

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.

Sacraments, Our Way of Life

Begin

- ▶ Together write a letter to a family member who lives far away. Have your child write about what he or she has learned about God, Jesus, and the Church. Read aloud the unit title on page 127. Say: *In this unit, we will learn more about sacraments that help us love and forgive others.*

Introduce the Saint: Pages 128–129

- ▶ Focus your child's attention on the picture and read aloud the text. Ask: *What do we call someone who travels to spread the faith?* (a missionary) Say: *We will learn about Saint Paul, his travels, and the letters he wrote.*
- ▶ Turn to page 128 and look at the picture. Say: *This picture shows Saint Paul preaching.* Read aloud the first two paragraphs. Ask: *How did Paul know Jesus was calling him?* (Jesus called in the form of a light that blinded Paul, and Paul heard Jesus speaking to him.) Have your child read aloud the rest of the page.
- ▶ Ask: *What are the two objects shown at the right?* (a sword and a page from an ancient book) Say: *The sword is a symbol of Saint Paul. The page is an early copy of one of Paul's letters, written in Greek.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Be Inspired feature. Ask your child how we might eat or drink for the glory of God. (You and your child may have more ideas about this quotation after you have finished the unit.) With your child, add Paul's feast day, June 29, to your calendar. Plan an event together to celebrate the writings of Saint Paul the Apostle.

Unit Opener: Page 130

- ▶ Ask your child how Paul felt about the Church before Jesus called to him. (He wanted to destroy it.) Say: *Jesus invites us to change our minds and open our hearts to receive him.*
- ▶ Ask: *How did Paul respond when Jesus sent a disciple to cure Paul of his blindness and have him baptized?* (When Paul got his sight back, he saw the truth of God's love. He began spreading the message that Jesus is the Son of God.) Say: *Let's read to see how Paul's baptism affected his life and your life too.* Read the first paragraph.
- ▶ Read aloud News of Another's Goodness. Say: *Think of a good deed you know of that someone has done for another. Draw three pictures showing how the news of that good deed could be spread from person to person, as news of Jesus spread during Paul's time.* Invite your child to complete the activity and present his or her sequence of events to you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Remind your child that Saint Paul teaches us how to follow Jesus and love God and one another. Say: *Let's ask God to show us his way by praying this psalm.* Invite your child to pray the psalm along with you.

Sacraments of Initiation

Engage: Page 131

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read Matthew 28:16–20. Then say: *The Gospel of the Lord*. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Invite your child to brainstorm the best way to get to a familiar place such as school. Say: *Sometimes we might choose a way that is not helpful or may get us lost. Jesus shows us a better way to live so that we don't get lost in our efforts to find God*. Read aloud the paragraphs. Ask: *What sacrament celebrates the beginning of our new way of living as a member of God's family?* (Baptism) Say: *Let's pray to be faithful members of God's family*. Pray aloud the prayer. Conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Say: *When a group receives a new member, that person is welcomed into the group*. Ask: *When we welcome someone, what are we telling him or her?* (that we care, accept, and are happy to have him or her with us) *In Baptism, a person is welcomed into God's family*. Together with your child, look up online how to say "Welcome" in different languages. Make a colorful Welcome to Our Home poster using those words or phrases.

Explore: Pages 132–133

- ▶ Say: *When we are welcomed into the Church, we become part of a huge family in which we are nourished by Jesus' love*. Have your child read aloud *We Belong* on page 132. Ask: *How do we begin our lives as the People of God?* (We are baptized.)
- ▶ Read aloud the *Link to Liturgy* feature. Discuss with your child what he or she thinks the symbols named there represent: the Sign of the Cross, the holy water, the Chrism, and the candle.
- ▶ Read aloud *Christian Initiation* on page 133. Ask: *What do the three Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist—have in common?* (In all of them, we receive and are strengthened by God's love.)
- ▶ Read aloud the *Reading God's Word* feature. Say: *The Sacraments of Initiation make up one way in which we all partake of the one loaf as one people*.

Art Exploration: Page 134

- ▶ Find in a book or online an image of Philip and the Ethiopian. As you look at the picture together, ask: *What is happening in this picture?* (You may see two men together in a carriage; one of the men may be showing a scroll to the other; you may see a man asking to join another who is in a carriage; you may see one man baptizing another.)

