

Unit 4: Jesus Shows His Great Love

Before You Begin

1. Read **A Letter Home**, found on page 166 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 the materials that you will need: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, green construction paper, scissors, a crucifix, and the **Stations of the Cross** booklet from the back of the Student Book.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: Jesus offered himself for us at the Last Supper and on the Cross. Children will learn that Jesus is truly present to nourish us with the Eucharist and, by this gift, to make us one with himself and with one another.

Unit Opener

As you begin the lesson, help your child transition into this special time of faith formation. Close your eyes, take a deep breath in and out, and quietly invite your child to do the same. Say: ***In Unit 4, we will learn more about Jesus' greatest act of love that helped people accept God as their Father. We will also talk about how Jesus is with us always through the Holy Spirit.***

Have your child read the unit title, **Jesus Shows His Great Love**. Talk with your child about the pictures on the page. Does your child recognize what is happening in each? (Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey; Jesus is risen from the dead; Jesus offered himself at the Last Supper.) Listen to what your child knows about each image so you can fill in knowledge gaps as you conduct the lessons in this unit.

Have your child point to the Scripture passage at the bottom of the page and listen as you read it aloud. "Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said." Say: ***Jesus' greatest act of love was dying on the Cross. In this unit, we'll talk about what that means for us.***

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

Page 167 Chapter 19: Jesus Gives the Gift of Himself

Palm Sunday

Have your child read the chapter title and look at the picture. Say: ***At the time Jesus lived, kings entered a city as part of a parade.*** Explain that sometimes a red carpet was laid down and they rode horses as trumpets sounded, announcing the king's arrival. Say: ***Jesus did not get that treatment, but people loved Jesus and they wanted to honor him.*** Have your child read aloud the page.

Have your child describe how the people honored Jesus. (They greeted him excitedly; the people shouted, “Hosanna!”; they laid cloaks and palm branches before him.) Explain that the picture shows Jesus riding into Jerusalem, where he was going to celebrate Passover. Tell your child that Passover was a feast for the Jews to remember the time when God saved them and showed them great love.

Read aloud the account of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem from Mark 11:1–11. Encourage your child to make comments or ask questions about the reading.

Page 168 **Holy Week**

Take turns reading aloud the paragraphs with your child. Say: ***Each year on Palm Sunday churches have processions, or holy parades, to remember the day Jesus was hailed as king.*** Have your child complete the **We Celebrate Palm Sunday** activity.

Check your child’s answers. [ANSWERS: king, Jesus, branches, Sunday]

If you choose, have your child make his or her own “palm branch” from green construction paper. Fold the sheet in half. Guide your child to draw half of a palm branch on the paper and then cut along that line. Unfold the palm branch. Encourage your child to wave it and exclaim “Hosanna!” to reenact the scene. You may wish to make your own palm branch and join your child.

Page 169 **Holy Thursday**

Talk with your child about gift giving and receiving. Ask: ***What is special about receiving a gift?*** (It shows someone is thinking of you; someone picked out something special just for you; the gift reminds you of the giver.) Read aloud the account of Jesus giving us the gift of himself in the Eucharist from Luke 22:15–19 and Matthew 26:26–29. Have your child look at the picture on page 169. Say: ***Jesus knew he was going to his Father in heaven. He wanted to give a special gift to help his Apostles and friends remember him.***

Help your child read aloud page 169 and offer support as necessary as he or she completes the sentences from **The Last Supper** activity.

Pages 170–171 **Jesus Shares the Gift of Himself at Mass**

Take turns reading aloud the page. Have your child point to the words *Holy Communion* in the paragraph. Read aloud the definition from the **Word to Know** feature. Encourage your child to comment or ask questions. Clarify misconceptions as necessary.

Have your child color **The Priest at Mass** on page 171. Talk with your child about his or her experiences at Mass. Say: ***When we celebrate Mass, it’s like being at the Last Supper. When we receive Holy Communion, Jesus comes to us in a special way.***

Pages 172–173 Good Friday

Review what happened on Palm Sunday and Holy Thursday. Say: ***Now you will learn what happened on Good Friday.*** Display a crucifix. Explain that Jesus showed how much he loves us by dying on the Cross. Give your child time to express any feelings the sight of the crucifix evokes.

