments.**

CHAPTER 20 God Shares the Wondrous Life of Grace

Centering PAGE 177

- ✦ Say: **Living our faith is not something we have to do alone. We can help one another. We're going to learn about another important helper that we have as well.**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the title on page 177. Ask: **How do we know that Jesus is with us?** (God told us in the Bible.) Say: **Let's read one of those passages from the Bible.** Read aloud the passage on the bottom of the page.
- ✦ Say: **Today you will begin to study how God helps us answer his call and become a person of faith, one of God's holy people.**

Sharing PAGE 179

- ✦ Say: **A story from the Old Testament tells us about the wonderful gift of grace by saying that God walked and talked with Adam and Eve.** Ask: **What does this mean?** (They were friends.) Say: **They were happy.**
- ✦ Ask: **How does the Bible tell us that Adam and Eve chose not to be God's close friend?** (the story of eating the forbidden fruit) Say: **Adam and Eve lost grace, God's life and friendship, when they sinned. Now all people are born without grace. Adam and Eve needed a Savior to save them from sin.** Ask: **Whom did God send?** (Jesus)
- ✦ Have your child silently read page 179 and complete the activity. Say: **By his death on the Cross and his Resurrection, Jesus saved us and made it possible for us to have the gift of grace that Adam and Eve lost when they sinned.**

Sharing PAGE 180

- ◆ Ask: **What does the picture on page 180 show?** (Jesus talking to a man)
Say: **The man was an important Jewish man named Nicodemus [ni coh DEE muhs].**
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph. Ask: **Why do you think Nicodemus came to see Jesus?** (He had heard Jesus teaching.)
- ◆ Have your child read silently the rest of the page. Ask: **What did Jesus want Nicodemus to do?** (to be born again of water and the Spirit) **What did Jesus mean when he said this?** (that everyone must be baptized)
- ◆ Say: **Through Baptism, Jesus gives us new life, a share in God's life. The Holy Spirit comes to live within us. Because we receive life, being baptized is like being born again.**

Sharing PAGE 181

- ◆ Have your child read aloud Baptism Is a Sacrament on page 181. Ask: **Who was with us when we were baptized?** (our parents and godparents) **What did they do for us?** (They promised to help us live as Christians.)
- ◆ Ask: **What are we able to do since we have the new life of grace?** (live as God's children; live with God forever in heaven; celebrate the other sacraments because we are members of God's family)
- ◆ Say: **Jesus died and rose from the dead so that we can be with God in heaven. In heaven there will be happiness forever.** Have your child read aloud We Are Headed for Heaven. Ask: **What do you think heaven is like? What did Saint Paul tell us about heaven?** (It is more wonderful than we can imagine.)

Sharing PAGES 182–183

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph on page 182 and complete the activity. Ask: **How would doing each thing mentioned in the activity help you grow more like Jesus?**
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus.
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the directions and complete both activities on page 183.

Acting PAGE 184

- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 20 Review on page 184.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 185–186**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 185. Say: **Our Baptism unites us. It also gives us special graces to live more like Christ.**

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Ask: **How do your godparents help you grow in faith?** (They show me God’s love with their own. They teach me about our faith. They inspire me to be holy with their actions.)
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **As we grow into new stages and phases of our lives, we are called by the Holy Spirit to greater maturity and holiness.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 186. Say: **Like Saint Louise de Marillac, God may be placing people in your life to work with you in serving him and others. Be open and alert to how you and your friends might accept his call.**
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Say: **We show our beliefs in how we act. We show people we are Catholic by the way we treat one another and God’s creation.**
- ◆ Help your child write a short prayer to Jesus. Invite your child to ask Jesus to help him or her proclaim the faith through actions and words.

CHAPTER 21

The Holy Spirit Lives Within Us

Centering

- ◆ Ask your child to describe a favorite object he or she owns. Then have your child close his or her eyes and say: **Imagine I am holding a treasure chest filled with gold and other treasures.** Ask: **Would you be willing to give up your object in exchange for the treasure chest? Why or why not?**
- ◆ Say: **Today we will learn about a treasure that is more valuable than any treasure found on earth.**

Sharing PAGE 187

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the chapter title and the text on page 187. Ask: **What is the heavenly treasure?** (eternal life) **What did the rich young man want from Jesus?** (eternal life; to live with God in heaven forever) **Why was it so difficult for the young man to follow Jesus?** (because he had to give up things he liked a lot)
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity. Ask: **Would you be willing to give up something precious in order to get to heaven? Why?**
- ◆ Say: **Jesus knew that the happiness of heaven is worth giving up everything. It is worth any sacrifice or suffering. Why?** (The joys of heaven are unimaginable and much greater than the joys of earth.)

