

Chapter 2: Jesus Is God's Best Gift

Before You Begin

1. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
2. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and art supplies.
3. Familiarize yourself with the **Word to Know** for this chapter: *disciple*.

Page 11 Jesus Shows Us the Father's Love

Read aloud page 11. Say: *God our Father loves us so much that he gave us his only Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. At our Baptism, we receive the gift of grace, the life of God in us.*

Page 12 Jesus Saves Us

Ask: *What does a seed need to grow?* (soil, water, and sunlight) Say: *When a seed is in the ground, it begins to change, or die, so that it can become a new plant.* Read aloud page 12. Say: *Jesus died on the Cross to save us from sin and to give us new life. We will share this new life with God forever in heaven.*

Read aloud the directions for **The Story of a Seed** and have your child complete the activity. Then go over the answers together.

Page 13 Jesus Calls People to Follow Him

Invite your child to read aloud page 13. Call his or her attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *disciple*. Say: *The people who followed Jesus during his time on earth became his Church. After Jesus died and rose, his disciples went out and spread his message. Jesus calls you to follow him and be his friend. When you were baptized, you became Jesus' disciple and a member of his Church. We are called to live and love like Jesus.*

Page 14 Jesus Shares His Life with Us

Read aloud page 14. Say: *A vine or a tree shares life with its branches. Jesus shares his life with all of us. A vine gives its branches the strength to grow fruit. Jesus helps us and gives us the strength to make good choices. When we make good choices, we stay close to Jesus.* Read aloud the directions and have your child complete the activity **The Vine and the Branches**. Invite your child to share his or her work.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together.

Page 15 We Pray the Sign of the Cross

Demonstrate how to pray the Sign of the Cross. It might be easier for your child to follow along if your back is to him or her. Turn around and use exaggerated movements, making sure your child can see where you are placing your hands (especially on your left and right shoulders), as you pray the words of the prayer slowly and reverently.

Invite your child to read aloud page 15 and complete the activity **How to Pray the Sign of the Cross**. When he or she is finished, go over the answers. Then lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Pray the Sign of the Cross to conclude the prayer.

Page 16 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 2 Review on page 8. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**. Discuss the question under **We Remember**. Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Call your child's attention to the **We Respond** section and pray the prayer together. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity. Ask your child to share what he or she drew.

Page 17 Families in Mission

Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 17. Say: ***Jesus is the greatest gift of all. Jesus teaches us how we can grow closer to God the Father.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***We are Jesus' followers.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. Say: ***God the Father gave us his Son, Jesus.*** [ANSWER: the Son of God the Father.]

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 17.

Page 18 Families in Mission, continued

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 18. Say: *Even though Peter made mistakes along the way, Jesus chose him to lead his Church. Jesus knows that none of us is perfect. He asks us to do our best to live and love like he did.*

WITNESS AND SHARE

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.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to tell you about what he or she wrote.

Chapter 17: Jesus Invites Us

Before You Begin

1. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
2. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and art supplies.
3. Familiarize yourself with the **Word to Know** for this chapter: *altar*.

Page 127 We Come with Love and Joy

Invite your child to read aloud page 127. Say: ***Jesus was both God and man. He chose to die on the Cross for our sins because he loves us.*** Ask: ***What does Jesus' victory over sin and death mean for us?*** (We can share in God's life and live with him forever in heaven.) Say: ***By participating in the Mass, we celebrate Jesus' great love.***

Page 128 We Gather Together

Take turns with your child reading aloud page 128. Call your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *altar*. Explain the Entrance and the Greeting. Say: ***There is a procession at the beginning of Mass. It reminds us that everyone has come into God's house to praise and thank God. In the Greeting, the priest gives us God's blessing.*** Read aloud the directions for **The Table of the Lord** and invite your child to complete the activity.

Page 129 We Ask for Mercy

Read aloud page 129. Say: ***At the beginning of Mass, we are asked to think about how we have loved God and others. We also think about how we have sometimes been unloving. We ask God for forgiveness. When our sins are forgiven, we are one with God and with one another. We are God's loving family.*** Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Then pray together the Sign of the Cross.