If you choose, read aloud from the Bible about Jesus' Death. (See Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, and John 19.) Take turns reading aloud page 172. Help your child assemble the **Stations of the Cross** booklet found in the back of the Student Book. Read through the booklet and pray the Stations of the Cross together, pausing for reflection often.

Read aloud the **God's Word** feature in the middle of page 173. Say: ***With these words, Jesus gave himself to his Father, and he died.*** Have your child write the prayer **We Pray to Jesus**.

Draw your child's attention to the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Guide your child to pray the **We Pray to Jesus** prayer as he or she reveres the crucifix. Give your child time to pray silently, thanking Jesus for being our Lord and Savior.

Page 174 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 19 Review. Start by having your child complete the matching activity. Then read aloud the **We Remember** questions and have your child read the responses.

Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary**.

Have your child focus on the **We Respond** section. Pray the Psalm verse together.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Use the **Your Turn** activity as a springboard for discussion. Talk with your child about different things that bring Jesus' love to the world. (forgiveness, kindness, hope, friendship, etc.) Tell your child to choose one thing you listed and use it to complete the sentence. Encourage your child to draw a picture in the activity box.

Page 175 Families in Mission

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

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar. Say: ***Jesus gave himself to us at the Last Supper. At Mass, he gives himself in the Eucharist.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***Doing these things helps us honor Christ and his great sacrifice, and we grow nearer to him.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Jesus' Body and Blood] Say: *Jesus, thank you for giving yourself to us in many ways. Help us give ourselves to others, too.*

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 175.

Page 176 Families in Mission, continued**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know**. Say: *Blaise had many qualities that made him a good witness for Christ. Let's name some.* (determination, courage, strength, love)

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

Explain the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. If you choose, have each member of your family make a “palm branch” as described in the instructions for page 168 of this unit.

Conclude the lesson by praying together. Pray: *Lord, thank you for your love and forgiveness. Help us show that same kind of love for all our neighbors. Amen.*

Page 177 **Chapter 20: Jesus Is Risen****Before You Begin**

1. Prepare or collect the materials that you will need: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and pictures of Easter symbols (a paschal candle, Easter lilies, an egg).
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: Jesus rose from the dead, and so we will also rise. In this unit, your child will learn to associate Easter with signs of new life and will experience the peace and joy that Jesus brings to those who believe in his Resurrection. Jesus brings new life to all who are baptized and believe in him. Together you will celebrate the call to live in the hope and the joy of the risen Lord.

God's Promise of New Life

Have your child demonstrate how to open your faith formation time. (Your child should close his or her eyes, take a deep breath in and out, and prepare to hear to God's Word.) When you are both ready to begin, say: ***Let us look for Jesus now and every day!*** Have your child turn back to the Unit 4 opener on page 165 to revisit the Scripture verse at the bottom of the page. Read it together. "Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said."

Read aloud for your child the title and subtitle on page 177. Say: ***God promises us a new life with him in heaven!*** Invite your child to look at the pictures on the page. Together, make observations about them. (We see baby birds being fed by their mother; we see green grass and trees; we see a girl gathering Easter eggs in a green pasture; we see nature.) Point out that in springtime, we see new life all around us. Take turns reading aloud **God's Promise of New Life**.

Have your child point to and repeat the word *Easter*. Call his or her attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Assess your child's understanding of Easter by talking about Easters you have celebrated together and what your child observes about them. Encourage conversation and questions about Easter so you can clarify misconceptions if your child has any.

Page 178 **Jesus Is Risen**

Say: ***We celebrate Jesus' Resurrection at Easter every year.*** Share the Scripture account of the Resurrection event in Matthew 27:62–66, 28:1–8.

Display pictures of traditional Easter symbols, such as Easter lilies, an egg, and a paschal candle. Talk about each one. Explain that the lilies bloom beautifully at Easter time, and an egg is like the tomb in which Jesus was buried—out of it comes new life! Tell your child that the paschal candle reminds us that Christ is our light.

Help your child read aloud **Jesus Is Risen**. Call his or her attention to the **Words to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition of each word for your child. Have your child point to the words *Resurrection* and *Eucharist* in the paragraphs. Use each word in a sentence so your child can hear them in context.

If you choose, scan the QR code at the bottom of the page and watch the video together.

Page 179 **The Road to Emmaus**

Take turns reading aloud the page. Talk with your child about why he or she thinks the men did not recognize Jesus at first. (They didn't expect to see him. Maybe they were too upset by Jesus' Death.) Explain that Jesus is in all of us. Say: ***When we treat others with kindness, listen to them, and speak in a friendly way, we are showing them that we see Jesus in them.***

Help your child complete **The Disciples Meet Jesus** activity.

