

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 quiet 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**
- **Pullout** pages

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

Unit 1: We Worship God as Catholic Christians

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. You may wish to use a web-enabled smartphone or a tablet.
2. Prepare or collect the following materials: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, and writing supplies.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: We worship God through prayer, service, and personal sacrifice as Jesus did. Praising God is the highest action we can perform as human beings.

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 present. Say: ***Because this is such a special book, you will want to receive it and hold it reverently and with respect.*** Invite your child to demonstrate how to treat something with reverence.

Look through the book together. Say: ***In Unit 1, we will talk about the Sacraments of Initiation and what they mean to us as Catholic Christians.*** Invite your child to turn to page 1. Read aloud the unit title, **We Worship God as Catholic Christians.** Have your child find the Scripture passage at the bottom of page 1. Then explain that the words are from our holy book, the Bible. Show the Bible. Next, read aloud the Scripture passage.

Discuss the pictures on the page. Point out the person praying the Rosary and the people receiving Holy Communion, and talk about what the people may be thinking or feeling. Explain to your child that he or she will learn about Baptism and Confirmation and how the Eucharist is the center of our faith.

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

Page 3 Chapter 1: We Are a Worshiping People

Point out the picture at the top of the page. Ask your child to describe the photo. (child smiling, light coming through trees) Ask: ***What words describe how this child might be feeling?*** (happy, hopeful, peaceful, thoughtful, etc.) Point out for your child that all these words describe how we might feel when we are praising God.

We Give Praise to God

Read aloud page 3 and have your child complete the **Wonders of the World** activity. Discuss your child's response. Then talk about the importance of noticing the beauty of God's creation in small moments. Say: ***Sometimes we are so busy that these moments of wonder slip past us without much notice.*** Talk with your child about the importance of noticing those moments and praising God for his creation.

Point out the image of the crucifix at the bottom of the page. Ask: ***What do you think of when you see a crucifix?*** (Possible response: Jesus suffered and died on the Cross to save us.) Say: ***God sent his Son to save us. Let us always remember to stop and praise him!*** Point out the **God's Word** feature. Say: ***These verses from Revelation are a prayer of praise. Let us make this prayer our own.*** Pray aloud the **God's Word** feature with your child.

Page 4 All Are Called to Worship

Have your child read aloud page 4. Say: *Our faith came out of the Jewish faith, but as Christians, we worship how Jesus taught us. What is the prayer he taught us that we should know by heart?* (the Lord's Prayer) Ask: *What does the picture at the top of page 4 show?* (Jesus offering himself to the Father at the Last Supper) Discuss how the Eucharist is the greatest act of Christian worship. Say: *Through the Mass, we thank God, with Jesus, for all he has done for us. We offer ourselves with Jesus to the Father.*

Page 5 We Worship in Many Ways

Take turns reading aloud **We Worship in Many Ways** on page 5. Ask: *What do we do when we pray?* (adore God; ask God to make us holy; thank God; ask for forgiveness) Say: *When we pray together, we are reminded that we are all God's family.* Call your child's attention to the **Words to Know** feature. Read aloud the definitions for *synagogue* and *Alleluia*. Encourage your child to use the words appropriately in the context of your conversation. Remind him or her to use the **Glossary** for additional support if needed. Consider bookmarking the first page of the **Glossary** so it will be easy to access the next time. Allow time for your child to complete the **I Give Praise** activity.

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

Page 6 We Worship Through Prayer

Have your child read aloud **We Worship Through Prayer**. Then pray aloud Psalm 95 from the **God's Word** feature. Talk with your child about how the psalm encourages us to praise God by singing joyfully, greeting him with thanksgiving, and bowing down to him. Say: *As Christians, everything we do and say reflects our love for God. We show love for God in how we speak to and act toward others.*

We Worship Through Service

Have your child read aloud **We Worship Through Service**. Say: *Look at the picture at the bottom of page 6. What is the girl doing?* (painting a mural) Discuss with your child how volunteering time to help with a community project shows our love for God. Discuss small acts of loving service that one can do daily to reflect God's love. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together.

