Overview

The At-Home Edition of ***Christ Our Life*** provides you with the opportunity to work with your child, using the Student Book, to grow together in faith. Whether you are doing home catechesis or seeking to be more deeply involved in your child's faith formation, these pages will give you the support you need.

Prepare

Designate a learning space where the lessons will take place. Before presenting the Student Book to your child, leaf through it. Pay particular attention to the following features:

- Traditional Catholic prayers found on the inside front and back covers
- Table of Contents
- **Families in Mission** pages that appear at the end of each core chapter
- **Special Seasons and Lessons** section
- **What Catholics Should Know** section
- **Glossary**
- **Lesson Pullout** pages

Pray that you and your child may recognize the presence of Christ in your lives today and every day.

Unit 1: God Calls Us to Faith

Before You Begin

1. Read **A Letter Home,** found on page 2 of the Student Book. 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*: *We Believe* Student Book, and writing supplies.
3. Present the *Christ Our Life* Student Book to your child.
4. Explain in your own words that this book is a way your child can learn more about God and our Catholic faith.
5. Familiarize yourself with the **Word to Know** for Chapter 1: *Bible*.

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Page 1 Unit Opener

To highlight the special nature and purpose of the Student Book, call your child by name and present the book to him or her as you would a gift. Say: ***Because this is such a special book, you will want to receive and hold it reverently and with respect.*** Invite your child to demonstrate how to treat something with reverence. Ask: ***What is the name of our book?*** *(Christ Our Life: We Believe)* Say: ***It explains how God calls us by our names to follow the way to true happiness in a life with him. Through this book, God will speak to you and help you know and love him.***

Page through the book together.

Say: ***In Unit 1, you will learn what God is like and how you can talk with and listen to him.*** Invite your child to turn to page 1. Have your child read aloud the title of the unit, **God Calls Us to Faith,** and then find the Scripture verse at the bottom of the page. Explain that the words are from our holy book, the Bible. Show the Bible. Have your child read aloud the Scripture verse from Isaiah.

Say: ***At your Baptism, God called you to follow his Son, Jesus. To each of us, God says our name and tells us that he has called us; we are his.***

Point out the pictures on the page: Christ on the Cross, a stained-glass window, and a Baptism. Invite your child to share any ideas about what these pictures represent. Explain that Christ on the Cross represents the sacrifice Jesus made to show his love for us. The stained-glass window represents the Church, in which we are all united in Christ. Baptism is the beginning of our life with Christ.

Say: ***You will learn how to be one of God's holy people and live like Jesus.***

Page 3 Chapter 1: God Calls Us

To introduce the profound significance of God calling each of us by name and knowing each of us as a unique person that he has created, discuss with your child times you and other family members address him or her by his or her name. Ask: ***When might someone use our names? What does it mean when someone addresses us by our names?*** (They may be calling to greet us or ask for our attention. They may want to make sure we are listening. In a group, they may be asking something specifically of us. For example, if we were taking a poll of what our family members would like for a special meal, each person would be asked by name. It means that the person calling to us knows us and that we matter, that we are important.) Say: ***If we feel special when other people use our names, imagine how it makes us feel for God to use our names!***

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **God Calls Us.**

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Page 3 God Calls Us by Name

Take turns reading aloud with your child **God Calls Us by Name** on page 3. Then guide him or her in completing the activity **Belonging.**

Page 4 We Are Family

If you have not done so, place your Bible on the table.

Have your child read aloud **We Are Family** on page 4. Ask your child if he or she ever identifies himself or herself to friends as a Catholic. Does he or she tell others that he or she is a Christian? Invite your child to explain why it makes him or her proud to tell others that he or she is a Catholic and a Christian.

Discuss together the idea of belonging to the one family made up of everyone who belongs to God. How does your child experience this belonging in his or her daily life at school, at home, with friends, and at Mass?

God Speaks to Us in the Bible

Have your child read aloud **God Speaks to Us in the Bible.** Point out your Bible on the table. Have your child point to the word *Bible* that appears in blue. Have him or her read aloud the definition in the **Word to Know** box.

