Unit 3: God's Plan Is a Plan of Love

Before You Begin

1. Read **A Letter Home,** found on page 86 of the Student Book.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for Chapter 10*: Scripture, hope, charity, Devil,* and *Redeemer.*

Page 85

Unit Opener

Say: ***In Unit 3, you will learn about God's plan for our salvation.*** Invite your child to turn to page 85. Have your child read aloud the title of the unit, **God's Plan Is a Plan of Love,** and then find the Scripture verse at the bottom of the page. Say: ***This is a verse from one of the Gospels.*** Have your child read aloud the Scripture verse.

Point out the pictures on the page: an apple tree, the newborn Jesus in the manger, and Jesus with John the Baptist. Invite your child to share any knowledge he or she has about what these pictures represent. Explain that the pictures represent topics he or she will learn about in this unit: the story of Adam and Eve and the Fall, and the Nativity, life, and teachings of Jesus.

Say: ***You will learn how God sent his Son, Jesus, to us as our Redeemer—the fulfillment of his plan for our salvation.***

Page 87

Chapter 10: God Created People to Share His Life

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **God Created People to Share His Life,** on page 87.

We Have Natural Capabilities

Have your child read aloud **We Have Natural Capabilities.** Point out the word *Scripture* that appears in blue. Have your child read aloud the definition in the **Word to Know** box. Invite your child to share with you how he or she partners with God, such as by caring for God's creation, being kind and forgiving, and telling others about Jesus.

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Page 88 Adam and Eve Shared in God's Life

Ask your child what is shown in the pictures on page 88. (a cross, an anchor, and a heart) Say: ***You will see that these pictures are symbols of three gifts God has given us. Let's read to find out what they are.***

Take turns reading aloud with your child **Adam and Eve Shared in God's Life.** Point out the words *hope* and *charity* that appear in blue in the third paragraph. Have your child read aloud the definitions in the **Words to Know** box on page 89.

Have your child complete the activity **Our Life Is a Gift from God.** Invite your child to share his or her drawing with you and tell you how the activity shown is a way he or she glorifies God.

Page 89 Sin Enters the World

Take turns reading aloud **Sin Enters the World** on page 89. Have your child point to the word *Devil* that appears in blue in the first sentence. Have him or her read aloud its definition in the **Words to Know** box. Ask your child how he or she has used his or her free will in the past one or two days. What were the available choices as to what to do? What did your child choose? Why? Discuss what it means to use our free will to serve God.

Pages 90–91 Jesus Is Our Redeemer

Take turns reading aloud with your child the two paragraphs of **Jesus Is Our Redeemer** on page 90. Point out the word *Redeemer* in blue and have your child read aloud its definition in the **Word to Know** box.

Have your child read aloud the **Psalm Prayer.** To help your child spend **A Moment with Jesus,** say: ***Close your eyes. Listen while I read to you again the psalm prayer.*** Read aloud again the **Psalm Prayer.** Then, with your child's eyes still closed, read aloud the second and third sentences of the feature.

If you wish, scan the QR code in the upper-right-hand corner of the page using a handheld, web-enabled device to experience the media.

Have your child complete the activity **Human Abilities, Divine Gifts** on page 91 by finding the words in the word search and completing the sentences. Have your child read aloud his or her completed sentences.

Have your child complete the activity **God Is Awesome.** Invite your child to share his or her picture with you as he or she reads aloud the words from the psalm he or she has illustrated.

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Page 92 Chapter 10 Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 92. Have him or her complete the activity **The Theological Virtues.** Discuss the four questions under **We Remember.** Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter. Pray together **We Respond.** Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn.** Invite your child to tell you more about the story behind what he or she has written and drawn.

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 92.

Pages 93–94 Families in Mission

Complete **Families in Mission** on pages 93–94 with your child.

