

We Worship God as Catholic Christians

- ◆ Say: Before we start the first unit of your book, let's take turns reading aloud page 2. Ask: What are some signs and symbols that people use to show they are members of the Catholic Church? (Examples: a Bible, jewelry with a cross or crucifix, ashes on the forehead on Ash Wednesday) Say: In this unit, we are going to learn about the sacraments that make us members of the Church. We will talk about symbols used to celebrate the sacraments.

CHAPTER 1 We Are a Worshiping People

Centering PAGE 1

- ◆ Together look at the book cover. Ask: What is your book's title? (*We Worship*) What do you think it means to worship God? (to praise, to adore, to pray, to love God and others)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the unit title and the Bible verse on page 1. Say: These people are worshiping God as Catholic Christians. Your book will help you understand the ways we worship God.

Sharing PAGE 3

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the chapter title and the section We Give Praise to God on page 3. Ask: What does it mean to praise God? (to adore God, to admire him, to give him glory) Why should we praise God? (because he loves us and created us, because he gave us a wonderful world and great gifts, because he sent his Son to save us)
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity and share the answers given. Then say: These are ways we respond to the amazing world God created. Sometimes we are overflowing with these emotions. This wonder we feel is also wonder for God and his deep love for us.
- ◆ Read and discuss the verses on the page from Revelation. Say: Revelation is the last book of the Bible. These verses from Revelation are a prayer of praise. You might like to make this prayer your own.

Sharing PAGE 4

- ✦ Have your child read aloud the first two paragraphs on page 4. Say: **The men in the picture at the bottom are worshiping God in a synagogue. Jesus worshiped his Father by praying in a synagogue each week.**
- ✦ Say: **Jewish people know this prayer by heart.** Read aloud from a Bible Deuteronomy 6:4–9. Say: **The one true God of Israel is our one true God. We should remember this prayer too.**
- ✦ Ask: **What does the picture on top show?** (Jesus offering himself to the Father at the Last Supper) Say: **We also do this at Mass. Participating in Mass every Sunday is one sign that we are followers of Jesus.**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the rest of the page. Ask: **What is the greatest act of Christian worship?** (the Eucharist) Say: **The teachings of the Catholic Church tell us all we need to know to worship as Christians.**

Sharing PAGE 5

- ✦ Take turns reading aloud We Worship in Many Ways on page 5. Point out the boldface word and have your child look up its meaning in the Glossary. Ask: **What do we do when we pray?** (adore God; ask God to forgive us; ask God to make us holy; thank God) **When we pray together, what are we reminded of?** (that we are God’s family)
- ✦ Ask: **What are we really saying when we say “Alleluia”?** (praise God)
- ✦ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Say: **Charles de Foucauld was a religious man who dedicated his life to worshiping God.**
- ✦ Have your child complete the activity. Discuss his or her answers.

Sharing PAGE 6

- ✦ Have your child read aloud We Worship Through Prayer on page 6. Then pray aloud Psalm 95. Ask: **What does the psalm say we should do to praise God?** (sing joyfully, greet him with thanksgiving, bow down)
- ✦ Say: **Our lives are devoted to worship. That means everything we do and say reflects our love for God. We show love for God in how we speak to and act toward others.**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud We Worship Through Service. Ask for ideas on ways your child can worship God for each item on the list.

Acting PAGES 7–8

- ✦ Ask: **What can you do today to worship God?** (pray; respect others; share with others; be friendly at school; say kind words)
- ✦ Lead your child through the Summary and the Review on pages 7 and 8.
- ✦ Encourage your child to share the Things to Do at Home section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 9–10**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 9. Say: **This year we will learn about ways we can share the Good News.**

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **God understands all prayer—praying quietly alone, rejoicing with our faith family at Mass, meditating with our class.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Celebrating the sacraments, such as receiving the Eucharist and participating in Mass, strengthens us and our Church family.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 10. Say: **Matthew was a tax collector who faced the temptation to become rich dishonestly. Some people were surprised that Jesus chose a tax collector to follow him and spread the Good News to others.**
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Ask your child to pray for others. Say: **The next time a friend shares a personal concern or difficulty, say, “I will pray for you.”**
- ◆ Guide your child to devote daily time to prayer. Help your child decide on a time every day he or she will talk to God.