Sharing PAGE 188

- ◆ Read aloud the top section on page 188. Then lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Say: **The best way to get to know God is by spending time with him. Close your eyes and spend a few moments talking with Jesus in the quiet of your heart.** [Pause.] **Now let's pray together the Holy Spirit prayer.**
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity at the bottom of the page.

Sharing PAGE 189

- ◆ Say: **Saint Paul tells us we should be like mirrors reflecting the light of Jesus. Let's find out what Saint Paul meant by that and how we can do it.** Have your child read aloud the top section of page 189.
- ◆ Have your child remove the punchout with the picture of Jesus from the back of his or her book. Suggest your child to attach it to a mirror so that he or she will be reminded to reflect Jesus each time he or she looks into it.

- ◆ Have your child look at the picture at the bottom of the page. Ask: **What does the picture show?** (a dove) **What does the dove stand for?** (the Holy Spirit) Say: **The Holy Spirit is God, the Third Person of the Trinity.**
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the page. Say: **The Holy Spirit helps us love God so much that we will do everything God wants. The Spirit helps us love others so much that we make sacrifices for them. When we do good things the Holy Spirit is working within us.**
- ◆ Have your child use each word in the picture of the dove in a sentence.

Sharing PAGES 190–191

- ◆ Take turns reading aloud page 190. Point out the term *personal sin* and have your child find its meaning in the Glossary. Ask: **If the Spirit leads us, what will be in our hearts?** (love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness) Say: **The Spirit helps us reflect Jesus. The Spirit helps us know what is good and what is evil and to choose what is good.**
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity. Ask: **What are temptations?** (things that lead us to do wrong) Say: **Find a road on the map that the Spirit would tell you not to take. Ask: How can it be a temptation?**
- ◆ Say: **When we face temptations, we have a chance to become stronger when we pray and overcome them. We show love for God when we do not give in to temptation.**
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity at the top of page 191. Say: **The pictures show what we can do to receive the help of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is always ready to help us, but that doesn't mean it is always easy for us to do what is right. We must be ready to do what is right even though it is difficult.**
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the directions and complete the activity at the bottom of the page.

Acting PAGE 192

- ◆ Read aloud Saint Dominic Savio on page 192. Say: **Dominic Savio's story shows us that you do not have to be big and powerful to serve God. Even though he was young, Dominic was very holy. His motto was "Death before sin."** Ask: **What do you think he meant?**
- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 21 Review on page 192.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 193–194**INSPIRE**

- ✦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 193. Say: **An advocate is someone who works or speaks on your behalf.** Ask: **Why do you think we call the Holy Spirit our Advocate?** (The Holy Spirit helps us make the right choices.)

PROCLAIM

- ✦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **The word *novena* comes from the Latin word meaning “nine.” When we pray a novena, we pray a series of prayers for nine consecutive days, weeks, or months.**
- ✦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **The Holy Spirit guides us as we seek to learn our faith.**
- ✦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 194. Say: **Because of Francis de Sales’s work to spread the Good News through the written word, he is the patron saint of journalists and writers.**
- ✦ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ✦ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ✦ Ask: **How does our parish family help those in need?** (Discuss ministries or events that help others.) **Why do we do this?**
- ✦ Explore ways for your child to participate in parish ministries. Say: **When we serve those in our parish, we also serve God.**

CHAPTER 22 God Blesses Contrite Hearts

Centering

- ◆ Share with your child a time you were sorry for something you did. Include some of the ideas from these questions: Why did you do it? Why were you sorry? How does being sorry make you feel? Did you hurt someone by what you did? How does hurting someone make you feel? Did you tell the person you hurt that you were sorry? Did the person forgive you? How did you feel then?
- ◆ Say: **Today you will find out about a time when Saint Peter was sorry for something he had done.**