Have your child tell you from memory a Scripture story he or she knows. Tell your child a Scripture story you know.

In the activity **A Message from God,** have your child fill in the two missing words to complete the verse from Leviticus. Then read the verse aloud with your child. Say: ***Another example of a message from God is the verse from Isaiah about our names that we read earlier.***

Page 5 God Called Abram to Believe

With your child, look at the picture at the top of page 5. Ask: ***What do you see when you look at this picture? What do you see in this man's expression?*** Listen as your child tells you what he or she thinks the picture shows. Then say: ***Let's read to see who he is and why he has that expression.*** Read aloud **God Called Abram to Believe.** Have your child think about a friend or family member whose family moved to a new place. Ask if your child ever talked with this person about his or her feelings about moving and what the person said. Say: ***As Abraham knew, moving is hard. But Abraham also knew that God was leading him to a place where his family could grow and flourish. It is the same with us when we face the unknown: we know that God will be there with us.***

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Page 5 God Gives the Gift of Faith

Help your child compare our journey of faith with that of Abraham by having him or her read aloud **God Gives the Gift of Faith.** Have your child take a moment to imagine what a picture of himself or herself that conveys his or her faith would look like.

Say: ***At Baptism, you and I received the gift of faith that enables us to believe. How has your faith helped you?*** Engage with your child based on his or her response. In turn, offer an experience of how faith has helped you.

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.

Page 6 God Called Ruth to Believe

Take turns reading aloud with your child **God Called Ruth to Believe** on page 6. Say: ***Ruth and Naomi were family. As in our family, family members love and care for one another. Ruth was faced with the decision to either stay where she was—where she was probably comfortable—or to show her love for her mother-in-law by accompanying her. From the Scripture, we see that Ruth chose to be with Naomi and share in her love of God.***

Ask who is shown in the picture on this page. (Ruth and Naomi) Ask: ***What are clues as to who is Ruth and who is Naomi in this picture?*** (Naomi, on the right, appears sad. But Ruth, on the left, wants Naomi to know that she is there to comfort and help her and will stay with her.)

Page 7 God Calls You to Believe

Have your child read **God Calls You to Believe** and complete the activities **Teachers** and **A Picture from Your Life** on page 7. To introduce the activity **Teachers,** discuss with your child how each of you learned about God. Share how you learned about God as a child, and ask your child who has taught him or her about God. Then guide your child in writing his or her responses to the questions.

Read aloud **A Moment with Jesus.** Share with each other what each of you would say to Jesus if he called you or your child right now.

Find the Scripture prayer booklet **Gifted with Faith** in the **Lesson Pullouts** that begin on page 285. Help your child remove and assemble the booklet. Explain that this is a booklet of short Scripture passages that you and your child can use for prayer. Look through the assembled booklet with your child. Let your child choose a page to read aloud now. Have him or her keep the booklet and pray from it often.

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Page 8 Chapter 1 Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 8. Discuss the two questions under **We Remember.** Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter. Pray together **We Respond.** Point out to your child that this is an example of how we can pray with Scripture. Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn.** Ask your child what words he or she thinks go in the crossword puzzle. *(Catholic, Christian)* Then have your child complete the puzzle.

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 8.

Pages 9–10 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 9. 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: share our faith with others.] Say: ***Our Baptism is the beginning of our new life in Christ.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 9.

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 10. Say: ***The saints are role models who show us how to do our best in following Jesus.*** Point out the Gospel of Mark in the Bible. Say: ***The Holy Spirit inspired Saint Mark to love Jesus and tell the story of his life.***

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 tell you about what he or she wrote. Ask: ***How would you feel knowing that sharing your faith helped someone else? Why?***

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 11

Chapter 2: God Gives Us Gifts

Before You Begin

1. If possible, obtain some toy facsimiles of gold coins.
2. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *parable* and *psalm*.
3. Think about things your child does particularly well.
4. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

God Calls Us to Use Our Gifts

Say: ***You have been reading about some people who helped God carry out his divine plan of salvation for the world.***

Ask about people your child knows who help God carry out his plan of salvation. Discuss how teachers, parents, sisters, brothers, and priests all can be people who help bring us closer to God through their love, caring, and guidance. All these people—the people from the Bible and the people we know—received gifts from God to help everyone know his love.