CHAPTER 2 Jesus Calls Us to Worship

Centering

- ◆ Draw the following diagram on a sheet of paper: P → W ← LS.
- ◆ Say: **This diagram summarizes our last lesson.** Ask: **Can you figure out what it stands for?** (Prayer [P] and loving service [LS] are ways we worship [W].)

Sharing PAGE 11

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the chapter title and the first two paragraphs in the section Jesus Offered Perfect Worship to the Father on page 11.
- ◆ Ask: **What is grace?** (a share in God's life) **Who made grace possible for us?** (Jesus) **How?** (by becoming human; by living, suffering, dying, and rising) Say: **To help us realize what Jesus has done for us, let's read aloud the last sentence of the second paragraph together.**
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the rest of this section. Say: **Remember that Jesus taught us how to worship the Father.** Ask: **How did Jesus worship?** (in all his words and deeds, through perfect prayer and loving service, by sacrificing himself on the Cross on Calvary)
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Say: **Grace is a great and wonderful gift. Having grace is knowing that we share in God's divine life and have nothing to fear. We grow in grace by following the example of Jesus.**

Sharing PAGE 12

- ◆ Have your child read aloud Jesus in the Gospels on page 12. Ask: **What does the word *gospel* mean?** (good news) **What good news does the Gospel tell us?** (that Jesus saved us from sin and death)
- ◆ Read aloud Jesus Leaves Capernaum. Say: **Jesus is the perfect example of how to worship the Father. What could we do in our lives that would be like the things Jesus did in this story?** (pray every day, teach others about our faith)
- ◆ Guide your child through Scripture References. Say: **When you say "Mark one, thirty-five through thirty-nine," you are giving a Scripture reference, which helps us find verses in the Bible.**
- ◆ Say: **Verses are sentences or phrases that the chapters are divided into. They make it easier to study and talk about the Bible.** Have your child practice saying the Scripture references aloud.
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity Scripture Search.

Sharing PAGE 13

- ◆ Have your child read silently Jesus Shows Us the Father's Love on page 13. Say: **Name things Jesus did to show the Father's love.**
- ◆ Ask: **What is Jesus doing in the picture?** (healing a blind man) Read aloud Mark 8:22–26. Ask: **What actions did Jesus perform in the story?** (Jesus led the man out of the city, put spittle on his eyes, and laid his hands upon him.)
- ◆ Say: **Jesus healed the man as a sign of the Father's love for the man. Everything Jesus did on earth showed us the love of God.**
- ◆ Point out the signs at the bottom of the page. Say: **All signs, whether words, actions, or things, present a message. Let's see how the signs used by Jesus and by the Church are different from everyday signs.**
- ◆ Have your child read aloud Jesus Acts in the Sacraments. Point out the boldface words and have your child find their meanings in the Glossary.
- ◆ Ask: **What are the sacraments?** (sacred signs in which we meet Jesus and receive from him a share in God's life; actions of Jesus and actions of his Church; celebrations) **Which sacraments initiate us into the Church?** (Baptism, the Eucharist, Confirmation) **Why are Penance and Anointing of the Sick called Sacraments of Healing?** (Penance and Reconciliation heal us when we are wounded by sin; the Anointing of the Sick helps those who are seriously ill.) **What sacraments give special graces for certain vocations or ways of life?** (Matrimony, Holy Orders) Say: **The Sacrament of Matrimony is also called marriage.**

Sharing PAGE 14

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the first three paragraphs on page 14. Ask: **In which sacraments are the objects in the picture used?** (Scripture is used in all sacraments. Hosts and chalice are used in the Eucharist. Baptism shell with water is used in Baptism. Wedding rings are used in the Sacrament of Matrimony.)
- ◆ Say: **The sacraments are part of the Church's public worship called liturgy. They help members of the Church grow in holiness together.**