Page 130 We Praise God and We Ask and God Hears

Invite your child to read aloud **We Praise God** on page 130. Say: ***We praise God for giving Jesus to us and for all his blessings. We use the words the angels sang the night Jesus was born.*** Then explain the Collect or opening prayer. Say: ***During this time, we pray quietly for the needs of God's family. Then the priest gathers all our prayers into one prayer to God.*** Then read aloud **We Ask and God Hears**. Ask: ***What does Amen mean?*** (It means "Yes, we agree.") Ask your child to complete and share his or her prayer from the activity **We Are Blessed**.

Page 131 We Celebrate the Mass

Read aloud page 131 and ask your child to complete the activities **What We Do at Mass** and **Mass Is a Celebration**. When he or she is finished, go over the correct answers and invite your child to share his or her work.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together.

Page 132 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 17 Review on page 132. If you choose, scan the QR code and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**. Discuss the question under **We Remember**. Call your child's attention to the **We Respond** section and pray the prayer together. Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity.

Page 133 Families in Mission

Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar. Say: *Serving God fills us with joy.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *At Mass, we celebrate how Jesus gave us the gift of himself. We sing and pray and thank God for all his gifts.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. Say: *All the members of God's family gather together as one. There are many of us, but we are united.* [ANSWER: God's people.]

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 133.

Page 134 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 134. Say: *Father Miguel reminds us to be joyful as we serve God, even when we are asked to make sacrifices.*

WITNESS AND SHARE

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.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity.

Chapter 18: We Listen and Pray

Before You Begin

1. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
2. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and art supplies.
3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *Liturgy of the Word* and *ambo*.

Page 135 We Listen to the Word of the Lord

Read aloud page 135. Say: *The First Reading is from the Old Testament of the Bible. Then we pray a psalm that praises and thanks God. On Sundays and feast days, a lector reads a Second Reading from the New Testament of the Bible. After each reading, we say, "Thanks be to God."* Invite your child to say this response aloud with you. Call your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *Liturgy of the Word*. Remind your child that we hear God speak to us in the Bible.

Page 136 We Listen to the Gospel

Read aloud the first paragraph on page 136. Say: *Jesus' friends wanted all people to know about him, so they wrote his life story, which we call the Gospels. The word gospel means "good news." We sing, "Alleluia," a word of joy to show we are happy to hear the Good News of Jesus.* Invite your child to read aloud the rest of the page. Call your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *ambo*. Invite your child to complete the activity **The Evangelists**. Then go over the answers.

Page 137 We Tell God We Believe

Read aloud page 137. Say: *At Sunday Mass, we pray the Nicene Creed. We do our best to live as God wants us to live. We believe in God's power and love for us. We pray to God when we need help.*

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and experience the media together.

Page 138 We Ask God for Help

Read aloud page 138. Say: *Sometimes God answers our prayers by giving us something we didn't expect. Sometimes God has a different plan than we do. It is important to trust God and his plan, even if we don't always understand it.* Discuss the needs of the people pictured on page 138 and how you can pray for them. Read aloud the directions for **Lord, Hear My Prayer** and invite your child to complete the activity.

Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Then pray the Sign of the Cross. Invite your child to spend some quiet time with Jesus each day.

Page 139 We Hear God's Word

Invite your child to read aloud page 139. Say: ***You live God's Word through your words and actions.*** Ask your child to complete the activity **We Live God's Word**. When he or she has finished, talk about the answers.

Page 140 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 18 Review on page 140. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**. Discuss the question under **We Remember**. Call your child's attention to the **We Respond** section and pray the prayer together. Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity.

Page 141 Families in Mission

Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 141. Say: ***When we take God's Word to heart, it becomes a part of us.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***In the Gospel readings, we hear what Jesus said and did. We learn how Jesus wants us to live.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. Say: ***After we pray the Creed at Mass, we pray to God to help us.*** [ANSWER: Creed]

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 141.

Page 142 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 142. Say: ***Saint Mark was a witness for Christ. That means he lived his life as an example for others to follow. You are called to use your gifts to witness for Jesus too.***

WITNESS AND SHARE

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.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity.