Page 7 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 1 Review on pages 7 and 8. If you choose, scan the QR code on page 7 and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Lead your child through **We Remember**. You ask the questions from the section and have your child read the responses. Encourage your child to comment or ask questions. Say: **Let us praise God together**. Lead your child in prayer using the **We Respond** section.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by asking your child to explain what they mean. If necessary, reread the definitions in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity.

Page 8 Chapter Review

Have your child read aloud the directions for the **Ways to Worship** activity on page 8. Provide support as needed. [ANSWERS: 1. worship 2. adore 3. praise 4. service 5. Eucharist 6. sacrifice 7. pray] Then read aloud the directions for the **Praise God** activity. Allow time for your child to write a thoughtful prayer. You may wish to write your own and share it with your child.

Page 9 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: **We gather to listen to God's Word and celebrate 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: **Our faith is strengthened when we learn about how to worship God, pray continually, and lovingly serve others.**

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: the Eucharist.] Say: **Celebrating the sacraments strengthens us and our church family.**

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

Page 10 **Families in Mission, continued****A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 10. Point out the Gospel of Matthew in the Bible.

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.

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 pray aloud his or her prayer. Say: *Devoting time for daily prayer helps us grow closer to God.* Help your child set aside quiet time each day to talk to God.

Pray with your child. Say: *Lord, we thank you and praise you for all the wonders of our world—your beautiful creation! Amen.*

Page 11 **Chapter 2: Jesus Calls Us to Worship****Before You Begin**

1. Prepare or collect the following materials: 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. You may wish to use a web-enabled smartphone or a tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: We worship Jesus by imitating his life of prayer, loving service, and sacrifice. Spend some time thinking about God's grace in our lives and what you want your child to know about it. For example, you may wish to express that with God's grace, we can live without fear and know that we are not alone.

Jesus Offered Perfect Worship to the Father

Read the chapter title aloud and point out the picture at the top of the page. Ask your child to describe the photo. (children praying, worshiping) Say: ***When we worship as Jesus calls us, our faith grows.***

Have your child read aloud the first two paragraphs in the section **Jesus Offered Perfect Worship to the Father**. Say: ***Grace is our share in God's life.*** Ask: ***How does Jesus make grace possible for us?*** (by becoming human, living, suffering, dying, and rising)

Have your child read aloud the rest of the 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 the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. 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.***

Page 12 **Scripture References**

Guide your child through **Scripture References**.

Share a Bible with your child and encourage him or her to practice saying aloud different Scripture references. Model this for your child as needed. Then allow time to complete the activity **Scripture Search**. [ANSWERS: Matthew 26:36, praying; Mark 1:29–31, healing; Luke 4:31–32, teaching the people; John 19:29–30, dying on the Cross]

Jesus in the Gospels

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)

Page 13 Jesus Shows Us the Father's Love

Have your child read silently **Jesus Shows Us 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 account?** (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.**

Jesus Acts in the Sacraments

Take turns reading aloud **Jesus Acts in the Sacraments**. Point out the boldfaced words and have your child find their meanings in the **Glossary**. Say: **Our family celebrates the sacraments. The Sacraments of Penance and Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick are Sacraments of Healing.** Ask: **How are they different?** (One heals damage caused by sin. The other heals those who are seriously ill.) **What sacraments give special graces for certain vocations or ways of life?** (Matrimony, Holy Orders)

Point out the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *Eastern Catholic Churches*. Remind your child to use the **Glossary** for additional support if needed. Then, if you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together.

Page 14 Jesus Celebrates the Sacraments

Have your child read aloud the first three paragraphs on page 14. Say: **The signs of the sacraments are the words, actions, and objects used in the sacraments.** Explain that when the priest says, “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” and pours water on the person, these signs wash away sin and give life. You may wish to talk with your child about Baptisms, Confirmations, or weddings you have attended and ask how celebrating these sacraments can help our faith grow.

