

Unit 3: We Celebrate God's Healing Love

Before You Begin

1. Read **A Letter Home**, found on page 104 of the Student Book. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit. 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: Conscience helps us exercise our freedom to choose what is good. You probably have had conversations with your child about choices and consequences. You may wish to consider what your child understands about how the choices we make either strengthen or weaken our relationship with God.

Page 103 Unit Opener

Have your child look at page 103. Have him or her read aloud the unit title and the Scripture on the page. ("Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ." [Ephesians 4:32]) Ask: **How does God's love heal us?** Talk with your child about ways we are healed by our relationship with God. For example, sometimes our minds are troubled because we have sinned. When we are contrite and ask forgiveness, God forgives our sins, and we feel comforted. Say: ***In this unit, we will read about the sacraments that can heal us, body and soul.***

If you choose, scan the QR code on page 103 and listen to the audio together.

Page 105 Chapter 13: God's Healing Love

Point out the images on the page. You may wish to talk about how walking in God's beautiful creation is soothing and comforting. The image at the bottom of the page shows a priest laying hands on a person who is praying. Perhaps he is praying to be healed from an illness. Say: ***Whether our bodies need healing or our minds need peace, we can always find comfort in God's love.***

Sacraments of Healing

Have your child read aloud this section. Talk about the differences between the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Point out the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *Anointing of the Sick*. Remind your child to use the **Glossary** for additional support if needed.

God Enables Us to Choose

Read aloud this section. Talk with your child briefly about how each of us must accept the credit or the blame for our choices and the good or the bad that happens because of them. Say: ***It is comforting to know that God is forgiving, but we must do our best to make choices that will not damage our friendship with him.*** If you wish, talk with your child about strategies for making good decisions, like imagining the consequences of each possible choice.

Page 106 God's Gifts Can Help Us Choose

Have your child read this section silently. Ask: ***How does your conscience play a part in making decisions?*** Use this opportunity to give your child positive feedback about good choices he or she has made. You may wish to talk about how those choices please God and draw him or her near to God. Then read aloud the **Step into the Right Choice** box.

Have your child complete the **My Choices** activity and discuss his or her answers.

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

Page 107 Guides and Aids

Take turns reading aloud page 107. You may wish to share a time when you needed courage to follow your conscience and how relying on God's grace helped you make a right decision. Explain that a person's conscience needs to be exercised like a muscle. The more we listen to our conscience, the stronger it becomes. Say: ***A well-formed conscience brings us peace and a closer relationship with God.***

Have your child complete **Who Helps You?** Talk about his or her responses.

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

Page 108 Christ's Forgiving Love Heals Us

Point out the image of Jesus wearing the crown of thorns and read aloud the **God's Word** feature. Ask: ***What do you think of when you read the Scripture and see this picture?*** (Christ suffered to save us; Christ was sinless; His love for us is so great.) Take turns reading aloud the first three paragraphs. Say: ***God's mercy is a comfort to us when we ask forgiveness and do our best not to sin again.*** Continue taking turns reading the remaining paragraphs. Talk with your child about the difference between venial and mortal sins. Clarify any misconceptions. Remind him or her that the continual practice of forming a right conscience is what helps keep us from committing mortal sins and cutting ourselves off from God's friendship.

Point out the **Word to Know** feature and have your child read aloud the definition for *sanctifying grace*. Check for understanding and use the **Glossary** for additional support if needed.

Page 109 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 13 Review. If you choose, scan the QR code on page 109 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: ***Sometimes we ask forgiveness. Sometimes it is up to us to forgive others.*** Talk with your child about ways to be more forgiving, more like Jesus.

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 110 Chapter Review

Have your child read aloud the directions for the **Healing Love** activity on page 110. Provide support as needed. [ANSWERS: choose, conscience, mortal, sanctifying, venial, grace] Then read aloud the directions for the **God's Guides** activity and have your child complete it. Check his or her work and encourage your child to ask questions or make comments about the content on the page. [ANSWERS: the Ten Commandments, the teachings of Jesus and his Church, Scripture, Mary and the saints, priests and deacons, family members]

Page 111 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 111. Remind your child that when we ask for God's love and mercy, he is with us and will help us be holy. Say: ***God will help us if we ask.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: ***At Baptism, the work of becoming holy begins. God's sanctifying grace continues that work all our lives.***

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: mortal sin] Remind your child that God gives us his grace to help us make good choices.