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and Scripture in the sidebar on page 93. Say: ***God speaks to us through Scripture, including letters from Paul and other early leaders of the Church, and in the sacraments. First we receive God's message. Then we go out and share it with the world.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***Knowing the truths of our Catholic faith, we proclaim them in what we say and do.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Adam and Eve.] Say: ***Adam and Eve used the free will God had given them to disobey him. We always hope to use our free will to serve God.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 93.

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 94. Invite your child to respond to the phrase used to describe Saint Francis, "God's little poor man." What images does this description evoke for your child?

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to explain how he or she would have the people enlisted for the project work together as a team.

Pray a prayer from the inside front or back cover of the Student Book to bring the chapter to a close.

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Page 95

Chapter 11: God Sent His Son, Jesus, to Live Among Us

Before You Begin

1. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter*: Incarnation* and *Immaculate Conception.*
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

God Prepared the World for the Savior

Call your child's attention to the picture at the top of page 95. Ask: ***What images and sounds do we see and hear when Christmas approaches?*** (candles, Christmas lights, Christmas carols, and Nativity scenes) Say: ***Jesus was born on Christmas. This was the fulfillment of centuries of preparation on God's part.***

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **God Sent His Son, Jesus, to Live Among Us.**

Have your child read aloud the first paragraph of **God Prepared the World for the Savior** on page 95. Discuss the question at the end of the paragraph with your child by asking: ***How do we prepare for Christmas in our family?*** Begin reading aloud to your child the second paragraph. Pause after the question in the second sentence. Invite your child to answer with what he or she remembers from earlier in the book. Then continue taking turns reading aloud the rest of the page. Point out the terms *Incarnation* and *Immaculate Conception* in blue. Have your child read aloud the definitions in the **Words to Know** box.

Page 96

Jesus Was Born in a Stable in Bethlehem

Call your child's attention to the pictures on page 96. Invite your child to tell you what is shown in each picture. (The picture at the bottom of column 1 shows Mary and Joseph with the baby Jesus in the stable in Bethlehem. The picture at the top of column 2 shows one of the angels telling one of the shepherds about Jesus' birth.) Take turns reading aloud with your child the paragraphs and Scripture in **Jesus Was Born in a Stable in Bethlehem.**

Have your child close his or her eyes as you read aloud **A Moment with Jesus.** Read aloud again softly the angel's words from the Scripture above. Then allow your child a moment to thank Jesus quietly in his or her heart.

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Page 97 Simeon and Anna Recognized Jesus as the Light of the World

Have your child read aloud the heading and the first paragraph of **Simeon and Anna Recognized Jesus as the Light of the World.** Say: ***Let's see how Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as the Light of the World, the Savior for whom they had been waiting.*** Take turns reading aloud the remaining paragraphs and Scripture on the page. Call attention to the picture. Have your child identify the people in the picture. (From left to right, they are Mary, Joseph, Anna, and Simeon.) Say: ***Look at what Joseph is holding. What are they?*** (two doves) ***To follow the Law, Mary and Joseph were to offer a sacrifice to the Lord when they presented Jesus. This sacrifice consisted of two pigeons or turtledoves. Joseph has brought these two turtledoves as their sacrifice.***

Page 98 Jesus Honors His Mother and Father

Take turns reading aloud **Jesus Honors His Mother and Father** on page 98. Call your child's attention to the picture at the top of the page. Guide your child to recognize that this is Jesus at the age of about 12 with Mary and Joseph. Ask what feeling is conveyed in the picture. (the feeling of a secure, loving family with a respectful and obedient child) Invite your child to share some ways he or she gives God worship and love when he or she is doing ordinary things.

Pages 98–99 Jesus Is Our Light

Have your child read aloud the Scripture in **Jesus Is Our Light.** Then read aloud the paragraph that follows. Share with your child some ways you perceive that he or she makes Jesus' light burn brightly in your home.

If you wish, scan the QR code in the lower-right-hand corner of the page using a handheld, web-enabled device to experience the media.