Read aloud the rest of the page for your child, and talk with your child about how celebrating the liturgy grows our love of God. Call your child's attention to the **Words to Know** feature. Read aloud the definitions for *rite*, *liturgy*, and *Liturgy of the Hours*. Encourage your child to use the words appropriately in the context of your conversation. Remind him or her to use the **Glossary** for additional support if needed.

Page 15 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 2 Review. If you choose, scan the QR code on page 15 and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Lead your child through **We Remember**. You ask the questions in boldfaced type and have your child read the responses. Encourage your child to comment or ask questions. Say: **Let us ask for Jesus to help us become more like him.** Lead your child in prayer using the **We Respond** section.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by asking your child to explain what they mean. If necessary, reread the definitions in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity and discuss his or her response.

Page 16 Chapter Review, continued

Have your child read aloud the directions for the **Grace Is Given** activity on page 16. Provide support as needed. [ANSWERS: 1. Gospels 2. liturgy 3. faith 4. sacrament 5. rite] Then read aloud the directions for the **Sacred Signs of God's Grace** activity and allow time for your child to complete it. Check it together and discuss the answers to clear up any misconceptions. [ANSWERS: Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, the Eucharist, Confirmation; Sacraments of Healing—Penance and Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick; Sacraments at the Service of Communion—Matrimony and Holy Orders]

Page 17 Families in Mission

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

SCRIPTURE

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

KNOW AND 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.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: receive a share in God's divine life.] Say: *The sacraments are sacred signs. They bring us closer to God.*

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

Page 18 Families in Mission**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 18. Say: *Saint Vincent de Paul 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.* You may wish to talk with your child about charities you have supported, and ask your child if there is a charity he or she feels strongly about helping. Together, make a plan to support that charity.

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 for the **Awareness of God's Grace** activity and have your child complete it. While your child works, think of a moment when God revealed his grace to you. Tell your child about your experience after your child is finished sharing his or her response.

Lead your child in prayer to bring the lesson to a close. Say: ***Let us pray together: Lord, help us to imitate your life of prayer, loving service, and sacrifice. Amen.***

Page 19 **Chapter 3: Baptism Welcomes Us into the Christian Community**

Before You Begin

1. Prepare or collect the following materials: 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. You may wish to use a web-enabled smartphone or a tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: Baptism gives us a share in God's life and makes us members of the Church. Christians must grow to view all people and every event with the love of Jesus. Living the Christian life involves making decisions to act as Jesus would in all aspects of daily life.

Baptism Is a Celebration of Life

Have your child look at the photograph and the illustration on the page. Ask your child to describe each one. Ask: ***What do the photograph and the illustration have in common?*** (families and water) Say: ***Both images show loving families, and water is an important part of both images.*** Talk with your child about the many ways water is important to us. (It helps us live and grow; it washes us clean; we swim and play in it.) Say: ***At Baptism, water is a sign of our growing relationship with God. It brings death to sin and a new life in Jesus.***

Have your child read aloud the first three paragraphs. Say: ***Water is a good sign for Baptism because it washes us clean of Original Sin.*** Read aloud the next two paragraphs to your child. Say: ***Baptism is the sacrament of salvation. It is a holy action.*** Call your child's attention to the **Words to Know** feature. Have your child read aloud the definition for *Original Sin*. Say: ***Baptism washes us clean of Original Sin.***

Page 20 **Baptism Initiates Us**

Take turns reading this section aloud with your child. Say: ***It's always a joyful event when a catechumen celebrates the Sacraments of Initiation.*** Ask: ***As members of God's family, how can we support catechumens?*** Listen to your child's ideas and offer some of your own. (pray for them, attend the Easter Vigil as they celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation, welcome them)

Sacramentals Help Us

Have your child read aloud this section. Say: ***Holy water, rosaries, the Sign of the Cross, and crucifixes are some examples of sacramentals.*** Point out the **Words to Know** feature. Encourage your child to use the words appropriately in the context of your conversation. Remind him or her to use the **Glossary** for additional support if needed.

