

Multimedia for each lesson are accessed by scanning the QR code on the Children's Book page. If you don't have access to a QR code digital device, contact your child's catechist for assistance.

# Morality, Our Lived Faith

## Unit Opener: Pages 170–171

- ▶ Ask your child: **What are some rules in our home?** (Possible answers: helping with chores, walking the dog, being polite and respectful) **What are some rules you have at school?** (Possible answers: raising my hand to talk, being polite, listening to others) **What would the world be like without any rules?** (Possible answers: chaotic, dangerous, wild)
- ▶ Read aloud the title on page 171. Say: **Saint Ignatius of Loyola was an important saint who lived by God's rules. God's rules help us live happy, peaceful lives.**
- ▶ Have your child look at the picture on page 170 as you read aloud the first three paragraphs on page 171. Then ask: **Was Ignatius born a saint?** (No.) **What happened to Ignatius?** (He was hurt in battle.) **What did Ignatius do as he healed?** (He read about Jesus and the saints.) **How did Ignatius change?** (He prayed and thought about God.) **What did Ignatius decide?** (to live like Jesus)
- ▶ Read aloud the last paragraph. Ask: **Whom did Ignatius put first in his life?** (God) Say: **Let's try to follow Ignatius's example and put God first in our lives.**
- ▶ Read aloud the Be Inspired feature. Ask your child what he or she might do today to follow God more closely.
- ▶ With your child, add Ignatius's feast day, July 31, to your calendar. Plan events together to honor the teachings of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.

## Unit Opener: Page 172

- ▶ Have your child think about loving actions he or she can do for others. List your child's ideas on a sheet of paper. Say: ***These are all good choices. When we make good choices, we are following God. We are sharing God's love.***
- ▶ Read aloud the title and two paragraphs. Tell your child that Ignatius wanted all people to feel God's love for them. Say: ***Ignatius saw God in everything. He believed that we feel God around us by paying attention to the little things in our lives each day.*** Explain that we follow Ignatius's example by taking time to be thankful for God's gifts.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child close his or her eyes. Tell your child to spend a few moments thinking about ways he or she has felt God's love today. Then help your child complete the activity. Pray together: ***Dear God, help us always have a thankful heart.***
- ▶ Read aloud the psalm in the Reading God's Word feature. Then say: ***God's love helps us make good choices.*** Explain that your child can examine his or her actions every day to determine whether your child did God's will by making good choices.

## Making Good Decisions

### Engage: Page 173

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Open the Bible and read aloud Matthew 7:24–27. Then say: ***The Gospel of the Lord***. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Remind your child of the story of the Three Little Pigs. Ask: ***Which pig made good choices?*** (the pig that made his house of brick) Say: ***Jesus' stories can help us make good choices.***
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraphs on page 173. Ask: ***What does this story teach us?*** (that following Jesus will help us build a good life)
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer. Pause for reflection. Then close by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.

### Explore: Page 174

- ▶ Read aloud the title and two paragraphs. Point out the boldface terms *commandments* and *Ten Commandments* and have your child repeat them after you. Ask: ***What are God's rules called?*** (commandments) ***How many commandments did God give us?*** (ten) Next, say: ***Let's learn each of God's Ten Commandments.***
- ▶ Read aloud each commandment. Discuss with your child how we can follow each commandment. For example, ask: ***How can we love God more than anything else?*** (pray, go to Mass) ***How can we use God's name with respect?*** (say *God, Jesus, and Christ* with respect) ***How can we keep the Lord's Day holy?*** (attend Mass, spend time with my family) ***How can we honor and obey our parents?*** (respect them, do as they ask) ***How can we treat all human life with respect?*** (play nicely, say kind things)
- ▶ Say: ***God's commandments tell us how to love him and other people.*** Ask: ***Which commandments tell us how to love God?*** (1, 2, and 3) ***Which commandments tell us how to love other people?*** (4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10)

### Explore: Page 175

- ▶ Ask your child: ***What does the word decisions mean?*** (choices) Say: ***Choosing what clothes to wear or what to eat for lunch are decisions we might make every day. Some decisions require us to choose right from wrong. Thankfully, we have rules to help us make those decisions.***

- ▶ Read aloud the title and paragraph. Say: ***Let's learn more about using God's commandments to make decisions.***
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Then read aloud each commandment and decision. Have your child complete the activity. When he or she is finished, discuss the answers. Point out the difference between the good decisions and the bad decisions. Then say: ***God gave us the Ten Commandments so we know what he wants us to do. God's grace helps us follow his commandments.***
- ▶ Read aloud Did You Know? Say: ***The Great Commandment tells us to love God the Father and other people.*** Ask your child: ***Why is it the greatest commandment?*** (It helps us follow all of God's commandments.)