Page 180 **Jesus Is with Us**

Have your child read aloud the title and the sentence at the top of the page. Read aloud the activity title and directions for your child and guide him or her in completing them. Then talk about the pictures on the page. Have your child tell what each picture has to do with the statement "Jesus, our risen Savior, is with us."

Pages 181–183 **The Gift of Peace**

Read aloud this section for your child. Say: ***Jesus gave us an Easter gift. His gift to us is peace!*** Read aloud from the Bible about Jesus' appearance to the Apostles. (John 20:19–23) Ask: ***What did Jesus say to his Apostles?*** (Peace be with you.) Explain that Jesus knows that when we sin, we lose our peace. He told the Apostles that he would forgive sins through them. Say: ***Peace is a wonderful gift, and we have it because Jesus gave it to us.***

Read aloud the directions for the **Sharing Jesus' Peace** activity. Talk about what is happening in each picture as your child completes the activity.

Lead your child through the activities **For Jesus** and **For Others** at the top of page 182. Say: ***Peace is a feeling of being calm and happy in your heart.*** Talk with your child about times we feel at peace. (when we help a person in need; when we cheer up someone who is feeling sad; when we do the right thing; when we pray) Explain that Jesus wants us to share the gift of peace with others. Ask: ***Who are some people around you who offer peace to others?*** Tell your child that when we feel upset and peace is hard to find, we can always turn to Jesus. Jesus shows us how to be people of peace.

Help your child complete the **Jesus Our Savior** activity. Have your child point to each word or phrase in the answer box and help him or her read each one. Offer support as necessary as your child completes the activity. [ANSWERS: 1. C, 2. B, 3. A, 4. F, 5. D, 6. E]

Help your child complete the **We Pray the Peace Prayer** activity on page 183. Then lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Pray aloud one line at a time, and have your child repeat you like an echo.

Page 184 **Chapter Review**

Help your child complete the Chapter 20 Review. Start with **We Remember**. You read the question and have your child read the response.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating the words and their definitions in the **Glossary**.

Have your child focus on the **We Respond** section. Pray the prayer together.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Read the instructions and discuss the **Your Turn** activity. Give your child plenty of time to complete his or her drawing.

Page 185 **Families in Mission**

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

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar. Say: *Jesus wants to give us peace when we are scared or worried.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *Jesus saves us by giving us hope. He wants us to know that when we love God, we live forever.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: in the Eucharist] Say: *You can talk to Jesus during the Eucharist and tell him how much you love him.*

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

Page 186 **Families in Mission**

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know**. Say: *When we doubt something, we want to understand it better. Thomas's doubts helped him learn more about Jesus.*

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 complete the activity. Include as many family members as possible. Discuss your responses with each other.

Finish the lesson with a joyful proclamation, “Jesus is risen! Alleluia!”

Page 187 **Chapter 21: Jesus Sends Us the Spirit****Before You Begin**

1. Prepare or collect the materials that you will need: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, and writing supplies.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: The Holy Spirit came to the Church on Pentecost to guide and strengthen us. Your child will learn how people's lives can be transformed by the Holy Spirit they received at Baptism. You will also discuss how we were gifted with faith, hope, and charity and how those virtues can be strengthened.

Jesus Returns to His Father

Have your child demonstrate how to open your faith formation time. (Your child should close his or her eyes, take a deep breath in and out, and prepare to hear to God's Word.) When you are both ready to begin, say: ***Let us be still and ask the Holy Spirit to be with us as we learn today's lesson.*** [Pause] Remind your child that the focus of the last chapter was Jesus' Resurrection. Explain that when Jesus went to heaven to be with his Father, he promised that he would still be with us in a special way. Say: ***Today you will learn to seek the Holy Spirit you received at your Baptism.***

Read aloud the first paragraph and the Scripture passage on page 187. Ask: ***What did Jesus mean when he told his Apostles to make disciples of all nations?*** (teach others about him; build and spread God's kingdom) Explain that Jesus knew the Apostles would need help to do this work.