Page 21 The Church Community Celebrates Baptism

Have your child read aloud the first two paragraphs of **The Church Community Celebrates Baptism**. Explain that at Baptism, parents promise to help their children grow their faith and live as children of God. Say: ***You are a child of God!*** Ask: ***What are things we do together that remind you that you are a child of God?*** (go to church together, celebrate the sacraments, pray, show God's love to others) Take turns reading aloud the rest of this section. Say: ***Baptism is a 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 the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and watch the video together. Take this time to share with your child what you remember about his or her Baptism.

Page 22 A Child Is Baptized

Have your child read aloud **A Child Is Baptized**. Say: ***In the early Church, people were baptized by immersion. They were submerged in water. Some churches still baptize this way!*** Discuss how both you and your child were baptized.

Say: ***At Baptism, we celebrate the growth of God's family, and the Church welcomes new members into the community.*** Point out the **Word to Know** feature. Have your child read aloud the definition for *Chrism*. Then have your child complete the activity **Signs of Baptism**. Discuss his or her response.

Page 23 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 3 Review on pages 23 and 24. If you choose, scan the QR code on page 23 and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Lead your child through **We Remember**. You ask the questions in boldfaced type and have your child read the responses. Encourage your child to comment or ask questions. Say: ***Let us pray together.*** Lead your child in prayer using the **We Respond** section.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by asking your child to explain what they mean. If necessary, reread the definitions in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity. Pray together the prayer your child wrote.

Page 24 Chapter Review

Have your child read aloud the directions for the **Signs of Life** activity on page 24. Provide support as needed as he or she completes it. Then lead your child through the **Sacrament Details** activity in the same manner. [ANSWERS: 1. B, 2. H, 3. E, 4. F, 5. C, 6. A, 7. D]

Page 25 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: *Peter's message is one of hope. Baptism is a celebration of life!*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *Through the Sacrament of Baptism, God gives us his grace.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: sacramentals] Say: *Knowing the facts of our faith helps us teach others about Christ.*

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

Page 26 Families in Mission**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

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.* Discuss with your child the impact John Neumann had on others as one who made Catholic education possible for so many.

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.

Lead your child in prayer to bring the lesson to a close. Say: *Let us pray together: Lord, help us proclaim Jesus every day through our words and actions. Help us care for your world and all the people in it. We pray for the strength we need to always work for justice and peace. Amen.*

Page 27 **Chapter 4: Confirmation Seals Us with the Gift of the Holy Spirit**

Before You Begin

1. Prepare or collect the following materials: 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. You may wish to use a web-enabled smartphone or a tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: In Confirmation, we celebrate the Holy Spirit within us and renew our baptismal commitment to witness to Jesus. The call to witness is given in Baptism. In Confirmation, the Holy Spirit renews and confirms that call by strengthening our faith and making us more like Jesus.

The Holy Spirit Strengthens the Church's Faith

Point out the picture at the top of the page. Ask your child to describe the photo. (The boy is being confirmed. His sponsor's hand is on the boy's shoulder. The congregation is watching.) Say: ***Today we will talk about Confirmation. In this sacrament, we renew the promises we made at Baptism.***

Read aloud page 27. Ask: ***What is another name we use for the Holy Spirit?*** (Advocate) Call your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *Advocate*. Say: ***When the Advocate came, the Apostles were filled with strength.*** Ask: ***How did they show this strength?*** (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 when we were baptized. When we are confirmed, the Holy Spirit renews his coming. We renew our promises to live like Jesus.*** Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature on page 27.

Pages 28–29 The Holy Spirit Comes in a Special Way in Confirmation

Call your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature at the bottom of page 28. Read aloud the definition for *Gifts of the Holy Spirit*. Say: ***When we are confirmed, the bishop prays for the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to help us live our faith.***

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.