Have your child complete the activities on page 99, **Honor Code** and **The Christmas Story.** Review your child's work and guide him or her to make any corrections.

Page 100 Chapter 11: Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 100. Discuss the two questions under **We Remember.** Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter. Pray together **We Respond.** Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn.** Give him or her time to complete the drawing.

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 100.

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Pages 101–102

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 101. Say: ***God speaks to us through the Gospels and in the sacraments. First we receive God's message. Then we go out and share it with the world.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***Knowing the truths of our Catholic faith, we proclaim them in what we say and do.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: It was Joseph's hometown, where he needed to be counted for the census.] Say: ***Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem to help God fulfill his promise to send the Savior.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 101.

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 102. Have your child look again at the picture on this page and the other pictures of Joseph in this chapter. Ask: ***What do you think are the personal qualities of the man shown in this picture?*** (The picture shows a man who is kind, loving, and caring.)

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to read aloud his or her prayer to you and to share the prayer with other family members.

Pray a prayer from the inside front or back cover of the Student Book to bring the chapter to a close.

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Page 103

Chapter 12: Jesus Revealed the Kingdom of God

Before You Begin

1. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter*: Messiah, Divine Revelation, mission, Satan,* and *miracle.*
2. Have ready some mustard seeds and imitation pearls, or pictures found online of mustard seeds and of pearls.
3. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

Jesus Begins His Public Mission

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **Jesus Revealed the Kingdom of God,** and then the heading **Jesus Begins His Public Mission** on page 103. Call your child's attention to the picture at the bottom of the page. Invite your child to say what he or she thinks is happening in this picture. (Jesus is being baptized by John the Baptist.) Say: ***Let's read to find out why this picture appears here.***

Have your child find and point to the terms *Messiah, Divine Revelation,* and *mission* that appear in blue. Have him or her read aloud their definitions in the **Words to Know** box. Say: ***At Jesus' baptism, a Divine Revelation was given: that Jesus is the Messiah.***

Page 104

Jesus Showed His Power Over Satan

Take turns reading aloud **Jesus Showed His Power Over Satan** on page 104. Call your child's attention to the word *Satan* that appears in blue. Have him or her read aloud the definition in the **Word to Know** box. Ask your child how he or she will use the freedom to choose that God has given him or her to show love for God.

Have your child complete the activity **The Path of Life.** Invite your child to trace the path he or she has drawn and tell you about some of the choices shown on the path.

Have your child close his or her eyes as you read aloud **A Moment with Jesus.** Allow your child a moment of silent prayer.

If you wish, scan the QR code on the page using a handheld, web-enabled device to experience the media.

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Page 105 Jesus' Miracles Showed the Kingdom Had Come

Ask your child if he or she has ever described something that happened as a "miracle," or if he or she has heard others saying something like this. Discuss the word *miracle* and elicit the fact that in everyday speech, it can refer to a good outcome that was completely unexpected. Say: ***Let's learn about miracles Jesus performed.*** Have your child look at the picture on page 105. Ask what your child thinks is happening in the picture. Say: ***Let's find out.*** Take turns reading aloud **Jesus' Miracles Showed the Kingdom Had Come.** Call your child's attention to the word *miracle* that appears in blue. Have him or her read aloud the definition in the **Word to Know** box. Make sure your child understands that the picture shows Jesus calming the storm at sea.

Discuss with your child the difference between a miracle of Jesus and everyday things that he or she and/or his or her friends may call "miracles."

Pages 106–107 Jesus Told Parables to Teach About God's Kingdom

Read aloud to your child the heading, the first paragraph, and the question that introduces the next paragraph in **Jesus Told Parables to Teach About God's Kingdom** on page 106. Place the mustard seeds on the table (or show your child the images you have found) and explain to your child that they are mustard seeds. Let your child pick some of them up and notice how tiny they are. Take turns reading aloud the paragraphs and Scripture that follow. When you have finished reading the passage from Matthew, show your child the pearls or the images of them you have found.