Say: ***God's plan includes us too. Today we'll talk about how God guides us to help fulfill his plan of salvation by bringing his love to others. God has given us gifts to help us help him.***

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **God Gives Us Gifts,** and then the section **God Calls Us to Use Our Gifts** on page 11. Ask: ***What do the gifts and abilities God has given us help us do?*** (These gifts help us lead other people to know and love God.)

Have your child point to the word *parable* that appears in blue at the end of the paragraph. Have him or her read aloud the definition in the **Word to Know** box. Say: ***You are going to read a retelling of a parable Jesus told the Apostles.***

Page 11

The Parable of the Talents

If you have toy gold coins, place them on the table. Say: ***Around the time of the beginning of Jesus' public ministry on earth, people used coins called*** **talents.** ***These were gold or silver coins that had a large amount of value. In our money, occasionally one finds a dollar coin, but these coins were worth much, much more. In the parable you are going to read, Jesus teaches us about a man who gave talents to people who worked for him. These people were to take care of the talents, or coins, the man gave them.***

Take turns reading aloud **The Parable of the Talents** with your child. As you and your child read, at the appropriate points in the story, count out the coins given to each servant, and count out the coins each servant gave back to the master on his return.

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Discuss your expectations when you give your child a responsibility. Say: ***When I give you a responsibility, I know that you will carry it out as well as you can, in a way that makes both of us proud, like the servants who used their talents to earn more talents. You don't just go through the motions in order to be able to say you did it, like the servant who buried his talent.*** Give your child a smile and a high five.

Page 12 Our Talents Are Gifts

Have your child read **Our Talents Are Gifts.** Then have him or her read aloud the directions for the activity **My Special Gifts.** Guide your child to find one or more of the things shown that he or she can do. Ask your child if there is anything he or she would like to add in the "What else?" box. (The 11 pictures shown are just some examples of things a third grader might be able to do.) Then have your child write endings to the sentences at the bottom of the page. Discuss ways that we can apply to serving God any ability we possess.

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.

Pages 13–14 David Used His Gifts

Indicate the illustration on page 13 and the sweep of musical notes that goes through it. Ask: ***What is this a picture of?*** (It shows a young man holding a shepherd's staff and playing the harp. The musical notation in the background indicates the music coming from the young man's harp.) Say: ***Let's read to find out who this young man was and how he served God.***

Take turns reading aloud with your child **David Used His Gifts** and **David the Songwriter** on page 13. Have your child point to the word *psalm* that appears in blue. Have him or her read aloud the definition in the **Word to Know** box.

Ask: ***How could someone use musical gifts to serve God?*** (Like David, one could write prayers to God in the form of songs. Or one could play and/or sing praise to God.) Open your Bible to the Book of Psalms so that your child can see how the psalms appear in the Bible. Page through to show that there are many psalms. Say: ***You will read many passages from the Book of Psalms as you work through your*** **Christ Our Life** ***book.***

Take turns reading aloud **David the Shepherd, David the Protector,** and **David the King.** Discuss with your child how God chose David as a boy because of the inner qualities God had given him. Although David did not look like a powerful person, he made his best effort based on his faith in God. He put faith above everything else, and so he became a leader of God's people. Ask how your child thinks he or she might be like David in your family—how faith and devotion to God could help him or her bring beauty and care into your family.

Take turns reading aloud with your child the lines of the Scripture from 2 Samuel. Share ideas as to how the spirit of the Lord has spoken through each of you.

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Page 15 We Can Help One Another Discover Gifts

Have your child read aloud **We Can Help One Another Discover Gifts** on page 15. Have your child read aloud the directions for the activity **Developing Gifts.** Have him or her write the gift shown by each child in the photos: caring for God's creatures and taking on responsibilities, playing music and being conscientious about practicing, playing a sport and being a good team player. Then discuss with your child the three questions in the activity directions.