Say: ***The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are strengthened in us at Confirmation.*** List the gifts for your child. (wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, fear of the Lord, and piety) Say: ***These gifts help us follow Jesus, even when it is difficult.*** You may wish to have a conversation with your child about which gifts he or she feels are personal strengths and why.

Ask: **What does it mean to you to live in a Christlike way?** Listen to your child's ideas and add your own. Have your child complete the **Confirmation Information** activity on page 29. [ANSWERS: 1. bishop; 2. sponsor; 3. promises; 4. Chrism; 5. laying; 6. sealed; 7. Holy Spirit, Christlike]

Page 30 **The Holy Spirit Makes Us Strong Witnesses**

Take turns reading aloud **The Holy Spirit Makes Us Strong Witnesses** on page 30. Say: **You are a child of God. What will the Holy Spirit do in Confirmation?** (The power of the Holy Spirit gives strength to follow the baptismal call.) **How will the Holy Spirit help you become a strong witness?** (He will enable us to know Jesus better, love him more, and be more like Jesus.) Talk with your child about how when our thoughts, words, and actions are like those of Jesus, we become stronger witnesses for Christ.

Have your child read silently **Missionaries Give Witness**. Say: **Missions are the work of Jesus continued throughout the world by the Church. They help the needy and spread the Good News. How might you help missionaries continue their work?** (pray for them; donate food, clothing, or money; become a missionary)

Call your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *missionary*. Say: **Remember that missionaries work all over the world and here in our country. You can be a missionary anywhere.**

Page 31 **Chapter Review**

Guide your child through quiet reflection. 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 become a strong witness for Christ.** [Pause.] Help your child complete the Chapter 4 Review on pages 31 and 32. If you choose, scan the QR code on page 31 and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Lead your child through **We Remember**. You ask the questions in boldfaced type and have your child read the responses. Encourage your child to comment or ask questions. Say: **Let us pray together.** Lead your child in prayer using the **We Respond** section.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by asking your child to explain what they mean. If necessary, reread the definitions in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity. Invite your child to tell you about what he or she drew.

Page 32 **Chapter Review**

Have your child read aloud the directions for the **Participation in Confirmation** activity on page 32. Provide support as needed as he or she completes it. [ANSWERS: 1. the sponsor; 2. Chrism; 3. at Pentecost; 4. baptismal; 5. "Be sealed."] Then lead your child through the **Confirmation Plan** activity in the same manner.

Page 33 Families in Mission

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

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.*

KNOW AND 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.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: laying on of hands.] Say: *The Gifts of the Holy Spirit give us strength to live our faith.*

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

Page 34 Families in Mission**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

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?*

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. Discuss his or her response. Say: *Let us always try to follow the example of Saint Francis Xavier. Let us be missionaries for Christ.*

Direct your child to the Prayer to the Holy Spirit on the inside front cover of the Student Book. Pray it together to bring the chapter to a close. Invite your child to pray this prayer every day for one week.

Page 35 **Chapter 5: The Eucharist Is the Center of Christian Life**

Before You Begin

1. Prepare or collect the following materials: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, pictures of vessels and vestments used in the Mass, and writing supplies.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter. You may wish to use a web-enabled smartphone or a tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: In the Eucharist, Jesus offers himself to the Father and gives himself to us under the appearances of bread and wine. Every time we receive the Bread of Life, Christ assures us that we will be able to stand firm throughout the struggles of daily life. He is with us.

Jesus Feeds Us in the Eucharist

Ask: ***What is happening in the photograph at the top of the page?*** (Children are in line to receive Holy Communion.) Remind your child that you have already studied two Sacraments of Initiation—the Sacrament of Baptism and the Sacrament of Confirmation. Say: ***The third Sacrament of Initiation is the Sacrament of the Eucharist. This sacrament celebrates a person's full entrance into the Christian community.***

Have your child read aloud the title and the first three paragraphs on page 35. Say: ***Jesus fed the people who gathered to hear him teach long ago. He nourishes us through the Eucharist today.***

