Christ Our Life® AT-HOME EDITION



UNIT 1

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 free from distractions 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: Jesus Christ the Way

Before You Begin

Read **A Letter Home**, found on page 2 of the Student Book. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

- 1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, and writing supplies.
- 2. Present the Christ Our Life Student Book to your child.
- 3. Explain in your own words that this book is a way we can learn more about God and our Catholic faith.
- 4. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *eternal life* and *Incarnation*.

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.

Then look through the book together. Say: *In Unit 1, we will learn more about who Jesus is and how he is the way to the Father. We will also learn what it means for us to follow him.* Invite your child to turn to page 1. Read aloud the unit title, **Jesus Christ the Way.** Have your child read aloud the Scripture passage at the bottom of the page. Discuss with your child what Jesus is telling us in these words.

Discuss the pictures on the page. Point out that the fish symbol is an ancient symbol Christians have used throughout the centuries to identify one another. Remind your child that we encounter Jesus in his body, the Church, and in the Eucharist. Read Isaiah 9:5 from a Bible. The prophet Isaiah used these titles to describe the Messiah. Discuss other titles you use for Jesus.

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

Page 3 Chapter 1: Jesus, the Son of God

Point out the picture at the top of the page. Ask: *What images of nature do you see?* (sunset, grass, water, hills) Ask: *What is the person in the picture doing?* (praying) Discuss places where you like to pray, places where you feel close to God.

Who Are You?

Invite your child to read page 3. Discuss with your child how we all reflect the image and likeness of God. Emphasize that God creates us for relationship. We are created to share in his truth, beauty, and goodness. The decisions we make and the things we do ought to reflect who we are—God's beloved children.

Have your child complete **The Goodness of Creation** activity. Say: *Creation is good because it reflects the goodness of the Creator. God created everything out of his goodness, and everything reflects God's goodness.* Invite your child to share examples of God's goodness.

Page 4 Who You Are Called to Be

Have your child read the section **Who You Are Called to Be** on page 4. Ask your child to name the six ways they are growing: mentally, physically, spiritually, emotionally, socially, and culturally. Ask: *Where do you notice yourself growing?* Examples might include learning new things in school (mental growth); getting taller (physical growth); learning new ways to pray (spiritual growth); understanding feelings (emotional growth); respecting others (social growth); developing new interests and hobbies (cultural growth).

Page 4 We Are Jesus' Disciples

Explain that disciples are people who choose to follow Jesus and that we are all disciples, but we often follow Jesus in unique ways. Discuss with your child the examples of Saints Thérèse, Lucy, and Maria Goretti. Ask: *What do their examples of discipleship tell us about following Jesus?* (Discipleship is a total commitment of one's life to Christ.)

Read aloud Luke 6:40 from the **God's Word** feature. Ask your child to reflect on why he or she follows Jesus. Say: *Learning about the faith is one way you are being trained in discipleship. What are some other ways?* (prayer, service, going to church) Share with your child what you have learned about being a disciple. Remind him or her that learning to be a disciple is a lifelong process. Say: *We are never finished in our training as disciples.*

Page 5 Who Is Jesus?

Have your child read the first paragraph on page 5. Ask: Why do Christians use the sign of a fish to identify one another? (Each letter of the Greek word for fish begins a word in the phrase "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior.") Ask your child to agree or disagree with this statement: "It is difficult to be a Christian today." Ask your child to explain his or her reasoning. Ask: Where do you find support to live out your Christian faith? (church, family, friends) Share with your child the places where you find support to live out your faith.

Have your child read the section **The Christ** on page 5. Remind your child that Christ is not Jesus' last name but a title.

Have your child read the **Son of God** on page 5. Say: *The Trinity is our belief that there are three Persons in one God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.* Review the Sign of the Cross and explain that this is a prayer to the Trinity. Ask: *Why did God send us his only Son?* (to give us the promise of eternal life)

Read aloud the definition of *eternal life* from the **Words to Know** box on page 5. Ask: *How do you show your friendship toward God?* (I pray; I go to church; I help others.) Read aloud the definition of *Incarnation* from the **Words to Know** box on page 5. Ask: *Why is the Incarnation important to us?* (Jesus, the Son of God, became one of us to save us.)

Have your child read the section **Savior** on page 5. Ask: **What great mystery do we proclaim and celebrate at every Eucharist?** (the Paschal Mystery) Discuss with your child the meaning of the Paschal Mystery. Say: **Jesus saved us by conquering sin and death through the Cross.** Ask your child to explain what this means in his or her own words. Share with your child how this saving sacrifice influences you.