### Art Print: Page 176

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online a picture of a person serving food to people in need. Ask: ***What do you see in this picture?*** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including how the person is helping the other people in the picture. Say: ***If we remember to love God and love our neighbor in everything we do, we will be following Gods' commandments.***
- ▶ Read aloud the title and paragraph. Say: ***Let's imagine that a friend asks you to play a video game, but I haven't given you permission to do so. What decision will you make?*** Read aloud the question in each thought bubble and discuss it in terms of the scenario. Guide your child to understand that he or she should decide not to play the game.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions and ask your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: ***When we follow this Great Commandment, we are following all of God's commandments.***
- ▶ Invite your child to cut out magazine pictures to show a meal that he or she might serve to a person who is hungry. Have your child glue the cutouts onto a paper plate and draw utensils. Staple the plate to a sheet of poster board titled *Feeding the Hungry Is a Good Decision!*

### Reflect: Page 177

- ▶ Together look at the picture. Ask: ***What is the girl doing?*** (praying) Say: ***The girl might be praying to ask for God's help in making good decisions all day long.***
- ▶ Read aloud the title and paragraph. Then have your child prepare for prayer time.
- ▶ Pray aloud the first paragraph of the prayer. Pause briefly to give your child time to talk to God in his or her heart.
- ▶ Then ask your child to follow along in the book as you pray aloud the Morning Prayer. Next, have your child pray aloud the Morning Prayer with you. Say: ***God will help us follow rules and make good decisions. We can pray to ask God for help.*** Conclude by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen.*

**Reflect: Page 178**

- ▶ Ask your child: **Why is making good decisions important?** (Good decisions keep us safe. God wants us to make good decisions.) **What did God give us to help us make good decisions?** (the commandments)
- ▶ Read aloud the title and paragraph. Ask: **What do the Ten Commandments tell us?** (to love God and other people)
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Say: **This activity asks you to tell whether each situation describes a good decision or a bad decision. Think about the Ten Commandments before you answer.** Read aloud each situation and have your child draw a smiling face for a good decision or a frowning face for a bad decision. When your child has completed the activity, discuss the correct answers. Help your child identify which commandment each situation refers to. (Honor and obey your parents. Respect what belongs to others. Tell the truth.)

**Respond: Pages 179–180**

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 179. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Then read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. say: **Jesus said to love your neighbor as yourself. This is called the Golden Rule.** Ask: **Why do you think we call it “golden”?** (It’s valuable. If we follow it, then we are following many of God’s commandments at once.) Ask your child to suggest specific ways to treat others the way he or she likes to be treated.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Talk with your child about good decisions that he or she might make. Then have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Say: **Let’s thank Jesus for teaching us how to follow his Father’s commandments.** Pray aloud the prayer. Then invite your child to talk with Jesus in his or her heart. Pause briefly. Close by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of With My Family on page 180. Then read aloud and discuss the Scripture verses as suggested in the next paragraph.
- ▶ Discuss Faith on the Go. Then plan a time to complete the activity.
- ▶ Conclude by praying together the Family Prayer.

## Jesus Cares for Us

### Engage: Page 181

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Open the Bible and read aloud Luke 15:8–10. Then say: **The Gospel of the Lord.** Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*
- ▶ Help your child understand the parable. Say: **In today's Scripture, Jesus tells a story to teach about God's love.** Read aloud the first two paragraphs on page 181. Ask: **How do you feel when you lose something?** (sad) **How do you feel when you find it?** (excited, happy)
- ▶ Read aloud the last paragraph. Say: **When we sin, we offend God. We lose our closeness to God. We feel lost. God wants to be close to us. Like the woman, God wants to find us and welcome us back.**
- ▶ Say: **Let's ask for Jesus' help.** Pray aloud the prayer. Then pause to allow your child to reflect. Conclude the prayer by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen.*