Sharing PAGE 195

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the chapter title and Jesus Forgave Peter on page 195. Say: **A contrite heart is sorry for something it has done.**
- ◆ Ask: **Why do you think Peter denied knowing Jesus?** (Peter was afraid.) **What would have helped Peter be brave enough to tell the truth?** (prayer) Say: **Even though Peter denied Jesus, Jesus still loved him. Jesus looked at Peter with much love, but Peter could tell that Jesus knew he had sinned. Jesus forgave Peter. Why?** (Jesus loved Peter; Peter was truly sorry.)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud Forgiveness of Sins. Ask: **How are we like Peter?** (We also sin; we do and say things that set us apart from God.) Say: **God knows we are weak just as Peter was. God knows we want to love him with our whole hearts. If we have contrite hearts, we will want to tell God we are sorry.**

Sharing PAGES 196–197

- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the stories on pages 196 and 197. Discuss each story using these questions:
- ◆ The Two Men in the Temple: Ask: **Why was God pleased with the prayer of the second man?** (He admitted his sins.) **How did God bless him?** (with peace)
- ◆ Jesus and the Woman at Simon's House: Ask: **Why was the woman sad?** (She had not kept God's laws.) **How did Jesus bless her?** (He gave her peace.)
- ◆ The Shepherd and His Lost Sheep: Ask: **How is Jesus like the good shepherd who loves the lost sheep?** (Jesus loves us even when we stray.) **What does this story show?** (how much God loves us even when we have done wrong)

- ✦ Jesus and Zacchaeus: Ask: **Why did Zacchaeus think of his sins at this time and say he was sorry?** (because Zacchaeus knew Jesus loved him)
- ✦ Say: **God has given us a special power to help us know what is right and wrong: our conscience. When our conscience tells us we have done something wrong, we should listen. It is the Holy Spirit calling us to admit the wrong we have done and be sorry for it.**
- ✦ Ask: **When do you think we should examine our consciences?** (every night before we go to bed; before we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation) Say: **One time that we become more aware of God's presence is when God speaks to us through our conscience.**

Sharing PAGE 198

- ✦ Have your child read aloud *Do We Have a Disciple's Heart?* on page 198. Point out the words *conscience* and *examination of conscience* and have your child find their meanings in the Glossary. Ask: **Why should we examine our consciences every day?** (to come to love God and others more, to be better disciples of Jesus, to root out ugly things that keep us from being beautiful people)
- ✦ Guide your child through an Examination of Conscience on page 198. Say: **After each question, we'll stop to think whether or not we have shown love and to promise God to do better.** Read aloud the questions.
- ✦ Ask: **What prayer do we say to tell God we are sorry for our sins?** (the Act of Contrition) Say: **Contrition means "sorrow for sin." We can use our own words, or we can pray an Act of Contrition.**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud Act of Contrition. Ask: **Who made up for all our sins?** (our Savior, Jesus Christ) **How?** (He suffered and died.)

Acting PAGES 199–200

- ✦ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus on page 199. Pray aloud slowly the Act of Contrition on the previous page, encouraging your child to listen to the words carefully.
- ✦ Point out the Act of Contrition prayer on the inside back cover of your child's book and encourage him or her to take it to heart. Say: **You may color the cross next to the prayer when you know it by heart.**
- ✦ Have your child complete the Help the Flowers Grow activity.
- ✦ Help your child complete the Chapter 22 Review on page 200.
- ✦ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 201–202**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 201. Ask: **Why is it important for us to first acknowledge our sins?** (We have to first sincerely admit that we are wrong before we can seek forgiveness.)

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Being mindful of our actions helps us better follow God’s laws of love.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Knowing our faith helps us grow closer to God and follow his laws.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 202. Say: **Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton faced many challenges in her life, including the deaths of her mother, sister, and husband. Through it all, however, she remained cheerful and hopeful. When her troubles were greatest, she turned to Jesus for strength.**
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Ask: **Why should you regularly examine your conscience?** (to see what I can improve to follow God’s laws the way he wants me to do it; to see God’s activity in my life)
- ◆ Encourage your child to examine his or her conscience before going to sleep each night.