Call your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *Passover*. Say: ***The Jewish people celebrate the feast of Passover each year. Jesus celebrated Passover on the night before he died.***

Take turns reading aloud the rest of the page. Say: ***The Paschal Mystery includes Jesus Christ's Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension.*** Talk with your child about how we enter into the Paschal Mystery by receiving the Eucharist. Say: ***Our sins are forgiven, and we are given new life in Jesus Christ.***

Page 36 **Christ Is Present in the Eucharist**

Have your child read aloud the first paragraph of **Christ Is Present in the Eucharist** on page 36. Call your child's attention to the **Word to Know** feature on page 37. Read the definition of *real presence* and talk about what that means. Explain to your child that 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. Say: ***The Eucharist unites us to Jesus Christ, the Father, the Holy Spirit, and all the people who share the meal with us!***

Have your child read the rest of this section. Talk with your child about why the altar is a fitting place to be used for the Eucharist. (It reminds us of the sacrifice Jesus made to save us from our sins.) 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.***

We Prepare to Receive Christ

Have your child read aloud this section. Ask: ***Why do you think it is important to prepare our hearts to receive Christ in Holy Communion?*** (so we can participate wholeheartedly; so we can feel as close to God as possible)

Page 37 We Honor Christ's Presence in the Eucharist

Have your child read aloud this section. Say: ***We honor Christ's presence in the Eucharist always.*** Encourage your child to pay close attention to ways to show reverence for Christ's presence the next time you attend Mass. Call your child's attention to the **Words to Know** feature on page 37. Read aloud the definition of *benediction*. Encourage your child to use the word appropriately in the context of your conversation. Remind him or her to use the **Glossary** for additional support if needed.

Call your child's attention to the prayer on page 37 and invite him or her to pray aloud with you.

Pages 38–40 We Honor Christ's Presence in the Divine Praises

Invite your child to describe the illustration on page 38. Ask: ***What is on the altar?*** (sanctuary lamp and tabernacle) Have your child read aloud **We Honor Christ's Presence in the Divine Praises**. Then invite your child to pray aloud with you the Divine Praises on page 38. Provide additional pictures of the vessels and vestments listed on page 39 or conduct searches on the internet so your child can see different examples of what they look like. Say: ***We honor God by using articles in worship that are skillfully crafted from the best materials. They are consecrated. This means that they are set aside for God's use alone.*** Complete the activity **Vessels and Vestments** together. [ANSWERS: 1. stole; 2. alb; 3. chasuble; 4. chalice; 5. ciborium; 6. pall; 7. purificator; 8. cruets; 9. paten; 10. corporal] If you choose, scan the QR code on page 39 and experience the media together.

Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature on page 40. Say: ***This Psalm prayer is prayed during some Masses in honor of the Holy Eucharist.***

Page 41 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 5 Review on pages 41 and 42. If you choose, scan the QR code on page 41 and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Lead your child through **We Remember**. You ask the questions from the section and have your child read the responses. Encourage your child to comment or ask questions. Say: **Let us praise God for the Sacrament of the Eucharist together**. Lead your child in prayer using the **We Respond** section.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by asking your child to explain what they mean. If necessary, reread the definitions in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity. Allow time for your child to write a thoughtful prayer.

Page 42 Chapter Review

Have your child read aloud the directions for the **Find the Reason** activity on page 42. Provide support as needed. [ANSWERS: 1. B, 2. A, 3. D, 4. C] Then read aloud the directions for the **Eucharist Matching** activity. Check the answers together after your child completes the activity. [ANSWERS: D, A, C, B, E]

Page 43 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: **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.**

KNOW AND 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.**

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Chalice of Salvation.] Say: **Jesus gave us the Eucharist at the Last Supper.**

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

Page 44 **Families in Mission, continued****A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 44. Say: *Christ chose Margaret Mary to spread devotion to his Sacred Heart.* Talk with your child about how her example can guide our lives.

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. Discuss his or her responses.