Acting PAGES 15–16

- ◆ Help your child find and remove the Morning Offering cutout at the back of the book. Say: **This is the Morning Offering. In this prayer you offer to God everything you do during the day. You can also find it inside the front cover of your book.** Help your child cut out the prayer. Encourage him or her to pray it every morning.
- ◆ Lead your child through the Summary and the Review on pages 15 and 16.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Things to Do at Home section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 17–18**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 17. Say: **The Scripture from the Book of Psalms is a song of praise. Our songs worship God.** Ask: **What are some other actions that worship God?** (offering prayer, sacrifice, and service; receiving the sacraments)

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Knowing our Catholic beliefs helps us share our faith with others and worship God more fully.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **The sacraments are sacred signs in which we meet Jesus and share in his divine life.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 18. Say: **Saint Vincent founded a community of priests who patterned their lives on Christ. He is an excellent example of a person who lived his life as Jesus did.**
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Challenge your child to write and illustrate a psalm of praise to God. Tell your child to refer to the Book of Psalms for inspiration.
- ◆ Invite your child to model Saint Vincent de Paul. Help him or her seek out charitable organizations where your child can devote time and talent. Suggest that your child ask a friend to join him or her in service.

CHAPTER 3 **Baptism Unites Us with the Christian Community**

Centering

- ◆ Say: Today we will talk about the first Sacrament of Initiation that a Christian receives. Do you know what this sacrament is called? (Baptism)
- ◆ Say: **When we are baptized, we are followers of Jesus. We are his disciples. Let's read how Jesus' first disciples were called.** Read aloud John 1:35–42 from your family Bible.
- ◆ Say: **At Baptism, we too receive our Christian names. We become part of the Christian family.**

Sharing PAGE 19

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the first three paragraphs on page 19. Point out the boldface word and have your child find its meaning in the Glossary.
- ◆ Say: **Water is a good sign for Baptism because it shows how our friendship with God lives and grows and cleanses us of our sins. It frees us from the Original Sin we are born with. Original Sin is the effect of the disobedience of Adam and Eve.**
- ◆ Have your child read silently the remaining paragraphs on page 19. Say: **Water gives life, but it can also take away life. In Baptism, we die to our sin, and we rise to a new life in Jesus. This is conversion.**
- ◆ Say: **Everyone who is baptized has received this gift of the Holy Spirit. Every Baptism gives the Christian community new life.**

Sharing PAGE 20

- ◆ Have your child read aloud Baptism Initiates Us on page 20. Ask: **What is the special program that prepares adults to be members of the Catholic Church?** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, RCIA) **What is a catechumen?** (someone in the RCIA preparing for Baptism)
- ◆ Ask: **What happens during the RCIA?** (Catechumens learn about the Catholic faith. The Catholic community helps them experience Catholic life, worship, and ministry.) **When do catechumens celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation?** (during the Easter Vigil, when they celebrate Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist)
- ◆ Have your child read silently the first paragraph of Sacramentals Help Us. Ask: **What are sacramentals?** (words, actions, and objects blessed by the Church that bring us closer to God)
- ◆ Help your child identify the sacramentals pictured at the bottom of the page. Then discuss the question below the paragraph.

Sharing PAGE 21

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the first two paragraphs on page 21. Ask: **Why do the priest, the parents, and the godparents make the Sign of the Cross on the infant?** (to show that the infant was saved by Jesus and belongs to God, to remind them to help the child live as a child of God)
- ◆ Ask: **What are some things our parents and godparents do to keep the promises they made at our Baptisms?** (They pray with and for us. They teach us about Jesus. They send us to classes to learn about Jesus.)
- ◆ Take turns reading aloud the rest of this section. Ask: **What does the priest or deacon pray?** (that the infant will be freed from sin and strengthened against evil) **What is put on the infant?** (oil) Say: **We anoint with oil. The oil strengthens and heals. The child will be strengthened by Christ and healed from sin.**
- ◆ Say: **Baptism is the official sign that we belong to God. Jesus made the waters of Baptism a sign of giving God’s life to the baptized.**
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus.