Then continue taking turns reading aloud the rest of the page. Invite your child to share what aspects of the kingdom he or she has experienced.

Have your child complete the activity **Teaching About God's Kingdom.** When your child has finished, ask him or her to read aloud the completed sentences.

Have your child read aloud the directions to the activity **We Reflect God's Kingdom in Different Ways** on page 107. Discuss with your child how the people in each picture are reflecting God's kingdom.

Page 108 Chapter 12 Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 108. Have your child complete the activity **Keys to the Kingdom.** Complete item #1 together. Have your child read aloud the prompt, tell you the answer (parables), find the word *parables* in the list, and write its letter *(d)* on the line. Then have your child complete the rest of the activity. Discuss the questions under **We Remember.** Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter. Pray together **We Respond.** Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn.** Then have your child complete his or her drawing and write its title. Invite him to share it with you.

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 108.

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Pages 109–110

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 109. Say: ***God speaks to us through the Gospels and in the sacraments. First we receive God's message. Then we go out and share it with the world.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***Learning more about our faith helps us spread the Good News to others.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: at his baptism by John the Baptist.] Say: ***At Jesus' baptism, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, and God proclaimed that Jesus is his Son.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 109.

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Have your child read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 110. Say: ***Imagine leading people with kindness, wisdom, and love for God as Saint Henry did.***

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Have your child read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and complete the activity. Invite your child to read aloud his or her story to you and to other family members.

Pray a prayer from the inside front or back cover of the Student Book to bring the chapter to a close.

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Page 111

Chapter 13: Jesus Came to Give Life

Before You Begin

1. Familiarize yourself with the **Word to Know** for this chapter: *Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.*
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

Jesus Cured the Man with Leprosy

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **Jesus Came to Give Life,** and then the heading **Jesus Cured the Man with Leprosy** on page 111. Take turns reading aloud the first paragraph and the Scripture passage. Call your child's attention to the picture at the bottom of the page that shows Jesus about to touch and heal a man. Take turns reading aloud the remaining three paragraphs. Point out the term *Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation* that appears in blue and have your child read aloud its definition in the **Word to Know** box. Ask your child how he or she has felt healed after receiving the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

If you wish, scan the QR code at the top of the page using a handheld, web-enabled device to experience the media.

Page 112

Jesus Brought Life to the Widow's Son

Take turns reading aloud **Jesus Brought Life to the Widow's Son** on page 112.

Pages 113–114

Jesus' Healing Miracles: Two Short Plays

Read aloud together the plays on pages 113–114: **The Cure of the Blind Man** and **Jesus Gave Life to a 12-Year-Old Girl and Healed a Woman.** Decide who will take the parts in the plays. Read the part of the Crowd together.

Have your child close his or her eyes as you read aloud the first two sentences of **A Moment with Jesus** on page 114. Pause after the question and allow time for your child to visualize Jesus taking his or her hand and talking to him or her. Then read the last sentence and pause for another moment as your child prays silently.

Page 115

We Respect and Protect Life

Take turns reading aloud **We Respect and Protect Life** on page 115.

Have your child read aloud the directions to the activity **How Important Life Is!** and explain to you how each child in the pictures is respecting and protecting life. Then invite your child to share with you things he or she does to show he or she knows that life is important.

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Page 116 Chapter 13 Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 116. Have your child complete the activity **Jesus' Healing Miracles.** When your child has finished, have him or her read aloud the completed sentences. Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter. Discuss the question under **We Remember.** Pray together passage from the Gospel of John in **We Respond.** Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn.** Have your child write his or her response. Invite your child to share with you what he or she wrote.

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 116.

Pages 117–118 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 117. Say: ***God speaks to us through the Gospels and in the sacraments. First we receive God's message. Then we go out and share it with the world.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***We find healing through the sacraments, and we help others know Jesus' healing love.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: miracles] Say: ***Jesus' miracles showed that he was truly God's Son.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 117.