### Explore: Pages 182–183

- ▶ Say: **Think for a moment about a time you did something that you knew was wrong. Maybe you told a lie or hurt someone's feelings on purpose.** Ask: **Is it a good feeling or a yucky feeling when you do something that you know you shouldn't do?**
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the two paragraphs on page 182. Point out the boldface word *sin* and have your child repeat it after you. Have your child turn to page 174 to review the Ten Commandments. Say: **These are God's rules. When we do not follow God's rules, we sin and hurt our relationships with God and with other people.** Ask: **What are some sins that hurt our friendship with God?** (using God's name in ways that are not nice, forgetting how important God is to us) **What are some sins that hurt our friendships with others?** (taking things that don't belong to us, not telling the truth, being mean to someone) Discuss ways to avoid these sins.
- ▶ Direct your child's attention to the photo in the activity on page 182. Say: **It's important to think about the choices we make. When we sin, it's a good idea to think of ways we could have acted differently.** Read aloud the activity title and directions. Then read aloud the sentence starter in each thought bubble and have your child complete the sentence.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the first two paragraphs on page 183. Point out the boldface word *forgiveness* and have your child repeat it after you. Ask: **When will God forgive us?** (always; when we are sorry) **How can we show forgiveness to someone who has hurt us?** (Show them that we care. Be kind to them. Say "I forgive you.") **How does forgiveness make us feel?** (better, peaceful)

- ▶ Read aloud the third paragraph. Say: ***When we know we've done or said things that hurt others, we feel lost or sad. If we are sorry for what we did and if we ask the people we hurt to forgive us, they usually will. Then we can make our friendship with them and with God strong again.***
- ▶ Read aloud the last paragraph. Direct your child's attention to the picture and have him or her read aloud each speech balloon. Say: ***There are many ways to say we're sorry. It doesn't always matter which words we choose as long as we show that we are truly sorry.*** Encourage your child to name other ways to say he or she is sorry.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Say: ***Jesus always forgives us. We can be like Jesus and forgive others with the help of God's gift of grace.***

### Art Print: Page 184

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online a picture of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Ask your child: ***What do you see in this picture?*** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including what Jesus is doing. Say: ***Jesus cares for us like a shepherd cares for his sheep. Like a shepherd, Jesus protects us from harm, feeds us through the Eucharist, and keeps us together as God's family.***
- ▶ Read aloud the title and Bible story. Then ask: ***How do you know that the shepherd cares about the lost sheep?*** (He looks for it.) ***How does the shepherd feel when he finds the sheep?*** (happy, excited, protective) Say: ***Like a shepherd, God is ready to find us. He is happy when we say we are sorry and follow him.***
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child complete the activity and share the correct path through the maze.
- ▶ Invite your child to make a lamb from air-dry clay. Have your child add small balls of clay to represent wool and use plastic utensils or small art tools to add details. Say: ***As you show your sheep to the rest of the family, tell them the story of the lost sheep. Tell them how Jesus is our shepherd.***

### Reflect: Page 185

- ▶ Together look at the picture on page 185. Ask: ***What is the child doing?*** (praying) Say: ***The child might be praying because he or she feels lost or sad after having done something wrong. Remember, Jesus is watching over you and is ready to forgive, no matter what. Always take time to tell Jesus you are sorry.***
- ▶ Invite your child to prepare for prayer. Read aloud the title. Then read aloud the paragraph in a prayerful manner.



- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of the prayer, pausing after each sentence and question to allow your child to imagine what you are describing and how he or she would respond.
- ▶ Read aloud the second paragraph of the prayer. Then say: ***When we do something that we know is wrong, we are like a lost sheep. We can be sorry and ask for forgiveness. Jesus is the Good Shepherd; he always forgives us when we are sorry and ask for forgiveness.***
- ▶ Pray aloud the last paragraph of the prayer. Then say: ***Now it is your time to speak to Jesus in your heart about anything you wish.*** Pause for a few moments. Then invite your child to pray the Sign of the Cross and *Amen* with you. Say: ***Sometimes it is hard to say we're sorry, but we can always ask Jesus to help us.***