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 111.

Page 112 Families in Mission, continued**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 112. Say: *Bede shows us that a person does not have to do extraordinary things to be great.* Encourage your child to do everyday tasks with an intent to please God, and talk about what may develop from that.

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 share his or her response.

Pray the Act of Contrition from the inside front cover of the Student Book to bring the lesson to a close.

Page 113 **Chapter 14: Jesus Heals Us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Before You Begin

1. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit. 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, **My Reconciliation Booklet**, and writing supplies.
3. Reflect on the lesson's Faith Focus: Jesus forgives us in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation when we are sorry for our sins. Think about how the gospel account of Zacchaeus illustrates our responsibility to make up for our sins. We are moved to repentance by Jesus' great love, but if we are truly sorry for our sins, we will want to make up for them and reconcile with anyone we have hurt.

Jesus Invites Us to Change Our Hearts

Point out the image on the top of the page. Ask your child to describe what is happening in it. (Children are praying.) Ask: ***What are some things the children could be praying about?*** (They might be praising or thanking Jesus; they might be telling him their worries or asking forgiveness.)

Read aloud the first paragraph on page 113. Then ask your child to describe what is happening in the image on the right side of the page. (Zacchaeus has climbed a tree to see and hear Jesus better; Jesus is telling him to come down.) Take turns reading aloud the rest of the section. Explain that Jesus was probably very happy that Zacchaeus showed sorrow and a willingness to make amends for his sins. Say: ***Jesus loves us just like he loved Zacchaeus. Today we will talk about how to be forgiven as Zacchaeus was forgiven.***

Page 114 **Jesus Wants to Meet with Us**

Read aloud the first paragraph on page 114. Point out the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *contrition*. Say: ***Zacchaeus is an example of someone who felt perfect contrition.*** Read aloud the rest of the section. Explain that we must humble ourselves before Jesus to receive forgiveness and healing. Say: ***Jesus gave us the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation to keep us close to him.***

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

Page 115 Jesus Invites Us to Seek Forgiveness

Read aloud the paragraph at the top of the page. Have your child complete the activity **Making Up**. Discuss his or her response to each situation. Then read **Jesus Gives the Gift of Peace**. Say: *It is not always easy to ask forgiveness or to forgive others, but we can always ask Jesus to help us!* Read aloud the **God's Word** feature. Explain that Jesus gave to his disciples the authority to forgive. Today we seek Jesus' forgiveness through the priest in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Pages 116–117 We Meet Jesus in the Sacrament

Read aloud the first column on page 116. Say: *We can prepare our hearts for confession by examining our consciences, telling God we are sorry, and promising to be more loving.* Read aloud the second column. Discuss with your child what happens during and after confession. Take this opportunity to reassure him or her that it is normal to feel apprehensive about confession. Tell your child to just be honest and trust in God's grace.

Point out the **Words to Know** feature. Read aloud the definitions for *penance* and *absolution*. 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.

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

Read aloud the directions for the activity **Kids Confess and Make Amends** on page 117. Read each scenario together, and have your child respond to each one. Discuss his or her answers.

Page 118 Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Lead your child through the steps of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Take turns reading, and encourage your child to ask questions or make observations.

Help your child assemble the **My Reconciliation Booklet** from the back of the Student Book. Have him or her become familiar with the booklet by reading aloud the first two pages. Point out that the steps of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on page 8 of the booklet correspond to the steps on page 118. Encourage your child to keep the **My Reconciliation Booklet** in a place he or she can read it and refer to it often.

Page 119 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 14 Review. If you choose, scan the QR code on page 119 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. You may wish to share with your child a personal experience about receiving absolution and how it brought a feeling of comfort or strengthened your faith.

Lead your child in prayer using the **We Respond** section. Say: *Let us remember to ask Jesus for help to forgive when we find it hard to do.*

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 share his or her prayer.

Page 120 Chapter Review, continued

Have your child read aloud the directions for the activity **The Keys to the Kingdom** on page 120. Provide support as needed as your child completes it. [ANSWERS: 1. priest, 2. Easter, 3. conscience, 4. mortal sin, 5. absolution, 6. contrition, 7. penance] Then read aloud the directions for the activity **A Change of Heart**. Review your child's answers after he or she is finished. [POSSIBLE ANSWERS: God can give us new hearts and free us from the sorrow of sin; bring us back to him, forgive our sins, help us change our hearts]

Page 121 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 121. Say: *God's gift of Reconciliation is a gift of peace to us. What a wonderful gift!*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *We draw near to Jesus when we experience perfect contrition—true sorrow for our sins.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: absolution.] Say: *We receive love and forgiveness from Jesus, so we should work to share that love and forgiveness with others.*

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 121.