Read aloud the last two paragraphs. Have your child point to *Holy Spirit* in the passage. Call his or her attention to the **Word to Know** feature and read aloud the definition. Say: ***The Holy Spirit would be the Apostles' helper and ours, too!***

Prepare to read or tell the Scripture account of Jesus' Ascension. (Matthew 28:16–20; Acts of the Apostles 1:9–13) Explain that *ascension* means "to go up." After reading about the Ascension, say: ***Jesus is with us always—in the Holy Spirit, in those who share his life, in the Eucharist, and in the Bible.***

Page 188 Jesus Sends the Holy Spirit

Say: *When Jesus sent the Holy Spirit, the Apostles were changed. Let us read what happened.* Take turns reading aloud page 188. Have your child demonstrate what a strong wind sounds like. Explain that the Holy Spirit and the wind are alike in some ways. They are both strong and invisible. Ask: *What did the Apostles see above their heads?* (tongues of fire) Explain that the flames were signs that the Holy Spirit had come. *The Apostles felt filled with love and courage.*

Have your child complete the **Tongues of Fire** activity.

Page 189 The Holy Spirit Is God

Help your child read aloud **The Holy Spirit Is God**. Say: *The Apostles began to boldly teach about Jesus.* Remind your child that he or she received the Holy Spirit at Baptism. Talk with your child about ways the Holy Spirit can help us. For example, if we are with friends who want to do something we know is wrong, the Holy Spirit can help us decide to do the right thing instead. Lead your child in prayer. Pray: *The Holy Spirit is with you. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill your heart with love.* [Pause.] *Ask the Holy Spirit to help you be brave.* [Pause.] *Thank Jesus for sending the Holy Spirit to help you be more like him. Amen.*

Have your child complete the activity **The Holy Spirit Is with Us**. Have your child point to the word *Pentecost* and read it aloud. Say: *We celebrate Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit came to help God's children on earth.*

If you choose, scan the QR code at the top of the page and experience the media together.

Pages 190–191 We Received Special Gifts at Baptism

Say: *At Baptism, you received the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.* Explain that the cross is a sign of faith, the anchor is a sign of hope, and a heart is a sign of charity. Say: *When we see a heart, we think of love. Charity helps us love God and others.* Take turns reading aloud the page. Have your child point to each symbol and read what it represents.

Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. You may choose to pray the Act of Faith, Hope, and Love one line at a time and have your child echo you. Encourage your child to take this prayer to heart and pray it often.

Read aloud the directions for the **Virtues** activity on page 191 and help your child complete it. Then do the same for the activity **The Virtues in Action**. You may choose to think of your own answers and write them on a separate sheet of paper. You and your child can share answers and talk about them when you are both finished.

Page 192 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 21 Review.

First have your child solve the crossword puzzle. [ANSWERS: Down—1. Brave; Across—2. Fire, 3. Love] Then direct your child to **We Remember**. Read the question and have your child read aloud the response.

Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary**.

Have your child focus on the **We Respond** section. Pray these lines together.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Read the instructions for the **Your Turn** activity and give your child ample time to complete it.

Page 193 Families in Mission

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

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar. Say: *When God pours his Spirit into our hearts, it overflows.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *The Holy Spirit came to Jesus' friends at Pentecost. Jesus filled their hearts with the Holy Spirit.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Baptism.] Say: *The Holy Spirit is always with us but comes into our hearts in a special way at Baptism.*

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 193.

Page 194 Families in Mission, continued**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know**. Say: *Saint Teresa said that we must first understand that we have the gift of God's love. Then we can share it.*

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 complete the **Share Your Faith** activity. Include as many family members as possible.

Close the lesson by praying together, "Come, Holy Spirit. Fill us with faith, hope, and love to share with our neighbors."

Page 195 **Chapter 22: Jesus Is with Us in His Church****Before You Begin**

1. Prepare or collect the materials that you will need: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, a picture of the current pope, and baby pictures of your child.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: The Holy Spirit guides and cares for the Church through her leaders. Your child will learn that Jesus is leading us through the pope and the bishops. He or she will experience a sense of belonging to the Church and will learn to express the Church's holiness through words and deeds of love.

The Church Is God's Family

Have your child demonstrate how to open your faith formation time. (Your child should close his or her eyes, take a deep breath in and out, and prepare to hear to God's Word.) When you are both ready to begin, pray, "Father, we pray for the Holy Spirit to guide our leaders in the Church and give them strength to build and spread your kingdom." Remind your child that the focus of the last chapter was how the Holy Spirit guides and strengthens us. Explain that when Jesus went to heaven to be with his Father, he gave his Apostles the work of teaching about God. Say: ***Today you will learn about how the Holy Spirit guides and cares for the Church through her leaders.***

Have your child read aloud the chapter title. Say: ***Let's read how Jesus is with us in his Church.*** Take turns reading aloud **The Church Is God's Family**.