Sharing PAGE 22

- ◆ Have your child read aloud A Child Is Baptized on page 22. Say: **In the early Church, people were baptized by immersion. This means that they were submerged in water. Some churches baptize this way today.** Discuss how both you and your child were baptized.
- ◆ Ask: **What does the priest say when he baptizes a baby?** (“I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”)
- ◆ Say: **Remember that words, actions, and objects can be signs.** Ask: **What is the anointing with chrism a sign of?** (that the baptized are members of God’s family) **What does the white garment used in Baptism mean?** (that the child is clothed in Christ) **What does the lighted candle mean?** (that we receive the light of Christ)
- ◆ Say: **Priests or deacons baptize because they act for the Church and Jesus. But any Christian can baptize a person who is dying and wants to be baptized.**
- ◆ Say: **Baptism is a celebration. Families come together to celebrate, and the Church welcomes new members into the community.**
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity. Discuss his or her response.

Acting PAGES 23–24

- ◆ Lead your child through the Summary and the Review on pages 23 and 24.
- ◆ Encourage your child to share the Things to Do at Home section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 25–26**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 25. Ask: **What is Peter’s message to us?** (It is a message of hope. When we are baptized, our sins are forgiven, and we receive the Holy Spirit.) Say: **Baptism is a celebration of life!**

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Through the Sacrament of Baptism, God gives us his grace.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Knowing the facts of our faith and the history of the Church helps us teach others about Christ.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 26. Say: **John Neumann believed it was important for children to be educated and taught the ways of Jesus.**
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Have your child recite aloud his or her baptismal promises. Ask: **What is something you can do to honor your baptismal promises?** (proclaim Jesus through words and actions; care for others and for God’s world; work for justice and peace)
- ◆ Have your child write a short prayer thanking God for his or her Baptism, which made him or her a member of the Church.

CHAPTER 4

Confirmation Is the Sacrament of the Holy Spirit

Centering

- ◆ Ask: **How does Baptism make us new people?** (It gives us grace to help us live like Jesus; it makes us members of God's family, the Church.)
- ◆ Say: **When you were baptized, you were welcomed into God's family as a follower of Jesus. Sometimes it can be hard to act the way Jesus wants us to. But Jesus and the Holy Spirit are there to give us the strength to do what is right.**
- ◆ Say: **Today we will talk about the sacrament in which we review the promises we make at Baptism.**

Sharing PAGE 27

- ◆ Read aloud the chapter title and The Holy Spirit Strengthens the Church's Faith on page 27.
- ◆ Ask: **What is another name we use for the Holy Spirit?** (Advocate) Have your child read aloud its definition from the Glossary.
- ◆ Ask: **What was the first sign that the Holy Spirit was approaching?** (the sound of wind) **What sign told the apostles the Holy Spirit had come?** (flames like tongues of fire) **How did the apostles show their strengthened faith?** (They spoke boldly about Jesus in the streets of Jerusalem. They were witnesses to Jesus wherever they went. They suffered and died for Jesus.)
- ◆ Say: **The Holy Spirit first came to us in the Sacrament of Baptism. In the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Holy Spirit renews his coming, and we recommit ourselves to living like Jesus.**
- ◆ Lead your child in prayer using A Moment with Jesus.