- ▶ Say: *The story we are about to read tells the story behind this painting.* Turn together to page 134. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question. Invite your child to read aloud Philip and the Court Official. Ask: *How was Jesus denied justice?* (He was an innocent man who was punished and killed.) Say: *The man asked to be baptized because he understood that Jesus died for us.*
- ▶ Read aloud Welcome to the Church. Give your child time to complete the activity and share his or her response with you.

Reflect: Pages 135–136

- ▶ Together look at page 135. Say: *The girl in the picture is happy because she believes in God.* Fold your hands in a prayerful position to prepare to pray.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. Say: *I will ask you three questions. Respond with the words "I do."* Ask the three questions, pausing after each one so your child can reply. Read aloud the last paragraph. Together pray the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Sacraments in My Life on page 136. Discuss the questions with your child. Help your child with hints to prompt information he or she may not remember. Read aloud Think Back, and have your child complete the activity based on your discussion.
- ▶ Read aloud Sacramentals for Sacraments and have your child complete the activity by writing the sacrament that goes with each item named.

Respond: Pages 137–138

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can welcome new classmates. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 138. Talk with your child about how wonderful it is to be welcomed into the family of God. Encourage your child to be a kind and joyful family member.

Celebrating Reconciliation

Engage: Page 139

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read Luke 1:76–79. Then say: *The Gospel of the Lord*. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ We just read Zechariah’s canticle to the Lord. A canticle is a song of praise. Ask your child to think of occasions when people sing together. (Answers will vary.) Say: *People often sing when they want to express joy, such as at a birthday party. When we experience God’s forgiveness, our hearts want to sing*. Read aloud the paragraphs. Ask: *What does God offer to us that makes our hearts want to sing joyfully?* (his mercy and forgiveness) Say: *Let us pray to accept Jesus’ gift of forgiveness*. Pray aloud the prayer. Conclude by praying *Amen*.

Explore: Pages 140–141

- ▶ Share a Sign of Peace with your child. Say: *We exchange this sign of peace to share with one another the peace that Jesus shares with us*.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 140. Ask: *When do we receive the gifts of peace and forgiveness?* (in the Sacrament of Reconciliation) Read aloud The Peace of Forgiveness on page 141. Ask your child about the two types of sin described and the difference between them. (Mortal sin involves total rejection of God. Venial sins are less serious. They might be selfish or inconsiderate acts.) Have your child read aloud Jesus’ Words of Forgiveness and complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Ask: *When do we share the Sign of Peace at Mass?* (after praying the Lord’s Prayer and before we receive Communion)

Art Exploration: Page 142

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online an image of a work of art that represents reconciliation. As you look at it with your child, discuss how the images or symbols in this work of art convey the idea of reconciliation.
- ▶ Say: *Forgiving people is sometimes hard, but being a member of God’s family means making hard choices*. Have your child turn to page 142. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud page 142. Ask: *What gives us a feeling of peace?* (when we confess our sins and receive forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation)
- ▶ Read aloud Forgiveness. First, discuss the prompt with your child. Then have your child write about his or her experience and share it with you.

- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: *This psalm expresses how God wants to give peace and forgiveness to his people. We receive both when we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*
- ▶ Ask: *What are some symbols of peace?* (flowers, clasped hands, doves) Give your child art supplies to make a poster using one of these symbols and adding a message.

Reflect: Pages 143–144

- ▶ Together look at page 143. Say: *The boy in the picture is sincere in his prayer. He is following in Jesus' footsteps.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. Lead your child in praying the Prayer of the Penitent. Spend time in silence thanking Jesus for his gift of forgiveness. Then pray together *Amen.*
- ▶ Read aloud Penance and Reconciliation on page 144. Ask: *How do you feel when someone you've hurt forgives you?* (happy, peaceful) Take turns reading aloud the situations presented in An Instrument of Peace. Guide your child to see which choice brings peace to both people. Say: *Remember that God wants us to forgive everyone, whether or not the person asks for our forgiveness.*

Respond: Pages 145–146

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can forgive others and be willing to admit being wrong about something. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 146. Talk with your child about living as a forgiven and a forgiving person, forgiving others as we know that we are forgiven by God.

Celebrating the Eucharist

Engage: Page 147

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read Luke 22:14–20. Then say: *The Gospel of the Lord*. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Invite your child to share stories of being reunited with relatives after a long time apart. Say: *We experience joy when those we love are present with us. In the Eucharist, we experience joy at Jesus' presence with us*. Read aloud the paragraphs. Ask: *How is Jesus present with us in the Eucharist?* (through the consecrated bread and wine, which have become Jesus' Body and Blood) Say: *Let's pray, giving thanks for Jesus' presence with us*. Pray aloud the prayer. Conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Discuss your favorite family dinners. Ask: *Who is there? What do we like to eat? What do we talk about?* Say: *The divine meal we share with our parish family is called the celebration of the Eucharist*. Discuss with your child how you celebrate Sunday—the Lord's Day—together.