Say: ***When you are baptized, you become a member of the Church.*** Explain that the Church is God's family, and we are all called to be holy like Jesus. Talk about how the priests can be like Jesus when they lead the celebration of the Eucharist. Remind your child he or she can be like Jesus by loving, forgiving, and sharing with others.

Page 196 **Jesus Chose a Leader for His Church**

Read aloud page 196. Say: ***Jesus needed someone he trusted to carry on his work. What did he want Peter to do?*** (teach and guide his people) Have your child point to the word *pope*. Call your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature on page 197. Read aloud the definition of *pope* and check for understanding.

You may wish to read or retell the Scripture account of Jesus choosing a leader. (John 21:1–17)

If you choose, scan the QR code at the top of the page and experience the media together.

Page 197 The Pope Leads the Church Today

Help your child read aloud **The Pope Leads the Church Today**. Have your child point to the word *catholic*. Call your child's attention to the **Words to Know** feature and read aloud the definition. Check for understanding and clarify any misconceptions.

Show a picture of the current pope. Ask: ***What can we do to show our love for our Holy Father?*** (Pray for him.)

Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Before you pray, have your child help you make a list of ways to pray for church leaders. (pray for strength to do hard work, courage to speak the truth, wisdom to lead like Jesus)

Pages 198–199 We Belong to the Catholic Church

Look at baby pictures of your child and talk about what he or she was like as a baby. Tell your child what you remember about the day your child was baptized. Say: ***When you were baptized, you were welcomed into God's family!***

Say: ***Let's read more about God's family.*** Take turns reading aloud **We Belong to the Catholic Church**. When you are finished, explain that we are called *Christians* because we are baptized and believe in Christ. We are also Catholics. As Catholic Christians, we worship God our Father at Mass.

Help your child complete the **Welcomed with Joy** activity.

Read aloud the directions for the **We Are the Church** activity on page 199. Give your child ample time to complete it. Encourage your child to share the completed page with family members. Have him or her read to them the traced sentence.

Page 200 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 22 Review.

Lead your child through **We Remember**. You ask the question from the section and have your child read the response. Encourage your child to comment or ask questions.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating the words and their definitions in the **Glossary**.

Next pray together the **We Respond** section.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Read aloud the directions for the **Your Turn** activity and have your child complete it. Invite your child to share the drawing with a family member.

Page 201 Families in Mission

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

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar. Say: *We learn how to live as children of God in God's house, the Church.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *When we join the Church at Baptism, the Holy Spirit brings us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity!*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Peter] Remind your child that Jesus wanted Peter to guide and love his sheep. Ask: *Who are the sheep?* (God's people; us)

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

Page 202 Families in Mission**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know**. Say: *Saint Juan Diego fed Jesus' sheep by sharing Mary's message.*

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 complete the **Share Your Faith** activity. Ask each family member to add a special petition for leaders of our Church. To close the lesson, pray the prayer together as a family.

Page 203 **Chapter 23: Mary Is the Mother of the Church****Before You Begin**

1. Prepare or collect the materials that you will need: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, a recording of the hymn “Immaculate Mary,” and a note card.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson’s Faith Focus: We honor and imitate Mary, Jesus’ mother and ours. Your child will be encouraged to imitate Mary’s yes to God by giving himself or herself to God and to others with a loving heart.

Mary Is Our Mother

Have your child demonstrate how to open your faith formation time. (Your child should close his or her eyes, take a deep breath in and out, and prepare to hear to God’s Word.) When you are both ready to begin, pray together the Sign of the Cross. Remind your child that the focus of the last chapter was how the Holy Spirit guides our church leaders. Explain that we have another guide in Mary, our Mother. Say: ***Today you will learn about how Mary is our Mother and we can live our lives according to her example.***

Invite your child to look at and talk about the pictures on the page. Ask: ***What do they have in common?*** (Both pictures show mothers. One of them is Mary.) Say: ***A mother’s love helps us grow the way God wishes us to grow.*** Explain that Mary is a model for being a good Christian. She is the Mother of the Church.