Page 122 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 122. Share with your child that Isidore wrote an encyclopedia that was used as a textbook for nine centuries. He earned the name “the Schoolmaster of the Middle Ages.”

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. You may wish to talk about the different struggles we might face in asking forgiveness and granting it. Reassure your child again that he or she can always ask Jesus for help.

Pray the Act of Hope from the inside back cover of the Student Book to bring the lesson to a close.

Page 123 **Chapter 15: A Gift of Strength****Before You Begin**

1. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit. 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: Through the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, Jesus can heal us in body and soul. Think about your child's experience with illness and what he or she already understands about being healed physically or spiritually. Tailor your discussions accordingly.

Those Who Are Sick Need Special Help

Point out the image on the top of the page. Ask your child to describe what is happening in it. (A boy and a man are helping support an elderly man; this may be a son, a father, and a grandfather.) Ask: **How does this image relate to the title of the chapter?** (Those who are weak or ill need help from people who are strong.) Remind your child that the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation heals our souls by forgiving sin. Explain that today you will be talking about a sacrament that can heal both body and soul.

Now have your child look at the illustration. Ask him or her to describe what is happening in the image. (Jesus is blessing a man; it looks like he is healing those who are sick.) Take turns reading aloud this section. Say: **We see sickness and suffering in the world, but trusting in God's plan helps us remember that he can bring good things from bad.** You may wish to share a time when your faith helped you through an illness or a bad situation. Invite your child to read aloud with you the **God's Word** feature. Encourage your child to take these words to heart so he or she can pray them in times of illness or suffering.

Page 124 **Christians Help Those Who Are Sick**

Read aloud the section. Ask: **What do you like people to do for you when you are ill?** (pray for me, give me medicine I need, care for my needs, read to me) Explain that as Christians, we should do these things for all people. Have your child complete the activity **Care for Those Who Are Sick**. Discuss his or her responses.

Page 125 **Jesus Heals in the Anointing of the Sick**

Read aloud the first two paragraphs. Say: **Sometimes Jesus cures people completely. Sometimes Jesus helps people accept their sickness and bear their suffering with patience.** Explain that they remember how Jesus suffered on his Cross, and it helps them unite their pain with his. Tell your child that people are comforted also because Jesus forgives their sins in the Anointing of the Sick. Read the remaining bulleted list and paragraphs.

Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. You may wish to plan with your child how to help care for someone you know who is ill or suffering.

Page 126 The Rite of Anointing and Pastoral Care of the Sick Brings Peace

Read aloud this section. Say: *Jesus' touch cured those who were sick. The laying on of hands by the priest can bring healing through the sacrament.*

Point out the **Word to Know** feature. Read aloud the definition for *viaticum*. 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.

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

Page 127 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 15 Review.

If you choose, scan the QR code on page 127 and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter 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.

Lead your child in prayer using the **We Respond** section. Say: *Let us ask Jesus to ease the suffering of those who are sick when we pray each day.*

Review the **Word to Know** in this chapter by asking your child to explain what it means. If necessary, reread the definitions in the **Glossary**. Allow time for your child to complete the **Your Turn** activity. Invite your child to share his or her prayer.

Page 128 Chapter Review

Have your child read aloud the directions for the activity **God's Care for the Sick and Suffering** on page 128. [ANSWERS: 1. T, 2. T, 3. F, 4. F, 5. F, 6. T, 7. F, 8. T] Provide support as needed as your child completes it. Then read aloud the directions for the activity **Ideas to Remember**. Review your child's answers after he or she is finished. [ANSWERS: 1. C, 2. D, 3. A, 4. B]

Page 129 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 129. Say: *These words can bring us peace knowing that our faith will always help us bear our suffering!*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Remind your child that as Christians, we are responsible for the needs of others. Have your child recall some ways to help those who are sick and suffering.

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: Holy Communion given to someone who is dying] Remind your child that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick brings health to the soul and sometimes to the body.