### Reflect: Page 186

- ▶ Ask your child to retell the story of the lost sheep. then read aloud the title and paragraph on page 186. Ask: ***Who is like a caring shepherd to us?*** (Jesus) Say: ***Jesus will always help us when we sin and lose our way. Jesus is our Good Shepherd.***
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child complete the activity. When your child is finished, ask him or her to read the completed sentences to you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Scripture verse in the Reading God's Word feature. Then ask: ***Who is the Good Shepherd?*** (Jesus) ***How does Jesus show us he is the Good Shepherd?*** (He worries when we sin and are lost. He always helps us find our way and forgives us.) Say: ***Like Jesus, the Good Shepherd, God the Father and God the Holy Spirit keep us safe and always forgive us.***

### Respond: Pages 187–188

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 187. Review the Words I Learned. Then read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Work with your child to identify specific words to use when asking for and giving forgiveness.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child trace the words and then read aloud the sentences. Explain that your child can use these forgiving words when he or she makes a wrong choice or when he or she wants to forgive someone.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child prays silently. Then say: ***Take a moment to talk with Jesus in the quiet of your heart.*** Pause briefly. Close by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of With My Family on page 188. Then read aloud and discuss the Scripture verses, as suggested in the next paragraph. Discuss Faith on the Go. Then complete the activity together.
- ▶ Conclude by praying together the Family Prayer.



## Jesus Loves Families

### Engage: Page 189

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Open the Bible and read aloud Ephesians 6:1–4. Then say: **The Word of the Lord.** Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraphs on page 189. Ask: **What are some things that I ask you to do?** (clean my room, play nicely with siblings) Talk with your child about how you do or did respond to requests from your parents. Say: **We show respect for our parents when we do what they ask. When we show respect to our parents, we also are showing love and respect to God.**
- ▶ Ask your child to think about how he or she feels when he or she disobeys you. Ask your child to think about how it makes you feel. Say: **Let's ask Jesus to help us show our parents respect.** Pray aloud the prayer. Then pause to allow children time to reflect. Conclude the prayer by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen.*

### Explore: Page 190

- ▶ Ask: **What do you think Jesus was like when he was your age? What kinds of chores and rules do you think his parents had for him to follow?** (Accept all responses.) Say: **Jesus was a child like you. He had rules to obey and chores to do. Just as you obey me, so Jesus obeyed Mary and Joseph.**
- ▶ Have your child look at the picture on page 190 and imagine being with Jesus, Mary, and Joseph while you read aloud the title and story. Ask: **On their way home, why were Mary and Joseph so worried about Jesus?** (They didn't know where he was. They thought he was lost.) Say: **When they finally found Jesus, they were very happy. Mary and Joseph wanted Jesus to be safe.** Ask: **Why did Jesus go home with them?** (He was obedient. They probably asked him to.) Say: **I ask you to do things to keep you safe too.**

### Explore: Page 191

- ▶ Ask: **What favorite gift have you received?** (Answers will vary.) **How do you feel when you get a gift?** (happy, excited, joyful) Say: **We are going to talk about an important gift that I received from God.**
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the first two paragraphs. Ask: **What very important gift did God give me?** (your child) Say: **I felt happy, excited, and joyful when God sent you to me.**

- ▶ Read aloud the third paragraph. Point out the boldface words *honor* and *obey* and have your child repeat them after you. Ask: **What does the word honor mean?** (to respect) **How do we obey our parents?** (by doing what they ask us to do) **What commandment is about our parents?** (Honor and obey your parents.) Say: **When we obey our parents and others who care for us, we are being like Jesus. We are honoring our parents, or giving them respect.**
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title, directions, and reasons. Have your child complete the activity. Then discuss his or her answers.

### Art Print: Page 192

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online a picture of a family spending time together at a park. Ask: **What do you see in this picture?** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and the actions of the parents. Say: **When we obey our parents and listen to them, we show God that we are obeying him and listening to him.**
- ▶ Then read aloud the title and first paragraph on page 192. Ask: **How do I help you be happy and stay healthy?** (Accept reasonable responses.)
- ▶ Read aloud the second paragraph. Ask: **Why is God happy when we obey our parents?** (We are following one of God's commandments.)
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child draw his or her picture.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Ask: **What is a commandment?** (one of God's rules) Say: **God the Father is happier when you follow the commandments. You will be happier too because you will be following his Son, Jesus.**
- ▶ Find a family photo that you don't mind cutting up. Tell your child to cut each family member's face out of the photo. Have your child create a family portrait by gluing the photo faces onto a sheet of construction paper and drawing a body for each face. Invite your child to be creative in their portrait poses, such as showing the family dancing, jumping, holding hands, or eating dinner together. Display the family portrait in your home.