Have your child read aloud **Mary Is Our Mother**. Explain to your child that when we die, our bodies will be buried in a grave, but Jesus did something special for Mary. She was his mother and had been holy all her life. Say: ***Jesus had Mary taken up to heaven body and soul. We call this the Assumption.***

Page 204 **Mary Is Our Queen**

Take turns reading aloud **Mary Is Our Queen**. Tell your child that Mary is Queen of Heaven and Earth. She prays for us and asks Jesus to bless us. Say: ***Mary showed Christians how to spread the Good News by living in Jesus’ love.***

Use the illustration of Mary and the **A Moment with Jesus** feature to lead your child in prayer. Say: ***As we look at this illustration of Mary, let’s ask her to help us be like her Son, Jesus.*** [Pause.]

Page 205 We Honor Mary

Read aloud **We Honor Mary** as your child listens. Call your child's attention to the hymn at the top of the page. Play a recording of the hymn "Immaculate Mary" as your child follows along with the words. Say: ***We call Mary "Immaculate Mary" because she always said yes to God and never sinned. Ave Maria means "Hail Mary."*** Have your child complete the **Flowers for Mary** activity.

Page 206 Mary Helps Us Follow Jesus

Ask: ***Why is Mary a model for the Church?*** (Mary is the one who shows us how to be good Christians. She shows us how to be like Jesus.) Have your child read aloud **Mary Helps Us Follow Jesus**. Have your child point to the word *holy*. Read aloud the definition from the **Word to Know** feature. Explain that God has a different purpose in mind for each of us, but we are all called to be holy—to be like Jesus in our thoughts, our words, and our actions.

Read aloud the direction for the **Mary Helps Us Be Holy** activity. Help your child complete the sentences.

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

Page 207 Saint Thérèse Loved Mary

Take turns reading aloud **Saint Thérèse Loved Mary**. Tell your child that Saint Thérèse showed us how to give our love to Mary. She prayed for Mary's intercession, and she was healed. Thérèse said yes to the Lord as Mary did. Say: ***We can honor Mary by trying to be like her and by asking her to pray for us.***

Have your child complete the **I Honor Mary** activity. Then give your child a note card. Help him or her write *Mary* on one side and *Help me be like Jesus* on the other side. Invite your child to illustrate the card with a picture showing himself or herself doing something Jesus would do. Encourage your child to place the finished product in a place he or she will see it often.

Page 208 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 23 Review. Start by inviting your child to trace the words *Holy Mary, pray for us*. Pray the prayer together. Then lead your child through **We Remember**. Ask the question and invite your child to read aloud the response.

Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary**.

Pray together the prayer in the **We Respond** section.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Read aloud the **Your Turn** activity directions. Offer support as necessary as your child writes the message to Mary.

Page 209 Families in Mission

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

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on the page. Say: *Jesus wanted John to understand that he was giving Mary to all of us. He was making her the Mother of the Church.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *Mary wants us to be as close to God as she is.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Queen of Heaven.] Say: *We know we can talk to Mary at any time. We can ask her to pray to Jesus for us.*

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

Page 210 Families in Mission**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know**. Say: *Saint Thérèse called herself the “Little Flower.” Every yes she said to God was like a petal of love.*

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**. As your child responds in the Student Book, write your own response on a separate sheet of paper. Share your responses when you are both finished.

Close the lesson by praying together the Hail Mary. If your child does not know the prayer by heart, it is located on the inside back cover of the Student Book.

Page 211 **Chapter 24: The Holy Spirit Helps the Church****Before You Begin**

1. Prepare or collect the materials that you will need: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and a sheet of paper to make a scroll.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: We share the Good News in the Gospels by our lives. Your child will learn how loving words and deeds show that the Spirit of Jesus is with us.

The Holy Spirit Helps Us Know Jesus Through the Gospels

Have your child demonstrate how to open your faith formation time. (Your child should close his or her eyes, take a deep breath in and out, and prepare to hear to God's Word.) When you are both ready to begin, lead your child in prayer: ***Lord, help us open our hearts and minds to hear the Good News. Amen.*** Remind your child that the focus of the last chapter was how Mary is the mother of the Church. Remind your child that Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John were gospel writers. Say: ***God chose these men to write books about Jesus. We are meant to share the Good News with others!***

Read aloud the first paragraph. Have your child point to the word *Gospel*. Read aloud the definition from the **Word to Know** feature. Check for understanding.