CHAPTER 23 **God Forgives Us****Centering**

- ✦ Say: **The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also called the Sacrament of Peace.** Ask: **Do you think this is a good name? Why?**
- ✦ Say: **Today you will read a story Jesus told about a father and a son. After the story, you should be ready to tell whether it reminds you of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

Sharing PAGES 203–204

- ✦ Together read aloud and discuss the play *A Father Forgives His Son* on pages 203 and 204. Share the parts of the narrator, the son, and the father.
- ✦ Ask: **How does this story remind you of the Sacrament of Reconciliation? How do you think the father felt when his son decided to leave home and go off on his own? What happened to the boy's money and friends? Do you think it was easy for the son to come back to his father?**
- ✦ Ask: **How did the father show that he had forgiven his lost son?** (He put his arms around him.) Say: **The son must have felt that he belonged to his family again. All the love the father bestowed on him helped him have the love he needed to be a good son.** Ask: **What do you think Jesus wanted to tell us about his Father through this story?**
- ✦ Lead your child in prayer using *A Moment with Jesus*. Conclude with the following: **Lord, you are always ready to forgive us when we come to you. Give us the love we need in order to admit when we have done wrong and to ask forgiveness. We ask this in your name, Jesus. Amen.**
- ✦ Encourage your child to pray each evening. Say: **Each evening it is good to talk with God. We can thank God for the signs of his love during the day and express sorrow for the times we failed to love in return.**
- ✦ Remind your child to pray the Act of Contrition every night so that he or she will learn it by heart.

Sharing PAGE 205

- ✦ Help your child recall the forgiving love of God our Father by reading aloud *The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation* on page 205. Then have him or her complete the drawing activity below it.
- ✦ Have your child read aloud *We Prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation* and discuss the photograph. Ask: **What is the child in the photograph doing? What might the child be thinking about or saying to God? What do you think God is saying to the child? To whom can we pray before we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation?** (the Holy Spirit)

- ◆ Say: **After we pray to the Holy Spirit, we do certain things to get ready for the sacrament.** Ask your child to read aloud the steps in the box.

Sharing PAGES 206–207

- ◆ Say: **In the picture on page 206, you see a boy celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.** Ask: **How often would it be good for us to go?** (whenever we feel the need—once a month or every two months) Have your child read aloud the page.
- ◆ Ask: **What are some reasons we find it hard to be good?** (Sometimes we are selfish; sometimes we want our own way; sometimes we are lazy.) **Why should we listen carefully to the priest?** (The priest will tell us how to make up for our sins.) **What words does the priest speak to show that God forgives us?** (the words of absolution)
- ◆ Tell your child to study the steps to prepare for celebrating the sacrament at a later time.
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity on page 207.

Acting PAGE 208

- ◆ Invite your child to close his or her eyes and think about going to receive God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Guide your child in prayer. Say: **Thank Jesus for giving you the Sacrament of Reconciliation.** [Pause.] **Think of what you want to tell him you're sorry for when you receive this sacrament.** [Pause.] **Ask Jesus to help you get ready to make a good confession.** [Pause.]
- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 23 Review on page 208.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 209–210**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 209. Say: **God is overflowing with a desire to have us close to him. He will always forgive us if we are sincere when we ask.**

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **When we celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, we are filled with the great peace of knowing we are right with God.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **You can pray the Act of Contrition every day, not just when you go to confession.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 210. Say: **Saint Philip Neri was full of joy and always saw the best in others. People were attracted to his words and how he lived the message he taught.**
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions. Have your child pray silently the Act of Contrition found on the inside back cover of the book. Then have him or her complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Encourage your child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- ◆ Have your child lead your family in praying the Act of Contrition or the prayer he or she wrote in Share Your Faith.

CHAPTER 24 God's Family Celebrates the Eucharist

Centering

- ♦ Ask: **How deep do you think the ocean is? Can anyone measure the sky?** (No.) **Why not?** (because the sky goes on and on into space) Say: **The ocean and the sky remind us of God's love. God's love is so great that we cannot even measure it, but we can learn more about it.**
- ♦ Ask: **How does the Sacrament of Reconciliation show Jesus' love for us?** (He forgives us.)
- ♦ Say: **Today you will learn how Jesus showed his love when he gave us the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.**
- ♦ Ask: **What happens at the Eucharist?** (Jesus offers himself to the Father; we share in his Death and Resurrection; we receive Jesus in Holy Communion.)
- ♦ Say: **You will also learn more about the first main part of the Mass—when God speaks to us in the Liturgy of the Word.**