Say: *Remember the Sacrament of the Eucharist is the heart of our worship and the center of our Catholic life.* Lead your child in prayer to bring the chapter to a close. Say: *Let us pray together: Lord, please help us always to prepare our hearts before receiving the Eucharist so that we may grow ever closer to you. Amen.*

Page 45 **Chapter 6: Unit 1 Review****Before You Begin**

1. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.
2. Prepare or collect the following materials: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, two songs about how we worship Jesus (optional), and writing supplies.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: We are called to worship through prayer and loving service. You may wish to reflect on what your child understands about how God calls each of us, just as we are, to fulfill our baptismal promises.

Looking Back at Unit 1

Have your child read aloud **Looking Back at Unit 1** on page 45. Say: ***As we complete this review chapter, think about how God knows us completely.*** Talk with your child about how he formed us in our mothers' wombs and that we are wonderfully made. Say: ***In Baptism, you received the light of Christ. In Confirmation, you become an even stronger witness for Christ.***

Remind your child that the early Christians were careful about whom they spoke to about Jesus because their lives could be in danger. Ask: ***Do you remember the sign they used with one another to identify themselves as Christians?*** (the fish) Say: ***Like the early Christians, we are part of a special community united in love and worship of God.*** Talk with your child about why we worship him. Invite your child to recall what he or she has learned about how and why we worship and the Sacraments of Initiation. Clarify any misconceptions he or she may have.

Have your child complete the activity **Living the Message**.

Say: ***Cardinal Newman wrote a prayer asking Jesus to let his light shine through him. Let's pray his prayer together.*** Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature on page 45. Allow some time for you and your child to reflect on the prayer together or silently.

Pages 46–47 Unit 1 Review

Help your child complete the activity **About the Sacraments** on page 46. Read aloud each clue at the bottom of the page and invite your child to suggest answers. [ANSWERS: bishop, hand, catechumen, Chrism, fast, monstrance, Pentecost, Confirmation, Baptism, Christ] Then have your child complete the **Sacraments in Review** activity on page 47. Check his or her answers. [ANSWERS: Across—1. Eucharist, 4. Baptism, 5. sacramentals, 8. bread, 9. water, 10. liturgy, 11. OCIA; Down—2. Confirmation, 3. sacraments, 4. benediction, 6. altar, 7. grace, 9. worship] 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 OCIA program about worship and the Sacraments of Initiation. If you choose, scan the QR code on page 47 and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Pages 48–49 We Celebrate Jesus, the Center of Our Lives

Introduce the celebration. Tell your child you are going to pray together in celebration of Jesus today. Say: *The theme of our prayer is Jesus, the Center of Our Lives. As we pray, think of how close God is to us because he knows us so well.* Remind your child that by learning the sacraments, especially the Sacrament of the Eucharist, we move toward God and knowing him better. If you wish, choose two songs about how we worship Jesus. Choose which song you will play to begin the celebration and which one you will play to close the celebration. Take the part of the leader and instruct your child to read the other parts. Carry out the celebration. Ask your child to share his or her reaction to the celebration.

Page 50 Have your child complete the **Planning to Grow** activity on page 50. Encourage your child to share the picture with other family members and discuss how each person can worship God during the week.

If you choose, have your child play the **Stump the Shepherd** unit-review game by scanning the QR code on page 50.

Page 51 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 51. Say: *Let us carry God's Word with us so that whenever we feel weak and need guidance, God's Word will offer us strength and place us back on the path of faith.*

KNOW AND 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.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Confirmation] Say: *The sacraments bring us close to God so that we can spread his message of mercy and love.*

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 51.

Page 52 Families in Mission, continued**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 52. Say: *Peter Claver responded to God's call and served the most abused and rejected of all God's people as his life's work. He is a true hero.*

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud **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 if your good actions spread all around the world? Why?*

Encourage your child to think about what you have studied together about Christian worship and the Sacraments of Initiation. With that in mind, lead your child in prayer. Point out the Apostles' Creed located on the inside front cover of the Student Book. Pray the prayer together to bring the chapter to a close.