Explore: Pages 148–149

- ▶ Read aloud Do This and Remember Me on page 148. Say: *As part of the Eucharistic Prayer in Mass, the priest prays words from this Scripture passage*.
- ▶ Read Body and Blood of Christ with your child and have him or her label the picture to show where we receive each one (the Body of Christ from the paten, the Blood of Christ from the chalice).
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Tell your child that Jesus said this to his disciples, and discuss with your child the meaning of these words. (Jesus gives us himself in the form of bread; he is our nourishment; he gives us life.)
- ▶ Have your child look at the picture on page 149. Ask: *What does this picture show?* (Jesus with the disciples at the Last Supper) Have your child read aloud Our Central Celebration. Ask: *How is Christ present with us at Mass?* (He is in the people gathered, the priest, the Scripture readings, and the Eucharist.) Say: *We celebrate the Eucharist regularly to worship God*.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. If you and your child have prayed together before the Blessed Sacrament, ask your child what he or she remembers about it. If not, suggest that the two of you do so soon.

Art Exploration: Page 150

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online an image of the Eucharist in art. As you look at the image with your child, share ideas about the scene represented. Say: *When we receive Holy Communion, we are one with Jesus.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 150. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question. Have your child read aloud The Mass Makes Us One Family. If you and your child have ever attended Mass in another church or another country, discuss anything about the experience that made an impression on each of you.
- ▶ Read aloud Your Special Day. Allow time for your child to write about his or her First Communion. Together share your memories of that day. If your child has not yet had his or her First Holy Communion, invite your child to write what he or she imagines it will be like.

Reflect: Pages 151–152

- ▶ Together look at page 151. Say: *The girl in the picture is imagining herself present with Jesus at the Last Supper.* Have your child get comfortable. Pray the reflective prayer aloud, pausing after each paragraph as you and your child imagine the scene. Pray together the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud We Celebrate the Lord’s Day on page 152. Say: *On the Lord’s Day, Catholics all over the world celebrate the Mass in a similar way.* Read aloud Days of Celebration. Say: *An obligation means a duty to do something. As Catholics, it is our duty to attend Mass on holy days of obligation, just as we do on Sundays.*
- ▶ Read aloud My Family, Parish Family and have your child complete the activity. Review your child’s lists and make any further suggestions you may have for him or her.

Respond: Pages 153–154

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can gather for Mass and celebrate the Eucharist. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 154. Talk with your child about showing Jesus we love him by celebrating Sunday, the Lord’s Day, with our parish family at Mass.

Christian Living

Engage: Page 155

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read Mark 10:43–45. Then say: ***The Gospel of the Lord***. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraphs. Ask: ***What does it mean to be “great” and “first”?*** (maybe successful, powerful, important; or maybe committed to serving God and others) ***How might you be first even if you gave your place in line to another person?*** (Others might see you as “first” because of your kindness.) Say: ***Let’s ask for Jesus’ help in seeing how we can serve***. Pray aloud the prayer. Conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Invite your child to read the session title and ask: ***What does “Christian living” mean to you?*** (putting into practice what we hear at Mass and doing good in our daily lives) Talk about people in your community who help you and your child every day.

Explore: Pages 156–157

- ▶ Discuss the special talents shared by your family members. Say: ***Each of us has received different gifts, and we are called to share these gifts in different ways***. Read aloud The Call to Share Our Gifts on page 156. Ask: ***What do we call the particular way of sharing our gifts from God to which Jesus calls us?*** (our vocation) Discuss how the people in the pictures serve God and the Church.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God’s Word feature. Say: ***Think about a gift you have received from God. Think about how you can use it to serve God and others***.
- ▶ Read aloud Sacrament of Matrimony on page 157. Say: ***Matrimony is one of two sacraments that bless a vocation. Being in a marriage is a vocation. The sacrament blesses those who choose to marry***. Have your child read aloud Your Vocation and complete the activity by sharing what his or her future vocation might be. Ask how this relates to his or her gifts and how your child might serve God and others.
- ▶ Read aloud the Meet a Saint feature. Discuss with your child Andrew Kim Taegon’s vocation as a priest and that we can learn how to be strong in answering God’s call from him.