### Reflect: Page 193

- ▶ Ask your child to describe the picture on page 193. Then read aloud the title and the two paragraphs. Say: **The end of the day is an especially good time to pray. Before we go to sleep, we can take time to look back on our day and think about the things that happened to us. We can take time to ask God to bless all the people and things we love.**
- ▶ Have your child prepare for prayer by folding his or her hands and closing his or her eyes. Read aloud the first paragraph of the prayer. Pause briefly to give your child time to talk to God in his or her heart, asking God to bless the members of your family. Then have your child open his or her eyes.

- ▶ Say: **Follow along in your book as I pray aloud the Evening Prayer. While I pray, think about the words you hear.** Pray aloud the Evening Prayer. Then invite your child to pray aloud the Evening Prayer with you. Conclude the prayer by praying together the Sign of the Cross and Amen.

### Reflect: Page 194

- ▶ Ask your child: **Can we show our love with our words?** (Yes.) **With our actions?** (Yes.)
- ▶ Read aloud the title and paragraph. Ask: **How can we show our parents and other people who care for us and whom we love that we care about them too?** (give them hugs, say “I love you,” be kind, say “thank you”)
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Say: **You can make me happy when you honor, love, obey, and help me. These four words—honor, love, obey, and help—are hidden in the word search. Look for each word. When you find it, circle it.**
- ▶ Direct your child’s attention to the Reading God’s Word feature at the bottom of the page. Say: **I’m going to read Scripture from the Bible. Listen carefully and follow along with me.** Read aloud the Scripture verse. Then say: **All that we’ve learned today about obeying our parents is in the Bible.**

### Respond: Pages 195–196

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 195. Review the Words I Learned. Then read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can show that he or she loves and honors you. Say: **Being nice to others shows love and honor. When I ask you to do something and you are nice about it, you show that you love and respect me.**
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Allow time for your child to complete the activity. Then invite your child to share his or her sentences and picture with you.
- ▶ Say: **Today we learned how important it is to honor and obey our parents. Let’s thank Jesus for helping us show them love and respect.** Pray aloud the prayer as your child prays silently. Then say: **Let’s talk silently with Jesus.** Pause briefly. Close by praying together the Sign of the Cross and Amen.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of With My Family on page 196. Then read aloud and discuss the Scripture verses as suggested in the next paragraph.
- ▶ Discuss Faith on the Go. Then choose when to complete the activity together.
- ▶ Conclude by praying together the Family Prayer.

## God Loves the World

### Engage: Page 197

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Open the Bible and read aloud Daniel 3:72–81. Then say: **The Word of the Lord.** Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Provide drawing paper and crayons and ask your child to draw his or her favorite plant, animal, or object. When your child is finished, say: **You made something wonderful using only the paper and crayons I gave you. God created everything, and he created it out of nothing!**
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraphs on page 197. Say: **Everything God creates is a gift that shows his great love for us.** Ask: **What does God want us to do with our world?** (to care for it)
- ▶ Ask your child to prepare for prayer. Then pray aloud the prayer. Pause briefly so your child can reflect. Conclude by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen.*

### Explore: Page 198

- ▶ Ask: **What is one of your favorite things in God's world?** Say: **God is so good to give us all the wonderful things he does!**
- ▶ Look at the pictures on page 198. Ask: **What is happening in these pictures?** (Children are caring for flowers and animals.)
- ▶ Read aloud the title and paragraph. Ask: **How can we care for the world God gave us?** (care for animals and plants, recycle, feed the birds, pick up litter, conserve water) Point out the boldface word *neighbors* and have your child repeat it after you. Ask: **Who are our neighbors?** (all people) **Why do our neighbors deserve our care and respect?** (because God made every person in his image) Remind your child that although all people are our neighbors, your child should not talk to strangers unless he or she is with you or a guardian. Then say: **When we take good care of the world, we show God and our neighbors our love and appreciation for God's world.**
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Say: **When we protect the forests, we are protecting the plants, animals, and people that God created.**

### Explore: Page 199

- ▶ Ask your child to name some wild animals. Offer some of your favorite wild animals and why you like them.