Lead your child in prayer using **A Moment with Jesus.** Read aloud the feature. Then, along with your child, close your eyes and sit quietly. After a moment, say: ***Thank God for a gift you have already discovered. Ask God to help you know your gifts.***

Page 16 Chapter 2 Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 16. Discuss the question under **We Remember.** Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter. Pray together the psalm verse in **We Respond.** Have your child complete the activity **Fill in the Blanks** by finding the word from the word bank to write in each space to correctly complete the sentence. Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn.** Then have your child make his or her drawing in the space provided.

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 16.

Pages 17–18 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: ***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: He was a protector of animals and people.] Say: ***We serve God using our gifts.***

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

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A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 18. Say: ***The saints are role models who show us how to do our best in following Jesus. The Holy Spirit inspired Saint Nicholas to show others how much God loves them.***

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 tell you about what he or she wrote. Ask: ***How does it feel to serve others, knowing that doing so helps others know God's goodness? Why?***

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 19

Chapter 3: We Are God's Holy People

Before You Begin

1. Familiarize yourself with the **Word to Know** for this chapter: *holy.*
2. Mentally complete for yourself the steps of the activity **Helpers on the Road to Holiness** on page 20 so that you will be able to guide your child if needed.
3. Find online an image from fine art of Saint Francis and one of Saint Clare. In particular, you might look for an image of Saint Clare driving away invaders with the Blessed Sacrament.
4. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

Say: ***Today we're going to reflect on a special call that we received when God made us.***

God Calls Us to Be Holy

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **We Are God's Holy People,** and then the heading and first paragraph in **God Calls Us to Be Holy** on page 19. Call attention to the **Word to Know,** *holy.* Have your child read aloud the definition. Say: ***God created us as holy.***

Guide your child in completing the activity **Acting in Holiness.**

Have your child read aloud the second paragraph. Say: ***God calls us to be holy and he has sent his Son Jesus to help us. By calling us to be holy, God calls us to be happy. Holiness and true happiness go together. We become holy and truly happy when we know, love, and serve God.***

Page 20

Helpers on the Road to Holiness

Have your child read aloud the directions to the activity **Helpers on the Road to Holiness** on page 20. Have your child identify what is shown in the billboard pictures: a halo; a bishop's miter and staff; praying hands, a host, and chalice; an opened Bible; and a dove. Each picture is a symbol that stands for one of the words in the word bank. Have your child match the pictures with the words in the word bank and write in each blank the word that correctly completes the sentence. Then have your child draw the path, beginning with the child in the lower-left-hand corner and leading up to heaven, represented by the clouds above the path.

Page 21

Saint Francis Answered God's Call

Call your child's attention to the picture on page 21. Invite your child to share impressions of the man shown. (He is dressed simply, and there is a bird perched on his hand. So perhaps he is a humble, kind, and gentle person.) Say: ***This is Saint Francis. Let's read about him.***

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Take turns reading aloud with your child **Saint Francis Answered God's Call.** Ask: ***What might make us go from someone who is mostly interested in having fun to someone who wants to serve God and others?*** (One possible reason is a deep awareness of God's love.) Ask your child if he or she has had moments in which he or she was aware that always having fun is not enough. Invite him or her to elaborate.

Saint Francis Loved Animals

Take turns reading aloud with your child **Saint Francis Loved Animals.** Ask: ***Which story about Saint Francis and the animals did you like best? Why?*** Affirm your child's response.

Have your child complete the activity **Saint Francis and Friends.** Say: ***Saint Francis loved everything God made. He loved all of God's people.*** Ask: ***How can we show love for God's creation?*** (by telling others about God; by respecting everything God creates; by caring for creation)

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.