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 118. Say: ***We can receive a blessing of our throats with candles at Mass around Saint Blaise's feast day in February.***

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Have your child read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and complete the activity. Invite your child to share with you what he or she has written. Discuss how he or she will have a friend join him or her in putting his or her ideas into action.

Pray a prayer from the inside front or back cover of the Student Book to bring the chapter to a close.

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Page 119

Chapter 14: God's Kingdom Is a Kingdom of Love

Before You Begin

1. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter*: Sermon on the Mount* and *Beatitudes.*
2. Have ready a Bible bookmarked to Matthew 5:3–10.
3. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

Jesus Taught Us About the Spirit of the Kingdom

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **God's Kingdom Is a Kingdom of Love,** on page 119.

Say: ***So far, we have learned that Jesus related to people by obeying the commandments, performing miracles, telling parables, and healing. Jesus was also a teacher. We will learn more about Jesus' teachings in this chapter.***

Take turns reading aloud with your child **Jesus Taught Us About the Spirit of the Kingdom** on page 119. Call attention to the terms *Sermon on the Mount* and *Beatitudes* that appear in blue. Have your child read aloud their definitions in the **Words to Know** box. Open your Bible to the bookmark at Matthew 5:3–10 and take turns reading aloud the verses of the Beatitudes with your child. Say: ***What we just read are the Beatitudes. Now we will read some other examples of Jesus' teachings from the Sermon on the Mount.***

If you wish, scan the QR code at the top of the page using a handheld, web-enabled device to experience the media.

Pages 120–121

The Teachings of Jesus

Take turns reading aloud the first paragraph and the four Scripture passages in **The Teachings of Jesus** on page 120. Read aloud to your child the directions to the activity **Living by the Sermon on the Mount.** To complete the activity, have your child choose one of the four topics on the page—forgiveness, generosity, loving enemies, or fairness—and tell you how he or she might put Jesus' teaching on that topic into practice in his or her life.

Have your child read aloud the directions to the activity **A Check for Service** on page 121 and complete the activity. Invite your child to tell you more about one of the items he or she checked.

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Page 122

Chapter 14 Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 122. Have your child read aloud the directions to the activity **Planning to Grow.** Have him or her describe to you two ways he or she will help spread Jesus' light all over the world and then write them on the lines. Have your child read aloud the directions to the activity **Who's Who in Your Life** and complete his or her list. Invite your child to share his or her list with you. Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter. Discuss the question under **We Remember.** Pray together **We Respond.** Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn.** Have your child make his or her drawing and show it to you.

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 122.

Pages 123–124

Unit 3 Review

Help your child complete the **Unit Review** activities on pages 123–124: **Checking Up on the Unit, Who's Who?, What's the Parable?,** and **Spreading God's Kingdom.**

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Unit Review** by scanning the QR code on page 123.

Pages 125–126

We Celebrate: We Pray for the Coming of God's Kingdom

Read aloud together the celebration on pages 125–126. Take the part of the Leader. Pray the "All" parts together. Divide up the parts of the Readers and read aloud your parts accordingly. Choose and sing songs from Mass that you are familiar with.

Pages 127–128

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 127. Say: ***God speaks to us through Scripture, including letters from Paul and other early leaders of the Church, and in the sacraments. First we receive God's message. Then we go out and share it with the world.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***Jesus' teachings guide us in helping to spread his kingdom.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Sermon on the Mount.] Say: ***Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount help us show one another God's love.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 127.

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A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 128. Say: ***The saints are role models who show us how to do our best in following Jesus. If we follow Thérèse's example, we know that there is nothing we can do that is too small to show our love of God.***

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith,** pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Have your child read aloud the directions to **Share Your Faith** and complete the activity. Invite your child to share with you what he or she has written.

Pray a prayer from the inside front or back cover of the Student Book to bring the chapter to a close.

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