

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

Begin

- ▶ Read aloud the unit title on page 170. Say: *In our fifth unit, we will learn how God and Jesus are with us in every choice we make.*
- ▶ Ask: *Who loves you even when you do something wrong and prays that you will always love God?* (Your child may answer "Mary" or you or his or her mother.) Say: *Let's learn about a saint who, like Mary, is best known as a mother.*

Introduce the Saint: Pages 170–171

- ▶ Ask your child to turn to page 171. Invite your child to read aloud. Then say: *Tell me about Saint Monica.* (She was a Christian in North Africa who prayed and prayed for her son Augustine to be baptized. After many years, he finally was, and Monica's prayers were answered. Monica's son became Saint Augustine.) Say: *Monica never stopped praying for Augustine. When he was baptized, she felt that everything she could wish for was fulfilled.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Be Inspired feature. Ask your child what he or she thinks Saint Monica meant. (She meant that however far from possible something may seem to us, God knows that what he desires for us can happen in the next instant.)
- ▶ With your child, add Monica's feast day, August 27, to your calendar. Plan an event together to celebrate the patience of Saint Monica.

Unit Opener: Page 172

- ▶ Say: *We want good things for the people we love. What good things do you want for your loved ones?* (happiness, peace, and good lives) Say: *We can pray for our loved ones' well-being.*
- ▶ Invite your child to describe what it feels like when we see how patient someone has been with us. Ask your child to read Faith and Patience. Ask: *How do you think Saint Monica was able to live with her sadness about her son?* (through hope, which, as your child will learn in the next session, is one of the virtues)
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud We Pray for Loved Ones and complete the activity. When your child has finished his or her drawings, ask: *How does it feel to know that someone loved us even when we were uncooperative?* Invite your child to take a few minutes to ask God to help loved ones, imagining each person as the child prays for him or her.
- ▶ Together read the Reading God's Word feature. Say: *Let's pray to God the Father that we may receive Christ in our hearts.*

Faith, Hope, and Charity

Engage: Page 173

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read Luke 17:5–6. Then say: ***The Gospel of the Lord***. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Invite your child to brainstorm a list of habits. Write them on a sheet of paper. Say: ***Habits are actions that we perform over and over until they become automatic. A virtue is a good habit that brings us closer to God.***
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraph. Write the word *faith* on a sheet of paper. Ask your child how he or she can make faith a habit. (pray often; think of the needs of others; attend Mass)
- ▶ Say: ***Let's pray to Jesus now and ask that our faith may grow.*** Join your child in praying aloud. Conclude the prayer by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Say: ***We will learn ways to follow the guidance that Jesus provides and to use God's gifts to lead good lives.***

Explore: Pages 174–175

- ▶ Say: ***Think back to people you have learned about who trusted God.*** Ask: ***How did Mary trust God?*** (She accepted God's invitation to be Jesus' mother.) ***How did Joseph trust God?*** (He took care of Mary and Jesus.) Read aloud Saints with the Virtue of Hope on page 174. Ask: ***What did Paul give thanks for?*** (the work of faith and love that his friends were doing) Talk about ways your family has helped your child follow Jesus.
- ▶ Have your child read Our Families Teach Us and complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Sacred Site feature. Say: ***Saint Monica and Saint Augustine were good examples of the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.***
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 175. Ask: ***What are the three most important virtues?*** (faith, hope, and charity) Have your child read Virtue in Action, complete the activity, and share his or her chart with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: ***Saint Paul wrote this in a letter to his friends in Corinth, a city in southern Greece. He wanted them to know how important it is for Christians to love one another.***

Art Exploration: Page 176

- ▶ Find online (or in a catalog or a Catholic store) different designs for cross, anchor, and heart charms as symbols of faith, hope, and charity (love). Look at the different options with your child and choose one you both like. Discuss with your child the symbolism of the items and how each represents its virtue.
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 176. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Symbols of the Virtues. Say: ***Think about each virtue and how to make it present in your life.*** Read aloud Matching Virtues. Allow time for your child to label the symbols and name the virtue for each sentence. Check your child's answers together.
- ▶ Invite your child to make a poster with the symbols for the virtues of faith, hope, and charity, using the charms you chose as inspiration. Encourage your child to add details to enhance the poster. Display the poster in your home.