Sharing PAGES 28–29

- ◆ Read aloud the first two paragraphs on page 28. Then have your child read aloud the parts of the children while you read aloud the part of Mr. Chen.
- ◆ Ask: **Why is the bishop the usual minister of Confirmation?** (The apostles were the first bishops of the Church. The bishops take their place.) **Who confirms in the RCIA?** (the priest) **What signs of the sacrament are used in the rite?** (laying on of hands, anointing with chrism, the words) **What do the bishop and priests pray for as they extend their hands over those to be confirmed?** (the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to make them stronger)

- ✦ Say: **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit, which we receive at Baptism, are strengthened in Confirmation. They are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, fear of the Lord, and piety. These qualities help us follow Jesus, even when it is difficult.**
- ✦ Ask: **What does the bishop say when he anoints the person being confirmed?** (“Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”) **What does sealed mean?** (that the person belongs completely to God, that he or she is marked forever as a witness for Christ) **What are the responsibilities of a confirmed Catholic?** (to give witness to Christ, to profess the faith) **What does it mean to live in a Christlike way?** (to live as Jesus lived and taught)
- ✦ Have your child complete the word search on page 29.

Sharing PAGE 30

- ✦ Take turns reading aloud *The Holy Spirit Makes Us Strong Witnesses* on page 30. Ask: **When did you first receive your call to witness and work for the Church?** (at Baptism) **What will the Holy Spirit do in Confirmation?** (strengthen us to follow our baptismal call) **How will the Holy Spirit help you become strong witnesses?** (He will enable us to know Jesus better, love him more, and be more like Jesus.)
- ✦ Say: **If you know Jesus better and love him more, you will become like him more easily. The more your thoughts, words, and actions are like those of Jesus, the better witness you will be.**
- ✦ Have your child read silently *Missionaries Give Witness*. Ask: **What are missions?** (the work of Jesus continued throughout the world by the Church, helping the needy and spreading the Good News) **Who are the people who go to work in the missions?** (missionaries)
- ✦ Ask: **How might you help missionaries continue their work?** (pray for them; donate food, clothing, or money; become a missionary)
- ✦ Say: **Remember that missionaries work all over the world and here in our country. You can be a missionary anywhere.**

Acting PAGES 31–32

- ✦ Call your child to prayer. Say: **Think of what it means to be a witness for Christ—to think and act as he did, to live and profess your faith, to help the Church. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you accept the privilege of being a witness.** [Pause.]
- ✦ Lead your child through the Summary and the Review on pages 31 and 32.
- ✦ Encourage your child to share the Things to Do at Home section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 33–34**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 33. Ask: **What is another name for the Holy Spirit?** (the Advocate) Say: **An advocate can be a mediator or a comforter.**

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Renewing our baptismal promises at Confirmation shows the world that we understand and live our Catholic faith.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **The Sacrament of Confirmation is also known as the Sacrament of the Holy Spirit.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 34. Say: **Francis Xavier answered God’s call.** Ask: **What are you doing to be open to God’s call for your life?**
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Direct your child to the Prayer to the Holy Spirit on the inside front cover of his or her book. Ask your child to pray this prayer every day for one week.
- ◆ Challenge your child to act as a missionary. Say: **This week, follow the example of Saint Francis Xavier. Be a missionary for Christ.**

CHAPTER 5 The Eucharist Is the Center of Christian Life

Centering

- ♦ Ask: **Why must we eat food every day?** (to be strong and healthy, to live and grow) Say: **Food nourishes us. Unless we eat every day, we will not have strength and energy.** Ask: **Which two Sacraments of Initiation have you studied already?** (Baptism and Confirmation)
- ♦ Say: **The third Sacrament of Initiation celebrates a person's full entrance into the Christian community. It also gives us the power to live up to the responsibilities of a Christian.** Ask: **What is the third Sacrament of Initiation in which Jesus Christ gives himself to us under the appearances of bread and wine?** (the Eucharist)

Sharing PAGE 35

- ♦ Have your child read aloud the title and the first three paragraphs on page 35. Say: **God knows how important food is. Just as Jesus fed those who were there to listen to him teach, Christ feeds us at Mass, where we have gathered to hear his teaching.**
- ♦ Say: **The most fearsome plague for the Israelites was when the angel of death passed over their homes. The Israelites were saved from the angel of death when they sacrificed the paschal lamb and put its blood on their doorposts. This event is what the Jewish people celebrate each year during the feast of Passover.** Have your child read aloud the meaning for *Passover* in the Glossary.
- ♦ Say: **Jesus celebrated Passover on the night before he died. However, he became the paschal lamb when he sacrificed himself for us.**
- ♦ Take turns reading aloud the rest of the page. Ask: **What does the Paschal Mystery include?** (Jesus Christ's Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension) Say: **In the eucharistic celebration, we enter into the Paschal Mystery as we pass from sin to new life in Jesus Christ.**