Take turns reading aloud the rest of the page. Talk with your child about things you do to show you want to learn Jesus' Good News. (We participate during Mass; we stand at times; we sing; we respond; we make the Sign of the Cross to show that we want Jesus' words to be in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.)

Guide your child in prayer. Pray: ***Lord, we want to spread your Good News to those who do not know you. We ask the Holy Spirit to help us speak the truth with love and courage as Jesus did. Amen.***

Page 212 **The Holy Spirit Helped the First Christians**

Take turns reading aloud the paragraphs with your child. Explain that the Holy Spirit helped the first Christians know they could show their love for God by the way they loved others. Ask: ***As Christians, we show the Holy Spirit is with us when we share what we have with our neighbors.*** Explain that people are happy when they give of themselves because doing so brings them closer to Jesus and helps them be more like him.

Have your child complete the **I Am a Catholic** activity. After he or she is finished, ask: ***What can you do today to surprise someone with your love?***

Page 213 The Holy Spirit Helps Us Be a Light

Read aloud for your child the top of the page through the Scripture verse. Tell your child that when we let our light shine, we help spread God's kingdom as Jesus did.

Take turns reading aloud the next two paragraphs. Say: ***We let our light shine when we share the Good News with others.*** You may wish to lead your child in prayer that all the children who have not yet heard of Jesus' love will someday hear the Good News.

Have your child complete the **Shining Our Light** activity. Support your child as necessary so he or she can follow through with the response.

If you choose, scan the QR code at the top of the page and experience the media together.

Pages 214–215 The Holy Spirit Helped Saint Martin Show Love

Have your child make a Good News scroll by having him or her write one of these messages on a sheet of paper: *Jesus is our Savior; Jesus saved us from sin; Jesus is risen; God loves us.* Demonstrate how to use a pencil to roll the ends of the paper into a scroll. Have your child give his or her scroll to someone special.

Remind your child that Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John were gospel writers. The Holy Spirit guided them to spread God's Word. Say: ***The Holy Spirit also guides us and helps us spread the Good News.*** Tell your child you are going to read about a saint who was moved by the Holy Spirit to show love for others. Read aloud **The Holy Spirit Helped Saint Martin Show Love.**

Have your child complete **The Holy Spirit Helps Us Show Love** activity on page 215. If you choose, you may respond to the activity on a separate sheet of paper. When you are both finished, share your drawings and completed sentences.

Lead your child in prayer according to the **A Moment with Jesus** feature.

Page 216 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 24 Review. Start with writing the Good News about Jesus. (Possible response: Jesus loves and saved us.) Then read aloud the **We Remember** question and have your child read the response.

Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary.**

Have your child focus on the **We Respond** section. Pray the short prayer together.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review.**

Have your child complete the **Your Turn** activity and use it as a springboard for discussion. Talk with your child about different things you can share. (food, clothing, toys, laughter, kind words)

Page 217 Families in Mission

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

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar. Say: *The Holy Spirit helps us listen, be better people, and be like Jesus.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *The Holy Spirit helped the first Christians travel and preach to people they didn't know.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Jesus' life] Say: *The Holy Spirit inspires people to write about and learn more about the life of Jesus.*

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 217.

Page 218 Families in Mission**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know**. Say: *Saint Martin responded selflessly when he saw a man in need.* Talk with your child about acts of kindness and generosity you can do or have done together today.

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 complete **Share Your Faith**. Include as many family members as possible.

To conclude the lesson, remind your child to look for good things happening around him or her. Pray: *Lord, help us seek the Holy Spirit in ourselves and in one another. May the presence of the Holy Spirit guide our actions every day. Amen.*

Page 219 **Chapter 25: We Give Glory to God****Before You Begin**

1. Prepare or collect the materials that you will need: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, a recording of the song “Glory to God in the Highest,” and a device to play it.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson’s Faith Focus: The Holy Spirit helps us give glory to God in words and deeds. Your child will learn how kind words and good deeds give glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We can bring true joy and peace to ourselves and to others if we welcome God into every moment.

Full of God’s Glory

Have your child demonstrate how to open your faith formation time. (Your child should close his or her eyes, take a deep breath in and out, and prepare to hear to God’s Word.) When you are both ready to begin, pray: ***Bless us, Lord, as we seek your Word today.*** Remind your child that the focus of the last chapter was how the Holy Spirit guides the Church. Explain that this chapter will remind us to give glory to God for all the good and beautiful things in the world.