Sharing PAGE 211

- ♦ Take turns reading aloud page 211. Say: **Look at the picture of Jesus.** Ask: **What scene from Jesus' life is pictured?** (the Last Supper) **What did Jesus do at the Last Supper?** (shared bread and wine as his Body and Blood; gave himself to us in Holy Communion) **Why did Jesus say, "Do this in memory of me"?** (He wanted the apostles and all priests to do what he did at the Last Supper and share in his sacrifice.)
- ♦ Say: **We believe that, at every Mass, Jesus offers himself to God as he did at the Last Supper.** Ask: **What is this sacrament?** (the Eucharist) **For what special occasions might God's family, the Church, celebrate the Eucharist?** (holy days, funerals, weddings, graduations, anniversaries)

Sharing PAGE 212

- ♦ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph and the five points of The Mass Is a Sacrifice of Love on page 212. Ask: **Of all the wonderful things Jesus does for us at the Eucharist, which do you think is most important? Why?** Have your child read aloud the last paragraph of this section. Ask: **How are all the celebrations of the Eucharist the same around the world?** (The prayers and the sacrifice are the same.)

- ✦ Read aloud *Jesus Remains with Us*. Have your child point to the words *blessing* and *benediction* and find their meanings in the Glossary. Say: **A blessing is when a priest prays a prayer for us.** Ask: **What is the special blessing that the priest says when he blesses us with the sacred host?** (benediction) **Why do we bring Holy Communion to people who can't get to church?** (because Holy Communion strengthens them and reminds them the Church is with them)
- ✦ Lead your child in prayer using *A Moment with Jesus*. Remind your child that he or she is in Jesus' presence at this and every moment. Say: **Tell Jesus you believe he is present in the Holy Eucharist.** [Pause.] **Thank him for his great love and for always being with us.** [Pause.]

Sharing PAGE 213

- ✦ Ask: **What does the top picture on page 213 show?** (a person crying next to the remains of a house) Say: **The house was destroyed because it was built on sand. When the storm came along, the house didn't have a strong foundation.** Ask: **What might the person have done?** (built on a rock)
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the page. Say: **Jesus is firm and strong like a rock. He wants us to build on him. We build on Jesus by listening to him and obeying his words.**

Sharing PAGE 214

- ✦ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph on page 214. Ask: **What are the two main parts of the Mass?** (the Liturgy of the Word, the Liturgy of the Eucharist) Have your child read aloud the rest of the page and complete the activity. Point out the terms *Liturgy of the Word*, *epistles*, *Lectionary for Mass*, and *Homily* and have your child find their meanings in the Glossary.
- ✦ Ask: **What parts did you circle in the activity?** (First Reading, psalm, Second Reading, Gospel, Homily) **What do we celebrate in the Liturgy of the Word?** (that God speaks to us and teaches us)
- ✦ Say: **The Church has always shown deep respect for God's Word, especially for the Gospel.** Ask: **What are the four Gospels?** (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) Say: **The *Lectionary for Mass* is the book containing the readings for the eucharistic celebration. The person who reads is called a lector.**

Acting PAGES 215–216

- ✦ Lead your child through the activity on page 215.
- ✦ Encourage your child to do one special act of kindness today to live out the words he or she heard.
- ✦ Help your child complete the Chapter 24 Review on page 216.
- ✦ Encourage your child to share the Building Family Faith section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 217–218**INSPIRE**

- ✦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 217. Say: **The Mass is a time for us to gather as a faith family. We experience Christ’s love for us in the Eucharist and find inspiration to take our faith into the world and share it with others.**

PROCLAIM

- ✦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Ask: **What experiences have you had with Masses celebrated for special occasions such as weddings and funerals?**
- ✦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **The Church selects Scripture verses to be read each day at Mass. These Scriptures are also part of a devotion called the Liturgy of the Hours.**
- ✦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 218. Say: **Saint Bede reminds us that we do not need to perform great acts to live holy lives.**
- ✦ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ✦ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ✦ Explain that the Eucharist is the same in all Catholic churches worldwide. Say: **The Catholic Church is universal. A Catholic person can attend Mass almost anywhere in the world.**
- ✦ Suggest that your family attend Sunday Mass at a different parish. Compare how the services are alike and different.