Sharing PAGE 36

- ♦ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph of Christ Is Present in the Eucharist on page 36. Point out the boldface word and have your child read aloud its meaning in the Glossary.
- ♦ Say: **We say *real presence* because Christ is really present under the appearances of bread and wine. In the Eucharist, not only are his Body and Blood present, but his soul and divinity are also present.** Ask: **To whom are we united when we receive Holy Communion?** (Jesus Christ, the Father, the Holy Spirit, and all the people who share the meal with us)

- ✦ Have your child read aloud the rest of this section. Say: **Because we commit sin, we need Christ's forgiveness. We need his strength to overcome temptation in the future and to live according to God's commandments.**
- ✦ Read aloud the first paragraph of We Prepare to Receive Christ. Ask: **Why can't people who have committed mortal sins receive Holy Communion?** (They have separated themselves from God and the Church.)
- ✦ Say: **Sin is a deliberate and free choice to think, say, or do something we know offends God. Freely choosing something that is seriously wrong is called mortal sin.**
- ✦ Read aloud the rest of the section. Ask: **What do we do to prepare for Holy Communion?** (fast for one hour, pray, confess our sins)

Sharing PAGE 37

- ✦ Have your child read aloud the first three paragraphs of We Honor Christ's Presence in the Eucharist on page 37. Ask: **How do we honor Christ's presence in the tabernacle?** (We genuflect; a lamp is kept nearby; we make visits to church and pray to our Lord.)
- ✦ Say: **By bringing Holy Communion to people who are too sick to come to Mass, the Church helps those members receive strength from the risen Christ.**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the rest of the page. Say: **During exposition, the Holy Eucharist is made visible for us.** Ask: **Why?** (for us to adore and worship Christ the Lord)

Sharing PAGES 38–39

- ✦ Invite your child to pray aloud together with you The Divine Praises on page 38. Then find pictures in books or on the Internet of the vessels and vestments listed on page 39. Say: **We honor God by having the articles used in worship skillfully crafted from the best materials. They are consecrated. This means that they are set aside for God's use alone.**
- ✦ Complete the activity together.

Acting PAGES 40–42

- ✦ Call your child to prayer using A Moment with Jesus on page 40. Say: **This psalm prayer is prayed during some Masses in honor of the Holy Eucharist.** Read for the leader and have your child read the other parts. Each response can be prayed by both you and your child.
- ✦ Lead your child through the Summary and the Review on pages 41 and 42.
- ✦ Encourage your child to share the Things to Do at Home section with other members of your family, or together read aloud the section to review.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 43–44**INSPIRE**

- ◆ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 43. Say: **Under the form of bread and wine, Jesus gives us himself. He is the living bread. We become one with him, the Father, and the Holy Spirit.**

PROCLAIM

- ◆ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **The Eucharist is the center of our Christian life. As Catholics, we believe receiving Christ in Holy Communion unites us with him and with one another.**
- ◆ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **Jesus gave us the Eucharist at the Last Supper. Through his Crucifixion, Jesus Christ cleanses us of our sins and offers us eternal life with him in heaven.**
- ◆ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 44. Say: **Christ chose Margaret Mary to spread devotion to his Sacred Heart.**
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ◆ Encourage your child to become more aware of Jesus in Holy Communion. Say: **At Mass, remember our Catholic beliefs and receive the Holy Eucharist thoughtfully.**
- ◆ Have your child research Bread for the World, an organization that empowers faith communities to end hunger. Ask your child to list actions he or she can take to help end hunger.