Page 22 Saint Clare Answered God's Call

Say: ***Now you will learn about a friend of Saint Francis's, from the same town in Italy, who also became a saint.***

Take turns reading aloud **Saint Clare Answered God's Call** on page 22. Invite your child to tell you what part or parts of Saint Clare's story he or she found most engaging. Show your child a work of art you found online depicting one of the two saints. Ask what your child found interesting about the relationship between Francis and Clare. ***Ask: How do our family members help one another become holy?***

Have your child close his or her eyes and sit quietly. Read aloud **A Moment with Jesus,** pausing after each sentence. Continue sitting quietly for a moment. Then pray: ***Amen.***

Page 23 We Answer God's Call

Have your child read aloud **We Answer God's Call** on page 23. Encourage your child to realize that we answer God's call every day by acting as Jesus would.

Have your child complete the activity **Learning from Saint Clare and Saint Francis.** Read each situation aloud. Make sure your child understands the situation. Then discuss ways the two saints might act in that situation and how this can be a model for us. Have your child write the responses the two of you came up with. Emphasize that Saint Francis exhibited loving care toward animals, Saint Clare always made sure that she had time alone with God, and both Saint Francis and Saint Clare were guided by the Holy Spirit in settling disagreements.

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Page 24 Chapter 3 Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 24. Discuss the two questions under **We Remember.** Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter. Pray together the verse from Ephesians in **We Respond.** Have your child complete the activity **Good Questions** to conduct an examination of conscience. Say: ***These are questions you can ask yourself to help you follow Jesus.*** Read each question aloud and invite your child to answer in the quiet of his or her heart. Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn.** Then have your child write his or her description of a holy person.

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 24.

Pages 25–26 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 25. Say: ***God speaks to us through Scripture 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 can respond to God's call by being like the saints.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Saint Francis of Assisi] Say: ***The saints show us how to serve God.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 25.

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 26. Say: ***The saints are role models who show us how to do our best in following Jesus. The Holy Spirit inspired Saint Martin of Tours to turn from being a soldier to serving Christ.***

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 tell you about what he or she wrote. Ask: ***How do the examples of the saints help you in serving Christ?***

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 27

Chapter 4: God Called Mary

Before You Begin

1. Bookmark your Bible to Luke 1:26–38.
2. Have available one or two rosaries, for you and/or your child.
3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *Annunciation, Rosary,* and *sacramental.*
4. Note that *Rosary* spelled with a capital *R* means the prayer. When spelled with a lowercase *r, rosary* refers to the string of beads used in praying the prayer. Both the Rosary and a rosary are sacramentals.
5. Locate the **Lesson Pullouts** that begin on page 281 of the Student Book. Find the page with **The Joyful Mysteries.** Be prepared to have your child carefully tear out this page, cut it in half, and assemble and fold it to make an eight-page booklet. It is better to have your child engaged with making the booklet than to just present it to him or her.
6. Have child-safe scissors ready.
7. Familiarize yourself with the story of Our Lady of Fátima's appearance to three children in Portugal in the early part of the 20th century.
8. (Optional) Find online an image from fine art of the Annunciation.
9. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

Mary Helps Us Answer God's Call

Say: ***You have been learning about people who answered God's call. Today you are going to learn about someone very special who answered God's call: Mary, the mother of Jesus and of the Church.***

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **God Calls Mary,** and then **Mary Helps Us Answer God's Call** on page 27. Have your child point to the word *Annunciation* that appears in blue. Have him or her read aloud the definition in the **Word to Know** box. Then read aloud the poem **The Annunciation.** You and your child may take turns reading parts of the poem. You may wish to read to your child the story of the Annunciation as found in the Gospel of Luke. (Luke 1:26–38)

Discuss with your child the tremendous significance of Mary's yes to God. Elicit that Mary's response, her commitment in bringing to us the Savior, resonates in all of us from day to day, moment to moment.

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Page 28

Messengers from God

Have your child read aloud **Messengers from God** on page 28. Talk with your child about messengers God has sent to him or her. Who were they? What did they say?

Have your child complete the activity **We Say Yes.** Share times when the two of you might say yes to God after hearing from his messengers.