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 129.

Page 130 Families in Mission, continued**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 130. Say: *Saint Mark spread the Good News by writing about Jesus.* Talk with your child about ways his or her talents can be used to spread the Good News, perhaps by talking, singing, painting, or writing.

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.

Bring the lesson to a close by inviting your child to pray with you. Pray: *Heavenly Father, we pray for healing for those who are sick. Thank you for giving us the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick so that we may be comforted in times of illness. Amen.*

Chapter 16: Unit 3 Review

Before You Begin

1. Prepare or collect the following materials: a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, two songs about God’s healing love, a device to play the music, a crucifix, and a flameless candle.
2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit. You may wish to use a web-enabled smartphone or a tablet.
3. Reflect on the lesson’s Faith Focus: We celebrate God’s love in the Sacraments of Healing. Sometimes God’s miracles of healing are easy to see, but sometimes healing takes place in the depths of a person’s heart. The work of healing requires faith, and changes are revealed slowly over time. You may wish to reflect on what your child understands about this and tailor your instruction accordingly.

Looking Back at Unit 3

Remind your child that God’s healing love is always there for us. Say: ***God heals the faithful. He can heal our bodies and our souls.*** You may wish to talk with your child about the contrition and faith that Ignatius of Loyola and Zacchaeus experienced and how that led to complete healing for both men. Remind your child that as God forgives our sins, we should forgive the sins of others.

Have your child read aloud **Looking Back at Unit 3** on page 131. Briefly talk about the differences of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick. Encourage your child to ask questions and clarify any misconceptions he or she may have.

Have your child complete the **Living the Message** activity. Discuss the answers and what your child can begin doing.

Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature. Allow some time for you and your child to reflect on the prayer together or silently.

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

Pages 132–133 Unit 3 Review

Help your child complete the **God’s Healing Love** crossword puzzle on page 132.

[ANSWERS: Across—1. Contrition, 2. anointing, 3. confession, 5. priest, 9.

Reconciliation, 10. commandments; Down—1. conscience, 4. Sins, 6. Mortal, 7. Penance,

8. Venial] If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the

Interactive Chapter Review.

Read aloud the directions for **Healing Acts** at the top of page 133. Allow your child ample time to write a thoughtful and sincere response. Your child will use that response to complete the **Healing Action Plan** at the bottom of the page. Read the directions together,

but encourage independence and reflection while your child completes the activity. Invite your child to share his or her plan and prayer for healing.

If you choose, have your child undertake the **Stump the Shepherd** unit-review game by scanning the QR code on page 133.

Pages 134–135 **God’s Healing Love**

Introduce the celebration. Tell your child you are going to pray together in celebration today, and the theme of the prayer is **God’s Healing Love**. With your child, choose two songs about God’s healing love. Decide which one to play at the beginning of the celebration and which one to play to close the celebration.

Take the role of the leader and tell your child that he or she will read the other parts. Then spend a few minutes reviewing the celebration. If you choose, prepare the space where you will conduct the prayer celebration, perhaps by placing the Bible on a table next to a crucifix and a flameless candle. Say: ***Before we pray, think about any healing you have witnessed and healing that is needed.*** Play the opening song and carry out the celebration. Ask your child to share his or her reaction to the celebration.

Page 136 **Unit 3 Review**

Have your child complete the **Planning to Grow** activity on page 136. Invite your child to share his or her work.

Page 137 **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 137. Say: ***God is good all the time! God will help anyone who comes to him with faith.***

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Remind your child that as Catholics, we should thank God for his grace and mercy by showing grace and mercy to others.

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: receive healing and forgiveness.] Remind your child that healing and forgiveness are not always immediately seen or felt. Sometimes, God helps people bear their suffering as Jesus did. Say: ***The work of healing requires faith. If we are patient, we can see God’s plan of healing unfold over time.***

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 137.

Page 138 Families in Mission, continued**A CATHOLIC TO KNOW**

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 138. Discuss how difficult life was for Kateri. Point out that she had the courage to be a witness for Christ and that her example can be an inspiration to others to live their Catholic faith without fear.

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 him or her to share the prayer.

Encourage your child to think about what you have studied together about the Sacraments of Healing. Point out how these sacraments show God's great love for us. Then talk about how to show that love in return. Pray the Act of Love from the inside back cover of the Student Book to bring the lesson to a close.