Reflect: Pages 177–178

- ▶ Together look at page 177. Say: ***The boy and his dog are enjoying a quiet moment together. When you pray, stay calm by receiving the strength of the Holy Spirit and giving concerns up to God.***
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer slowly and thoughtfully. Pause between sentences so that your child has time to thank God for the gifts your child has received from him.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Saint Jeanne Jugan on page 178. Say: ***On October 11, 2009, Jeanne Jugan was declared a saint.*** Read aloud The Virtues of Saint Jeanne Jugan and have your child complete the activity.

Respond: Pages 179–180

- ▶ 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 be friendly to a child who seems lonely. 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 180. Invite your child to pay attention to times when he or she shows the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.

Making Good Choices

Engage: Page 181

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read 1 Peter 3:8–11. Then say: *The Word of the Lord*. Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God*.
- ▶ Say: *If you visit another country, it's good to have a guide—someone who can help you, not only with the language but with the customs and traditions of the people. Jesus is our guide for how to think, speak, and act in the Kingdom of God.* Read aloud the paragraphs. Ask: *How might offering a blessing to someone who wronged you change both of you?* (Doing so can bring about peace.)
- ▶ Say: *Let's pray for Jesus to help us give back blessings when we feel hurt.* Pray together. Conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Say: *Making decisions is like deciding which path to take.* Ask your child to think about whom he or she might ask for advice when making a hard choice.

Explore: Pages 182–183

- ▶ Say: *If someone offers you a choice of treats and you have to choose one, are you making a choice between right and wrong?* (No.) Discuss with your child an example of a choice between right and wrong. Have your child read aloud page 182. Ask: *Who can help us decide which of our choices are right and wrong?* (the Holy Spirit)
- ▶ Invite your child to read What Is a Good Choice? and complete the activity. Discuss how Mona's response corresponds to each of the three questions above.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: *Saint Paul tells us that our words and actions should reflect our willingness to follow Jesus.*
- ▶ Read aloud page 183. Ask: *What does it mean to follow the moral law?* (do good and avoid evil) Say: *God gave us these commandments to help us love others.*

Art Exploration: Page 184

- ▶ Find in a book or online an image of a painting showing Jesus' temptation by the Devil. As you look at the picture together, discuss how the artist depicts Jesus' attitude toward the Devil.
- ▶ Say: *Some decisions are difficult to make. Knowing God's love for us makes decisions easier. God shows his love through our friends and family.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 184. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Jesus Is Tempted. Say: *Jesus was always sure of the love of God, his Father.*

- ▶ Together read aloud A Prayer of Petition and have your child write one petition.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Ask: *What does Jesus teach us?* (to follow God's will, to resist temptation)

Reflect: Pages 185–186

- ▶ Together look at page 185. Say: *The girl in the picture is just starting her day in the morning. Remember that each day is a new gift from God.*
- ▶ Invite your child to pray the Morning Offering with you. Pray together slowly and softly. Then read aloud the paragraph that follows the prayer. Pause after each sentence to give your child time to reflect. Together pray *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud Follow the Commandments on page 186. Say: *When we face difficult choices, the Ten Commandments can help us.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Which Commandment? Remind your child to look back at page 183 if he or she needs help remembering the numbers of the commandments. Check your child's answers together.

Respond: Pages 187–188

- ▶ 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 make good moral choices by following the Ten Commandments. 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 188. Invite your child to remember all the help God provides as we follow in Jesus' footsteps and make good choices.

Living as God's Children

Engage: Page 189

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read Luke 2:41–52. Then say: *The Gospel of the Lord*. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Ask: *When you are at your best, how do you interact with your parents?* (I do what they ask without complaining.) Say: *When we do what our parents ask, we honor them. What does this mean?* (to recognize and accept our parents' authority) Read the paragraphs. Ask: *How did Jesus honor Joseph and Mary?* (He obeyed them.)
- ▶ Say: *Let's pray that we will always share joy with our families and with other people.* Conclude the prayer by praying *Amen*.