CHAPTER 25 The Eucharist Is a Gift

Centering PAGE 219

- ✦ Discuss the photograph on page 219. Ask: **What is the girl doing? Who might receive the gift? Do you think the gift will be precious to the person who receives it? Why? What does the gift tell that person?**
- ✦ Ask: **What makes a gift precious? What gifts have you received that are precious to you? What makes them precious?** (the love they express)
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the title and the text. Ask: **What are some gifts God has given us? Have you ever carried the gifts of bread and wine in procession to the altar? Whose gifts are the bread and wine?** (ours)

Sharing PAGES 220–221

- ✦ Have your child read aloud the first two paragraphs on page 220. Ask: **What gift does God give us in the Liturgy of the Word? (his words) In the Liturgy of the Eucharist? (himself in Holy Communion) Why is Jesus a perfect gift to his Father?** (He is God; he did everything to please his Father; he died on the Cross for us.)
- ✦ Read aloud the rest of the section. Ask: **What does the priest do with the gifts of bread and wine?** (offers them to God) **What happens to these gifts?** (They become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion.) **When do we share in the wonderful gift that is Jesus?** (when we receive Holy Communion)
- ✦ Have your child complete the activity.
- ✦ Ask your child to look at the pictures on page 221 as you read aloud the text. Ask: **What is the priest doing?** (offering the Mass, the sacrifice of Jesus) Say: **We please God by bringing to Mass with us everything we think, do, and say. We offer these gifts with Jesus' perfect gift to God our Father.** Ask: **What are some things you think, do, and say that you can offer at Mass?**
- ✦ Ask: **What do we do at the Lord's table to make us one with God's family all over the world?** (We receive Holy Communion.) Say: **The word *communion* means "being joined together." Holy Communion joins Jesus and all of us together. It prepares us for heaven, where we will be one with Jesus and his family forever.**

Sharing PAGES 222–223

- ✦ Have your child read aloud Jesus Makes Us One in Him on page 222. Say: **We receive Jesus' peace at the beginning of Mass when we tell God we are sorry for not being loving.** Ask: **What prayers do we sometimes say at this time?** ("Lord, have mercy." "Christ, have mercy.")

- ◆ Ask: **What do we pray before Holy Communion to ask God to forgive us and feed us with “our daily bread”?** (the Our Father)
- ◆ Say: **Then we give others a sign of Christ’s peace to show that we love and forgive everyone.** Ask: **How do we give the sign of peace?** (Demonstrate with your child.)
- ◆ Read aloud the bottom section and review the main parts of the Mass. Ask: **What are the two main parts of the eucharistic celebration?** (Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist) **What gifts do we bring to the altar at Mass that are transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ during the Eucharist?** (bread and wine) **What gifts do we offer at Mass together with Jesus?** (Jesus, ourselves)
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity on page 223.

Reviewing PAGES 224–226

- ◆ Help your child complete the Chapter 25 Review on page 224.
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the directions and complete the activities on pages 225 and 226. Ask: **In which part of the Mass do we become one with Jesus Christ and with one another in a special way?** (at Holy Communion)

Celebrating PAGES 227–228

- ◆ Invite your child to help plan the celebration. Display grapes and bread on a stand or table. Guide him or her in selecting an opening song and a closing song.
- ◆ Hold the celebration. Consider using the reflection time to have your child reflect on all the gifts he or she has received this year or what he or she has learned about God and serving him.
- ◆ During the intercessions, invite your child to name those people or situations for whom he or she would like to pray. The response is “O Lord, hear our prayer.”
- ◆ Before the closing song, you may wish to pray the Our Father together or offer a special prayer or blessing for your child.

Acting

- ◆ When you’ve completed this unit, help your child tear out the Family Feature section on pages 230a–230d and encourage him or her to share it with other family members, or read and complete the section together.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 229–230**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 229. Ask: **Why do you think Jesus uses bread to describe himself?** (We need bread [food] to live. In the same way, we need Christ to receive eternal life.)

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **As we leave Mass, we are reminded that we are filled with the Holy Spirit.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Think about how wonderful it is to share in Jesus' love. Through the Eucharist, we are connected to our faith family.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 230. Say: **Boniface looked to the wisdom of the pope to help him understand God's plan for his life. He is a model of obedience and courage for us.**
- ◆ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ◆ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Say: **Look again at what you wrote in Share Your Faith. Tell me your plan for how you will continue to grow in your Catholic faith and share it with those in your life.**
- ◆ Pray together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit, on the inside back cover of your child's book, asking for guidance and support in sharing your faith with others.