Read aloud for your child the title and subtitle on page 219. Invite your child to look at the pictures on the page. Together, make observations about them. (Children are admiring flowers in a pasture; a girl is caring for her cat; we see other animals God made.) Have your child read aloud the paragraph and the green text. Say: ***With the help of the Holy Spirit, everything we say and do can give glory to God.***

Read aloud the **God’s Word** feature as your child listens. Then, have your child read it aloud with you. Talk with your child about the psalm. Ask: ***Who should praise the Lord’s name?*** (the sun and moon, shining stars, animals—all things God has made)

Pages 220–221 We Praise the Trinity

Read aloud the first paragraph. Have your child point to the word *Trinity* as he or she says it. Read aloud the definition from the **Word to Know** feature. Check for understanding. Have your child read the next paragraph. Say: ***Let’s give God glory by praying the Glory Be to the Father.*** Point out the prayer and pray it line by line, having your child echo you. Say: ***To whom do we give glory in this prayer?*** (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit)

If you choose, scan the QR code at the bottom of the page and experience the media together.

Have your child complete the **Kind Words** activity on page 221. [ANSWERS: 1. help, 2. love, 3. play, 4. sorry] Say: ***Kind words help people and give glory to God.*** Talk about when one might use each sentence and how hearing any of these sentences might make a person feel.

Page 222 Good Actions

Have your child read aloud the top of page 222. Say: ***We give glory to God when we do God's will.***

Have your child complete the **I Give Glory to God** activity.

Page 223 Words and Actions Give Glory

Take turns reading aloud **Words and Actions Give Glory**. Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Allow time for silent prayer. Encourage your child to reflect on his or her prayer while completing the **Our Good God** activity.

Page 224 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 25 Review. Tell your child to color the *Joy* banner and have him or her read it aloud. Then lead your child through **We Remember**. You read the question and have your child read the response.

Come back to the **We Respond** section to close the lesson.

Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary**.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Have your child complete the **Your Turn** activity.

Pages 225–226 Unit 4 Review

Read aloud the directions for the activity **The Holy Trinity**. Help your child complete the crossword puzzle. [ANSWERS: Across—1. Holy Spirit; Down—1. Father, 3. Son]

Then help your child complete the **Prayers** activity at the bottom of the page. Help your child unscramble the words. [ANSWERS: Sign of the Cross, Glory Be to the Father] Pray the prayers together before continuing the lesson.

If you choose, have your child play the **Stump the Shepherd** interactive unit-review game by scanning the QR code on page 225.

Read aloud **The Church Family Album** on page 226. Say: ***You have learned a lot about Jesus and his Church. Look at these pictures and tell me something you have learned about each.*** If your child is having trouble, offer support by making up riddles. For example, say: ***I am thinking of the Apostle who was the first pope. (Peter) I am thinking of a Christian called to follow Jesus in a special way. (Priest, Religious sister)***

Pages 227–228 We Give Glory to God

Hold the celebration **We Give Glory to God**. Begin by singing or playing a recording of “Glory to God in the Highest.”

Take turns reading aloud the Leader and Reader parts. Prepare your child for a silent prayer. Say: *God gave us life. Let us thank him in our hearts for this great gift.* [Pause.] *Let us say to the Blessed Trinity within us, "I believe in you. I hope in you. I love you."*

Lead your child in the **Spontaneous Prayer**. After the Leader has spoken, offer spontaneous prayers such as "We are alive . . ."; "We can enjoy life and play. . ."; and "We can think and choose. . ." Invite your child to offer his or her own reasons to be thankful and give praise. Together, respond by praying "Glory to God" after each. Pray the Glory Be to the Father.

Sing the closing song to the melody of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." Encourage your child to always look for ways to give glory to God.

Page 229 Families in Mission

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

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar. Say: *Everything beautiful tells us God is great!*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *God wants us to choose words and actions that show our love.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] Say: *We praise three Persons when we praise God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

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

Page 230 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know**. Say: *We can be like Saint Paul when we make good choices, praise God, and share the Good News!*

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 complete the activity. Include as many family members as possible.

To conclude the lesson, turn back to **We Respond** on page 224. Pray the prayer together. You may wish to ask your child to pray the Glory Be to the Father once more independently to see if he or she knows it by heart.