Mary Calls Us to Pray the Rosary

Have your child read aloud **Mary Calls Us to Pray the Rosary.** Say: ***Because Mary loved and served God, she is holy.*** Pray the Hail Mary together:

> Hail, Mary, full of grace,
> the Lord is with thee.
> Blessed art thou among women,
> and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
> Holy Mary, Mother of God,
> Pray for us sinners,
> now and at the hour of our death.
> Amen.

Together, name the adjectives and phrases in the prayer that describe Mary: "full of grace," "blessed," "holy," and "Mother of God."

Point out the word *Rosary* that appears in blue. Have your child read aloud its definition in the **Word to Know** box.

Have your child remove the page for **The Joyful Mysteries** in the **Lesson Pullouts** that begin on page 281. Help him or her assemble the booklet. Then have your child read aloud **First Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation** on page 4 and **How to Pray the Rosary** on page 2 of the booklet.

Page 29

Our Lady of Fátima

Look at the picture on the page together with your child. Call attention to the Sacred Heart in the center of Mary's robe and the three children at the bottom of the picture.

Take turns reading aloud **Our Lady of Fátima.** Spend a moment with your child in imaginative prayer. Invite your child to close his or her eyes. Pausing after each question, say: ***Imagine that you are out walking somewhere and suddenly Mary appears in front of you. How is she dressed? What does she look like? What is her expression? What does she say to you? What does her voice sound like? What do you say to her?*** Allow your child a moment to reflect. Then say: ***Now it's time to say goodbye to Mary for now. Listen to her as she blesses you. Tell her you will come to seek her help and comfort often.*** Then have your child open his or her eyes.

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Page 30 The Rosary Honors Jesus and Mary

Say: ***Now you are going to learn about a special prayer that uses a crucifix, the Lord's Prayer, stories from the Bible, the Hail Mary, and lots of beads. This special prayer is the Rosary.*** Show your child a rosary. Point out the crucifix, the series of 10 beads for the Hail Mary, and the large bead for the Lord's Prayer.

Have your child read aloud the first paragraph. Have him or her point to the word *sacramental* that appears in blue and read aloud its definition in the **Word to Know** box at the bottom of the page.

Say: ***We pray the Rosary to grow closer to God. By doing so, we honor both Mary and her Son, Jesus. The Rosary and rosaries are sacramentals because they bring us closer to God. Can you think of any other sacramentals?*** Together with your child, name some sacramentals: holy water, blessed ashes, blessed palms, a cross on a necklace that has been blessed by a priest, blessed candles, crucifixes.

Take turns reading aloud the remaining three paragraphs. Refer again to **How to Pray the Rosary** in **The Joyful Mysteries** booklet. You might wish to pray a decade of the Rosary together with your child, as follows:

Hold the crucifix and pray the Sign of the Cross with it.

Pray the Apostles' Creed, holding the crucifix. Hold the first bead and pray the Lord's Prayer.

Pray a Hail Mary as you hold each of the next 10 beads.

Hold the chain before the next bead and pray the Glory Be to the Father.

Say: ***Next, we think of a special event in the life of Jesus or Mary. This event is called a* mystery. *The Annunciation is the first Joyful Mystery. Think about the message the angel brought and how Mary answered yes while we pray the Lord's Prayer on the single bead and a Hail Mary on each of the 10 beads.***

Read aloud to your child the directions to the activity **The Mysteries of the Rosary.** Have your child complete the crossword puzzle using the names of the groups of mysteries given in the directions: *Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful,* and *Glorious.*

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Page 31 Color Your Prayers

You may wish to give your child a rosary to refer to while completing the activity **Color Your Prayers** on page 31. Read aloud the activity directions to your child. If you would like to guide your child step-by-step, first have him or her find the cross that is by itself and then the cross on the rosary. Have your child choose a color for the cross and fill in both crosses with that color. Continue in this same way for the other three symbols: the beads for the Lord's Prayer and the Hail Mary and the lozenge for Hail, Holy Queen. Or, if your child would like to work completely independently, allow him or her to do so.