Explore: Pages 190–191

- ▶ Display a greeting card. Ask: *When do we send cards?* (for birthdays, when someone is sick, when someone has completed a milestone, such as First Communion) *Why do we give or send cards?* (to show we care) Have your child read aloud The Domestic Church on page 190. Ask: *What is another word for justice?* (fairness) Read aloud A Thank-You Letter. After your child completes the letter, invite him or her to share it with you.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Saint Louise de Marillac on page 191. Ask: *What do the Sisters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul do?* (work in orphanages, hospitals, and schools) Say: *Louise de Marillac is an example of how even the smallest effort spreads God's love to many people.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: *A burden is something that is difficult to carry. When we help people with their problems, we are sharing their burdens.*

Art Exploration: Page 192

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online an image of Saint Paul in art. As you look at the picture with your child, discuss how Saint Paul is characterized. (intense, purposeful, serious, caring, holy) Say: *Paul was happy when he saw how his Church family grew in their faith.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 192. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question. Read aloud the title and the text. Ask: *How did Paul's friends know he loved them?* (He wrote them letters.) Say: *Paul started churches in many places. He stayed close to his church family, just as we are close to those we love.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Thank You! and complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Check the Sunday Connection at the Loyola Press website to find a second reading from Paul for an upcoming Sunday.

- ▶ Together with your child, make a stained-glass window of a cross. Cut out a cross from the interior of a sheet of construction paper. Invite your child to glue or tape different-colored pieces of cellophane or tissue to the back to fill the opening. Place the completed work in a window.

Reflect: Pages 193–194

- ▶ Together look at page 193. Say: *This boy is thinking about his family. We can show our love for our family members by holding each of them in our hearts as we pray. We can look at them with Jesus' eyes of love, and we can ask Jesus to bless them.*
- ▶ Read the paragraph above the reflection together. Then read aloud the reflection slowly to your child, pausing between sentences. Allow a few seconds for reflection between paragraphs. Lead your child in praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 194. Say: *When we work together with family members, we show one another that we care. By sharing the work, we help bring peace to our families.* Read How We Help One Another. Work through each exercise together, coming up with ways your child could help in each situation.

Respond: Pages 195–196

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Word I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can do chores for someone who needs help. 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 196. Invite your child to show your family and friends how much he or she loves them by being understanding and considerate in work and play, as Jesus would be.

All Life Is Sacred

Engage: Page 197

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read 1 John 4:16–21. Then say: ***The Word of the Lord***. Invite your child to respond *Thanks be to God*.
- ▶ Ask: ***What happens in a room when it is nice enough outside to open the windows?*** (Stuffy air in the room is displaced by fresh, pleasant-smelling air.) Say: ***Let's read to see what can displace fear and hatred***. Read aloud the paragraphs. Ask: ***What displaces fear and hatred?*** (God's love)
- ▶ Say: ***Reflect on Jesus' loving presence in your life as you pray with me***. Conclude the prayer by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Ask: ***What do you remember about our earlier study of God's creation?*** (God created the world out of love for us; all of God's creation is good; we know God through his creation.)
- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Say: ***Imagine how much God loves us to entrust his world to our care. All life is sacred, and we should help and respect others***.

Explore: Pages 198–199

- ▶ Ask: ***How did Saint Louise de Marillac show her love for others?*** (She helped Saint Vincent de Paul work with people who had few resources, and she helped found an order of sisters to help people in similar circumstances.)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 198. Say: ***Frédéric and his friends proved that they could make a difference in the world***. Ask: ***What parables have we read about small acts of love reaching many people?*** (the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast) Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: ***God's love lives in all of us. We praise God when we share that love with others***.
- ▶ Read aloud Honor All People on page 199. Ask: ***Why are all people important?*** (God makes us sacred from the first moment of life.) Say: ***Every choice we make affects other people***.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Choices Guided by Love and complete each sentence. Discuss his or her responses.