CHAPTER 6 Unit 1 Review**Centering**

- ◆ Say: **We started this unit talking about the signs and symbols of early Christians. Ask: What was the secret sign that early Christians used with one another?** (the fish)
- ◆ Say: **Christians form a special community united in love and worship of God. Ask: What are some reasons we worship God?** (to honor him, because he is great, because he loves us, because he gave us eternal life, to give thanks for the many gifts he gave us)
- ◆ Invite your child to explain what he or she studied in Unit 1. (how and why we worship, the Sacraments of Initiation) Clarify any misconceptions he or she may have.

Reviewing PAGES 45–47

- ◆ Have your child read aloud Looking Back at Unit 1 on page 45. Point out that this is only a brief overview of the unit and that you will be reviewing the unit more fully.
- ◆ Have your child complete the activity Living the Message.
- ◆ Say: **In Baptism, we received the light of Christ. We put on Jesus. In Confirmation, you will be more committed to being a witness for Christ. The Eucharist deepens the life of Christ in us.**
- ◆ Say: **Cardinal Newman wrote a prayer asking Jesus to let his light shine through him. Let's spend a few moments in prayer, making Cardinal Newman's words our own.** After your child settles in a comfortable position, lead him or her in prayer using A Moment with Jesus. Allow sufficient time for silent reflection.
- ◆ Help your child complete the activity Sacrament Puzzle on page 46. Read aloud each clue at the bottom of the page and invite your child to suggest answers.
- ◆ Have your child complete independently the Puzzle in Review on page 47. Check his or her answers.
- ◆ Remind your child that catechumens celebrate all the Sacraments of Initiation at once during the Easter Vigil Mass. Together discuss a plan for what you would teach in your own RCIA program about worship and the Sacraments of Initiation.

Celebrating PAGES 48–49

- ✦ Introduce the celebration. Say: **Today we will have an opportunity to pray together. The theme of our prayer is Jesus, the Center of Our Life.**
- ✦ Say: **As we pray, we will be reminded of how close God is to us. Our study of the Sacraments of Initiation, especially the Eucharist, will help us know God and stay close to him.**
- ✦ Together choose music you would like to listen to during the celebration.
- ✦ Take the part of the leader and instruct your child to read the other parts.
- ✦ Carry out the celebration.

Acting PAGE 50

- ✦ Ask your child to share his or her reaction to the celebration. Find out what your child enjoyed most and consider incorporating his or her suggestions into future prayer experiences.
- ✦ Have your child complete the activity on page 50. Encourage him or her to share the picture with other family members and discuss how each person can worship God during the next week.
- ✦ Have your child draw pictures of objects that are sacramentals. (medals, vestments, crucifixes, statues, candles, palm branches, rosaries) Encourage him or her to explain how each sacramental is used. Then act out actions that are sacramentals. (blessing oneself, receiving a blessing, genuflecting, kneeling, folding the hands, bowing the head)

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 51–52**INSPIRE**

- ✦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 51. Say: **Our hearts are filled with joy and happiness as we remember God’s gifts of strength and love. We are inspired to sing his praises to all those we meet. Whenever you are feeling weak and need guidance, God’s Word offers you strength and places you back on the path of faith.**

PROCLAIM

- ✦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **Jesus is always listening and offers his forgiveness if we come to him in faith.** Lead your child in praying aloud the Act of Contrition on the inside back cover of his or her book.
- ✦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and say: **The sacraments grant us God’s grace. Filled with the strength of his spirit, we are able to spread Christ’s message of mercy and love.**
- ✦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 52. Say: **Peter Claver said yes to God and served the most abused, rejected, and lowly of all God’s people as his life’s work. He is a true hero!**
- ✦ 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.
- ✦ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ✦ Say: **Like Peter Claver, we praise Jesus by our service to others and the example of our lives.** Ask: **What are some ways we can serve those in need?** (help an elderly neighbor do yard work; volunteer at a soup kitchen; stand up for someone who is being bullied)
- ✦ Challenge your child to act as Peter Claver would act. Remind your child to treat everyone he or she meets with dignity and respect.