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 close his or her eyes and sit quietly as you read aloud **A Moment with Jesus.**

Page 32 Chapter 4 Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 32. Discuss the question under **We Remember.** Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter. Pray together the verse from Luke in **We Respond.** Have your child complete the activity **Honoring Mary** by completing the crossword puzzle with words from the chapter. Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn.** If possible, find online and show your child one or more paintings of the Annunciation from fine art by masters. Then have your child draw his or her picture of the Annunciation.

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 32.

Pages 33–34 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 33. 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 share our Catholic practices with others.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious] Say: ***Sacramentals help bring us closer to God.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 33.

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A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 34. Say: ***The saints are role models who show us how to do our best in following Jesus. The Holy Spirit inspired James and Philip to follow Jesus and help lead the Church.***

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 tell you about what he or she wrote. Ask: ***What led you to choose the prayer you did? What do you especially like about it?***

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 35

Chapter 5: Jesus Calls Us to Follow

Before You Begin

1. Bookmark your Bible to Mark 1:16–20.
2. Have ready a shallow bowl with water and a small pebble.
3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter*: Apostle, disciple,* and *synagogue.* Also familiarize yourself with the word *persecute.*
4. Using a felt-tipped pen, make a row of 12 dots on a sheet of white paper. Leave some space below it, and then make 6 rows of 12 dots.
5. Familiarize yourself with the activities on page 37 and in the **Unit Review.**
6. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

Jesus Called the Apostles

Place on the table a shallow bowl with water and a small pebble. Have your child drop the pebble into the water. Say: ***The Good News of Jesus is like the pebble. Jesus taught his followers, and they in turn told others so that the message spread out like ripples in water. Today we will talk about how Jesus called people to help do his work.***

Ask: ***Do you feel proud and happy when asked to help someone? What would be an example?*** Listen and/or prompt your child with a time you observed him or her helping someone.

Have your child read aloud the chapter title, **Jesus Calls Us to Follow.**

Discuss the picture at the bottom of page 35. Ask: ***What do you see in this picture?*** (men in a boat, fish, a net, and Jesus holding out his hands) ***Do you know what might be happening?*** Give your child a moment to express his or her ideas. Then say: ***Here Jesus has just performed a miracle. Peter and the two men with him had been out all night fishing but hadn't caught anything. Jesus told them to go back out into deep water and put out their nets. This time, the nets became so full of fish that the boat nearly turned over. How would you have felt if you were one of these fishermen?*** (amazed; in awe)

Take turns reading aloud **Jesus Called the Apostles.** Have your child point to the word *Apostle* that appears in blue and read aloud its definition in the **Word to Know** box. You might wish to read to your child Mark 1:16–20 from your Bible. This is the passage from the Gospel on which the story on page 35 is based.

Have your child imagine that he or she happens to be an observer of Jesus' call to Peter and Andrew. Invite your child to close his or her eyes as you pray the imaginative prayer that follows.

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Say: ***You are walking along the shore as the sun has just risen. You see soft colors in the sky and smell the sea. You are standing near Jesus as he calls to the people in the boat. Listen. What do you hear Jesus saying? Watch the boat coming back to the shore. Watch as Peter and the others leave everything to follow Jesus. Do you want to follow Jesus too? Picture yourself walking barefoot through the sand to meet Jesus. What does he say to you? What is your answer?***

Allow your child a moment to visualize the scene. Then invite him or her to open his or her eyes.

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

Page 36 Jesus Called People to Be His Disciples

Read aloud to your child the **God's Word** feature on page 36. Show your child the diagram you made with rows of dots. Point to the row with 12 dots. Say: ***Remember that there were 12 Apostles. Here we can see that they were not the only people Jesus called. This passage from Luke shows that Jesus kept calling more and more people.*** Point to the six additional rows of 12 dots you have made. ***Here Jesus has called 72 people, and he continues to call us and many others. The number of people he calls keeps multiplying, and the people he calls include us. Can you imagine what a big group you are part of that is spreading Jesus' Good News?***

Say: ***This passage is from the Gospel of Luke. Now you have heard stories from three of the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke.***

Have your child read aloud **Jesus Called People to Be His Disciples.** Say: ***In the passage from Luke you just read, Jesus teaches that just as the farmer needs workers in the field, Jesus wants people not only to follow him but also to go out and help spread the Good News of the kingdom.*** Ask: ***What is the work Jesus is calling us to help him with?*** (to bring all people to God the Father)

Call attention to the word *disciple* in blue. Have your child read its definition in the **Word to Know** box.