Art Exploration: Page 200

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online an image of a harvest with people working together. As you look at the picture, discuss with your child how the task each person is performing may be simple, but by working together they accomplish a lot. Discuss any experience your child may have had or that you have had together showing that “many hands make light work”; that is, a big job becomes much easier and more pleasant when people work together to complete it.
- ▶ Say: *Jesus calls us to share with one another in any way we can.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 200. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question. Read aloud Small Acts Make a Big Difference. Ask: *When we have a large task in front of us, what are ways to help us accomplish it?* (begin with a small step, work with others)
- ▶ Read aloud Small Steps and Teamwork. Give your child time to complete his or her drawing.

Reflect: Pages 201–202

- ▶ Together look at page 201. Say: *The boy in the picture is at his school. We are blessed to be able to go to school and learn about the world around us, God’s creation.*
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer slowly and reverently. Pause after each sentence to give your child time to reflect on God and all who serve him. Together pray the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud Praise for God’s Creation on page 202. Say: *Because God loves us completely, he entrusts the care of his world to us.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Illustrate the Psalm. Give your child time to complete his or her illustration of the verses from the psalm.

Respond: Pages 203–204

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Word I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can brighten the day of someone who is sick. 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 204. Invite your child to go in peace to love and care for all of God’s creation.

Celebrating Easter

Engage: Page 205

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read Luke 6:35–36. Then say: ***The Gospel of the Lord***. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Say: ***Think of having a plant that you thought had died, but when you watered it, it became full and healthy again***. Ask: ***How might that represent God's mercy?*** (God gave the plant new life.) Read aloud the paragraphs. Say: ***During the Easter season, we celebrate God's merciful love. What does mercy mean?*** (forgiveness) Say: ***The risen Christ chose mercy instead of revenge***.
- ▶ Say: ***Pray in your hearts as I pray aloud***. Pray the prayer and allow a moment of quiet reflection. Then conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Display Easter symbols such as a decorated egg, lilies, or a picture of a lamb. Ask: ***What important day of the church year do these symbols represent?*** (Easter) Read aloud the session title. Ask: ***What do we celebrate on Easter?*** (the Resurrection of Jesus) ***Is Easter on the same date each year?*** (No, it is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring.) Together find the date for Easter on a calendar. Have your child count the next 50 days to identify Pentecost Sunday.

Explore: Page 206

- ▶ Say: ***Think of a time someone hurt your feelings but you forgave the person***. Ask: ***Did you want to forgive the person or did you remain angry? How did it feel?*** Have your child read aloud *Merciful Is the Lord*. Ask: ***What are two parts of mercy?*** (compassion and forgiveness) Read aloud *The Mercy of Friendship*. Invite your child to write a prayer for a friend who needs compassion and forgiveness.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Ask: ***When we have doubts about God, what can we do to strengthen our faith?*** (pray to God, think about his gifts)

Reflect on the Mass: Page 207

- ▶ Discuss where you have seen lambs during Easter. (chocolate lambs, cake lambs, butter lambs) Say: *These Easter traditions symbolize Jesus, the Lamb of God.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Mass During Easter. Say: *At one time, lambs were sacrificed as a religious offering. We use this symbol today because of the great sacrifice Jesus made by dying on the Cross for our sins.* Have your child read aloud What We Experience. Ask: *Why is joyful music played at Easter Mass?* (because the parish rejoices that Jesus is with us always) *What is the liturgical color of the season?* (white) Read aloud See the Lamb of God. Invite your child to share his or her drawing with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Say: *The Feast of the Ascension celebrates Jesus' Ascension into heaven 40 days after his Resurrection.*

Art Exploration: Page 208

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online an image of Mary Magdalene and the other women at Jesus' tomb following his Resurrection. As you look at the picture, discuss with your child what is shown. (Mary Magdalene and other women went to Jesus' tomb to care for his body. They found the tomb empty and were afraid and confused until an angel appeared to them.)
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud A Celebration of Life and The Resurrection. Ask: *Why did God send Jesus?* (to show us his mercy and love) *How can we live as disciples?* (by committing ourselves to the service of others) Read aloud In Celebration of Easter. Give your child time to draw a picture and share it with you.

Respond: Pages 209–210

- ▶ 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 even when it is difficult. 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 210. Invite your child to tell you some ways he or she found during Easter to act more like Jesus.