Art Exploration: Page 158

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online an image of children painting a mural. As you look at the image, discuss the different abilities those working on the mural may bring to the project. (Some may be good at drawing outlines, some good at painting carefully to fill in shapes; some may be good at encouraging others; some may help organize the work.) Say: ***We are called upon to be helpful to our families, friends, and communities because we are all part of God's creation.***
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 158. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question. Read aloud *Many Gifts, One Spirit*. Ask: ***What are some ways we can bring joy to the work God gives us?*** (play music, sing, work with friends, pray, smile, be thankful) Invite your child to read aloud *Working Together*, complete the activity, and share his or her responses with you.
- ▶ Invite your child to illustrate one of his or her responses in *Working Together* using drawing paper, crayons, or markers. Display the artwork in your home.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Say: ***This Sunday at Mass, let's remember to listen carefully to what the priest says at the Dismissal.***

Reflect: Pages 159–160

- ▶ Together look at page 159. Ask: ***What gift does the boy in the picture share with others?*** (his music) Say: ***Remember to thank Jesus for your talents and for his guidance in using those gifts and talents to help others.*** Read aloud the paragraphs, pausing after each question. Allow your child time to think about different vocations. Lead him or her in praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud page 160. Help your child complete the sentences.

Respond: Pages 161–162

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud *Ways of Being Like Jesus*. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can use special talents to help others. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud *With My Family* on page 162. Talk with your child about how God loves us and wants us to help one another. Remind your child to use his or her gifts to serve God and help others.

Celebrating Lent and Holy Week

Engage: Page 163

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read John 4:5–15. Then say: *The Gospel of the Lord*. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Ask: *How do we treat new classmates who move here from another town or state?* (We welcome them.) Say: *During Lent, we are called to think of people from other places as members of our family*. Read aloud the paragraphs.
- ▶ Ask: *How do our lives change when we don't focus on differences?* (We make more friends. The good we do extends farther.) Pray aloud the prayer. Conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Ask: *What do we prepare for during Lent?* (the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection at Easter) *What do we remember during Holy Week?* (Jesus' suffering, Death, and Resurrection)

Explore: Page 164

- ▶ Ask: *What does it mean to "put yourself in someone else's shoes"?* (pretend you are in someone else's position, feeling or reacting how that person might to something that has happened) Say: *Lent is a time to be aware of other people's situations*.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the first two sections. Emphasize the importance of helping people in need of love, food, and shelter this Lent. Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Ask: *How can our family give to others this Lent?*

Reflect on the Mass: Page 165

- ▶ Ask: *What is a prayer of intercession?* (a prayer that asks God for help on behalf of another) Say: *Prayers of intercession have particular meaning during Lent, when we think about all those with whom we share God's creation*.
- ▶ Read aloud Mass During Lent and Holy Week. Say: *During Lent, we strive to think of others, not just ourselves*.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud What We Experience. Ask: *What do you notice about decorations at church during Lent?* (It is plain; there are no flowers; the priest wears purple vestments.) Read aloud Lord, Hear Our Prayer and ask your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Say: *The Sermon on the Mount mentioned in the feature includes the Beatitudes. In the Beatitudes, Jesus reminds us to think of others*.

Art Exploration: Page 166

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online an image of a painting of Jesus on the Cross. As you and your child look at the image, say to one another words that come to mind, such as *sad, suffering, lonely, divine*. Say: ***During Lent, as we prepare our hearts for Easter, we remember Jesus' strength and suffering.***
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 166. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud Jesus in the Desert. Ask: ***How can we honor Jesus' sacrifice?*** (fast, practice positive new habits, care for people who need help, pray, go to church, be grateful for Jesus, think about how we treat others) Have your child read aloud A Lenten Promise. Ask your child to think of a meaningful Lenten promise and write about it. Invite him or her to share the idea for honoring Jesus during Lent.
- ▶ Give your child drawing paper, a paintbrush, and watercolor paints. Invite your child to paint Jesus in the desert. Say: ***Imagine how hot, hungry, thirsty, and lonely Jesus must have felt. God doesn't want anyone to suffer. Let's silently ask God to help us keep our Lenten promise.***

Respond: Pages 167–168

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can reach out to others by being a good listener. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 168. Talk with your child about some of the ways he or she has found to act more like Jesus.