Say: ***Many people in the Church are devoting themselves to doing Jesus' work.*** Talk with your child about people in your parish who are doing so.

Pages 36–37 Jesus Called Saul to Serve Him

Say: ***You are going to learn about a man named Saul. This man was hunting for Jesus' early followers and putting them in prison and even to death. By doing this, he was*** **persecuting** ***Jesus. That means that by harming followers of Jesus for their belief in him, he was trying to harm Jesus.***

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Take turns reading aloud with your child the paragraph and Scripture on pages 36–37 in **Jesus Called Saul to Serve Him.** Point out the word *synagogue* that appears in blue and read aloud its definition in the **Word to Know** box. Say: ***First Saul was arresting people in synagogues, but now he was going to synagogues to tell people how wonderful Jesus is. Saul became Paul. Paul became the great Saint Paul, who wrote many of the letters that we listen to during the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. These letters appear in the New Testament of the Bible. They tell us about the Good News of Jesus.***

Ask your child when something like Saul's conversion, described on these two pages, might happen to him or her. One example might be that after we have sunk into following bad habits for a certain period of time, Jesus might call to us to change. If we have been selfish at home, Jesus might speak to us and show us how important it is to listen to and care for the needs of the others in our family. Hearing Jesus say this, we realize how much better off we will be when we keep him in our hearts.

Have your child complete the activity **The Road to Damascus** by adding pictures to the map and drawing a line to show the path of Saul's journey. You might wish to have your child use the map to explain to you what he or she has just learned about Saul.

Page 38 Chapter 5 Review

Help your child complete the **Chapter Review** on page 38. Discuss the questions under **We Remember.** Pray together the verse from Psalms in **We Respond.** Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter. Have your child complete the activity **Honoring Mary** by completing the crossword puzzle with words from the chapter. Have your child read aloud the directions for **Your Turn** and write his or her response to how he or she heard Jesus' call and what Jesus is asking him or her to do. Ask: ***What did Jesus ask Saul to do? What does Jesus ask you to do?***

If you wish, have your child undertake the **Interactive Chapter Review** by scanning the QR code on page 38.

Pages 39–40 Unit 1 Review

Have your child complete the four activities in the **Unit 1 Review.**

When your child has colored in the squares of **A Secret Message from God,** he or she will see the secret message "YOU ARE MINE."

In **God Calls Us to Be His,** your child uses the word bank to complete the names and the words that include letters from the word *RESPOND,* which is spelled out from bottom to top on a diagonal in the right half of the activity box. Ask how each person whose name appears in the clouds said yes to God's call. Which words in the word bank are ones that tell how we respond to God's call? *(know, love, serve,* and *care)*

To complete **Apostles, Saints, and Heroes,** your child finds and writes on the line the correct description of each person named.

What Disciples Do is a word search consisting of things disciples do, such as listen, pray, and help.

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Pages 41–42 We Celebrate: We Are God's Holy People

Take turns reading aloud the parts in the celebration **We Are God's Holy People** on pages 41–42. Identify a song from Mass you or your child particularly like and sing it together to conclude the celebration.

Page 43–44 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 43. 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: ***By learning about the Apostles, we can follow Jesus according to their example.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Saul] Say: ***We listen for God's call to change our ways and serve Jesus.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 43.

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 44. Say: ***The saints are role models who show us how to do our best in following Jesus. The Holy Spirit inspired Julie Billiart to teach about Jesus even when she could not move from her bed.***

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 tell you about what he or she wrote. Ask: ***How are you strengthened to follow Jesus when you ask him for guidance?***

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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