Chapter 19: We Prepare Our Gifts

Before You Begin

1. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
2. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and art supplies.
3. Familiarize yourself with the **Word to Know** for this chapter: *Liturgy of the Eucharist*.

Page 143 We Bring Our Gifts

Have your child read aloud page 143. Call his or her attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *Liturgy of the Eucharist*. Say: ***During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the gifts of bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the best gift of all.***

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and listen to the audio together.

Page 144 We Give Thanks and Praise

Read aloud page 144. Say: ***God is with us at Mass in his words to us and in the people around us. God is with us in a special way when our gifts of bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ.*** Read aloud the directions for **Blessed Be God for Ever** and have your child complete the activity.

Page 145 We Sing Holy, Holy, Holy

Ask your child to read aloud the first paragraph on page 145. Say: ***At Mass, we celebrate with everyone, everywhere.*** Then sing or read aloud the words to the “Holy, Holy, Holy” and the last paragraph on page 145. Pray together **A Moment with Jesus**. Allow time for your child to talk with Jesus in the quiet of his or her heart. Then together pray the Sign of the Cross.

Page 146 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 19 Review on page 146. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**. Discuss the question under **We Remember**. Call your child’s attention to the **We Respond** section and pray the prayer together. Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity.

Page 147 Families in Mission

Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 147. Say: ***When Jesus said that we “will never hunger,” he meant that when we receive his Body and Blood in the Eucharist, we are filled with God’s love.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***When we offer our gifts of bread and wine to God at Mass, the priest thanks God for creation and all its goodness.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. Say: ***We thank God our Father for the gift of Jesus, our Savior.*** [ANSWER: to God]

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 147.

Page 148 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 148. Say: ***We can live as Saint Miguel did and offer everything we do to God.***

WITNESS AND SHARE

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.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity.

Chapter 20: Jesus Offers Himself

Before You Begin

1. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
2. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and art supplies.
3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *Body and Blood of Christ* and *consecration*.

Page 149 Jesus Is Truly Present

Read aloud page 149. Say: ***Only the priest can consecrate bread and wine. This is the most important part of the Mass. It is called the Eucharistic Prayer.*** Call your child's attention to the **Words to Know** feature. Read aloud the definitions for *Body and Blood of Christ* and *consecration*.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together.

Page 150 Jesus Offers Himself with Love and We Offer Ourselves with Jesus

Have your child read aloud **Jesus Offers Himself with Love** on page 150. Say: ***At this time during the Mass, Jesus offers himself to God our Father like he did at the Last Supper and on the Cross. We can pray with Jesus as we offer his sacrifice and ourselves to God our Father.***

Then read aloud **We Offer Ourselves with Jesus** on page 150. Say: ***We can offer God our happy and sad times, the times that we are sharing, caring, and loving, and the times we are helpful and kind.*** Guide your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Invite your child to talk and listen to Jesus in the quiet of his or her heart. Then together pray the Sign of the Cross.

Page 151 We Remember What Jesus Christ Has Done

Have your child read aloud page 151. Then read aloud the directions for **We Proclaim Our Faith** and **Jesus Gives Himself to the Father**. Ask your child to complete the activities. When he or she has finished, go over the answers.

Page 152 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 20 Review on page 152. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**. Discuss the question under **We Remember**. Call your child's attention to the **We Respond** section and pray the prayer together. Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating each word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity.

Page 153 Families in Mission

Complete the **Families in Mission** pages with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 153. Say: *Jesus said, "This is my body." As Catholics, we believe that Jesus is really and truly present in the Eucharist when we celebrate the Last Supper at Mass.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *Offering ourselves to God means saying, "God, thank you for all your gifts. I love you. I will follow you."*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. Say: *By the power of the Holy Spirit and the words of the priest, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ.* [ANSWER: the priest]

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 153.

Page 154 Families in Mission**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 154. Say: *You can ask Saint Joseph to pray for you. Saint Joseph can help you by reminding you to share your gifts with others.*

WITNESS AND SHARE

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.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to share what he or she wrote.