- ▶ Read aloud the title and paragraph. Ask: ***How can we show that we care about wild animals?*** (returning wild animals to their natural environment, treating them with respect, protecting them) Say: ***You should always be careful around unfamiliar animals. Make sure to ask me or another adult for help when you are around unfamiliar animals.***
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Then read aloud the story and the two different endings while your child follows along in the book. Have your child circle the ending that shows how to care for God's creatures. Ask your child to explain his or her choice.
- ▶ Give your child a large piece of air-dry clay. Say: ***Let's make some turtles to remind us to care for all of God's creatures.*** Have your child keep his or her turtles in a safe place to serve as a reminder to respect the animals in God's creation.

### Art Print: Page 200

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online a picture that shows the Garden of Eden from the Bible. Ask: ***What do you see in this picture?*** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and the animals. Say: ***This picture shows the Garden of Eden. The Garden of Eden is the name of the first garden that God made when he created the world.***
- ▶ Read aloud the title, first paragraph, and verse from Genesis. Next, say: ***Let's thank God for all the wonderful animals he created.*** Ask your child to fold his or her hands and close his or her eyes. Say: ***Dear God, we thank you for the wonderful world you have created and for the creatures in it. I thank you for the tiger because of its beautiful, striped fur.*** Invite your child to thank God for an animal and tell why it is special. Afterward, conclude by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child complete the activity and share his or her answers with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: ***Let's think about all that God has given us and thank him for his creation!***
- ▶ Help your child make a picture of God's first garden. Have your child choose an animal and then make their animal from construction paper, art supplies, and miscellaneous objects. Then have your child make an interesting or exotic plant, flower, or tree from construction paper, art supplies, and various objects. Attach your child's animal and plant to a green poster board. Add the title *God's First Garden: The Garden of Eden*. Display the poster prominently in your home.

**Reflect: Page 201**

- ▶ Together look at the picture on page 201. Say: ***The boy in the picture looks happy to be outside with his puppy. We can thank God every day for his beautiful creation.***
- ▶ Read aloud the title and two paragraphs. Say: ***We've been talking about the first garden and all the amazing things God made.*** Have your child prepare for prayer. Say: ***Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. Think about the many beautiful things in nature.***
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of the prayer, pausing briefly after each sentence or question to allow your child to imagine what you are describing. Pray aloud the second paragraph. Pause briefly to allow time for silent reflection. Then conclude by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.

**Reflect: Page 202**

- ▶ Ask: ***Why is it important to care for God's world?*** (to show God how much we love him)
- ▶ Read aloud the title and paragraph. Have your child answer the question. Discuss the different ways we can care for plants and animals.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Invite your child to choose one of God's creations to care for. Have your child finish the sentence at the bottom of the box and draw a picture showing how he or she will care for that creation. As your child works, offer any help he or she may need.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Ask: ***What are some ways we can show our love for God and all of creation?*** (don't litter, care for plants and animals, plant new flowers and trees) Say: ***When we take care of all the gifts God gives us, such as plants, animals, and clean air, we are showing our love for God and his creation.***

**Respond: Pages 203–204**

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 203. Review the Words I Learned with your child. Then read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can care for God's creation.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions on page 203 and invite your child to complete each line of the prayer. When he or she has finished writing, invite children to read aloud his or her prayer. Respond *Praise God above all forever*.
- ▶ Invite your child to prepare for prayer. Say: ***Let's praise God for his creation and promise to do our part to care for it.*** Pray aloud the prayer as your child prays silently. Then say: ***Spend a few moments silently telling God what is in your heart.*** Pause briefly. Close by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of With My Family on page 204. Next, read aloud and discuss Psalm 98 as suggested in the next paragraph.
- ▶ Discuss Faith on the Go. Then complete the activity together.
- ▶ Conclude by praying together the Family Prayer.



## Celebrating Easter

### Engage: Page 205

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Open the Bible and read aloud Luke 24:1–8. Then say: **The Gospel of the Lord**. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Ask your child: **What was the best news you ever got?** (Accept reasonable answers.) Say: **Imagine how happy Jesus' followers were when the angels told them the news that Jesus had risen from the dead!**
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraphs on page 205. Then ask: **How do you think Jesus' friends felt after hearing the news from the angels?** (joyful) Say: **Easter reminds us to be joyful people.** Invite your child to retell the Easter story.
- ▶ Say: **Let's tell Jesus how we feel about what he did for us.** Pray aloud the prayer. Then pause for reflection. Conclude by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.
- ▶ Together find the date of Easter on a calendar and mark off the next 50 days to identify the Easter season.

### Explore: Page 206

- ▶ Ask: **What happens in the spring of each year?** (trees bud, flowers bloom, baby animals are born) Say: **Springtime is also when we celebrate Easter. Just as there is new life in God's creation during the spring, we celebrate the new life we share with Jesus Christ during the Easter season.**
- ▶ Read aloud the title and first paragraph. Point out the boldface word *Easter* and have your child repeat it after you. Ask: **How do we begin the Easter season?** (with the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening before Easter) Say: **The Easter Vigil begins the Easter season with a celebration of light. A new paschal, or Easter, candle is lit.**
- ▶ Read aloud the second paragraph. Say: **Easter is a time for us to rejoice and remember that Jesus died and rose from the dead for us. We celebrate Jesus' Resurrection on Easter and every Sunday of the year.**
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Explain the color key. Have your child complete the activity and read aloud the hidden word.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Ask: **How can you share God's peace?** (by helping a friend, by obeying parents)



## Reflect on the Mass: Page 207

- ▶ Say: ***We've learned that at Mass during Lent and Holy Week before Easter, we do not sing or pray the Alleluia.*** You may wish to practice the Alleluia melody used in your parish and sing aloud together. Ask: ***How does this song make you feel?*** (happy, full of God's love and joy)
- ▶ Read aloud the title and first paragraph. Ask: ***Why do we sing and pray the Alleluia during the Easter season?*** (The Alleluia is a joyful prayer of praise to God, and we are joyful that Jesus rose from the dead for us.)
- ▶ Read aloud What We Experience. Then discuss the symbols of Easter.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Explain that Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the first day of the week, Sunday, the Lord's Day, which is the eighth day after God created the world. Say: ***Sunday, the Lord's Day, is an Easter celebration that occurs each week. On this day we gather at Mass to thank Jesus, our Redeemer.***

## Art Print: Page 208

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online a picture that shows the risen Jesus Christ and the women who went to the tomb Easter morning. Ask: ***What do you see in this picture?*** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including how it makes him or her feel. Say: ***Easter is a time to celebrate how Jesus saves us all.***
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the first paragraph—the story of the Resurrection according to the Gospel of Matthew. Ask: ***How do you think the two women felt when they didn't see Jesus' body?*** (confused, afraid) Say: ***They were confused and didn't know what to do.*** Ask: ***Then what happened?*** (Jesus appeared to them.) ***What did Jesus tell them?*** (not to be afraid) ***How did the women feel then?*** (very happy)
- ▶ Read aloud the second paragraph. Ask: ***What do we celebrate on Easter Sunday?*** (Jesus' rising from the dead) ***What is one of the ways that we celebrate?*** (singing and praying Alleluia)
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child complete the activity. Then ask: ***Where can we meet Jesus?*** (at Mass with our families, in church, anywhere because Jesus is always with us)
- ▶ Have your child trace his or her hand on white construction paper. Cut out the tracings and wrap the fingers around a pencil to curl them slightly. Cut yellow craft stems into three equal pieces and twist together to form the stamen, then twist the stamen onto the green craft stem. Wrap the paper hand around the craft stem until the thumb touches the pinky finger. Glue and tie a ribbon around the base of the flower.

**Respond: Pages 209–210**

- ▶ Read aloud the Faith Summary on page 209. Review the Word I Learned. Next, read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Then say: ***Jesus gave us the gift of himself when he died to save us from our sins. We can give of ourselves too. We can spend time with others, and we can act unselfishly as Jesus did.*** Ask: ***What are some ways you can give of yourself?*** (share things to make someone smile, don't argue with brothers and sisters, do chores without being asked)
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child complete the activity and read aloud the Good News about Jesus' Resurrection.
- ▶ Say: ***Today we learned about the joyful season of Easter.*** Pray aloud the prayer as your child prays silently. Then say: ***Let's spend a few moments silently talking to God in our hearts.*** Pause briefly. Close by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of With My Family on page 210. Then read aloud and discuss the Scripture verses as suggested in the next paragraph.
- ▶ Discuss Faith on the Go. Then plan a time to complete the activity together.
- ▶ Conclude by praying together the Family Prayer.