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

Page 6 Who Is Jesus for You?

Explain that we receive our identity as beloved children of God through our Baptism. Read aloud Colossians 1:15. Say: *Jesus can lead us to the Father because he is the Son of God. He is the image of the invisible God. Through him, he makes God known to us.* Have your child complete the activity **Knowing Jesus** on page 6.

Read aloud the quotes from **In the Words of the Saints** on page 6. Ask your child to choose one of the quotes and what it tells him or her about who Jesus is. Lead your child in prayer using the **A Moment with Jesus** feature on page 6. Pray the Sign of the Cross to conclude the prayer.

Pages 7-8 Chapter Review

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

Review the questions and answers in the **We Remember** section. Decide if any information needs further review. Say: **Look at the We Respond section. Let's pray this together:** "Lord Jesus, Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner." Have your child repeat the prayer quietly.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating each word and its definition in the **Glossary.** Consider bookmarking the first page of the **Glossary** so it will be easy to access the next time. Allow your child to select a **Your Turn** activity.

Allow time for your child to complete the activities on page 8.

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: **God speaks to us** through the Gospels and in the sacraments. First, we receive God's message. Then we go out and share it with the world.

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: **We believe that Jesus, the Son** of **God assumed a human nature without ever losing his divine nature.** He perfectly expresses what it means for us to love **God the Father and 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: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.) Say: *Jesus is always inviting us to know God the Father better*.

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. Explain that the saints are role models who show us how to do our best in following Jesus. Say: *Saint Lucy reminds us that discipleship requires courage. She lived a life of courage and inspires other to do the same.*

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith**, pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to tell you about what he or she wrote. Ask: **What would you like to know about Jesus? How might you get to know him better?** Say: **Jesus is always inviting us into a closer relationship with him.**

Together, read John 6:35 and reflect silently upon the reading to bring the chapter to a close.

Page 11 Chapter 2: Jesus, the Son of Man

Before You Begin

- 1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and a reflection notebook.
- 2. A reflection notebook can be spiral notebook, a folder with clasps, or a bound book with lined pages. Your child could design a cover for it using a drawing, a favorite picture of Jesus, symbols of their friendship with Jesus, or a favorite quotation or title.
- 3. Your child's reflection notebook is confidential and will not be read, so he or she can feel free to write honestly. Consider keeping a reflection journal of your own. Keeping a reflection notebook of your own can help you grow in your relationship with Jesus.
- 4. Familiarize yourself with the Words to Know for this chapter: faith and Divine Revelation.
- 5. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter.

Jesus, Fully Human

Say: Jesus is the Son of God, the Second Person of the Trinity. He sometimes referred to himself as the Son of Man. Ask your child to read the first paragraph of this section. Ask: How was Jesus fully human? (He was born of the Virgin Mary; he breathed air, ate, and drank; he experienced emotions; he suffered and died.)

Have your child read the rest of the section. Ask: *How can you model your life after Jesus?* (I can learn about Jesus and imitate him by growing closer to God the Father and by serving others.)

Faith in Jesus

Ask your child what he or she thinks it means to have faith in Jesus. Read the definition of *faith* from the **Words to Know** box on page 11. Compare that definition with the explanation your child gave. Have your child read all the paragraphs in this section and ask him or her to explain *Sacred Tradition*, *Sacred Scripture*, and *Deposit of Faith* in his or her own words.

Read aloud the definition of *Divine Revelation* from the **Words to Know** box on page 11. Ask: *How does God communicate the truth about himself today?* (through prayer; through the sacraments; through nature; through other people)

Page 12 Friends, a Human Need

Ask your child to name some of his or her friends. Ask: *Why are you friends with the people you named?* You may want to share the reasons why you have the friends you do. Have your child read this section. Ask your child to explain how his or her friends have been gifts to him or her. Ask your child to explain how he or she has been a gift to his or her friends.

Have your child read the scenarios in **True Blue Friends** on this page and ask your child how he or she would respond to those situations.

The Real Thing

Have your child read the section. Ask your child to describe the qualities he or she looks for in a friend. Ask: *How can you repair damage done to a friendship?* (I can say I'm sorry; I can forgive; I can seek to understand what happened.) Ask your child which of his or her friends match the description of a true friend that is described in this section.

Have your child complete the activity **What Is a Friend?** on this page and share his or her definition. Share your own definition of a friend.

Page 13 Jesus' Friends

Say: **Do you agree with this statement, "Jesus did not have friends; he had disciples"?**Ask your child to explain the reason for his or her answer. Then have him or her read the section.

Invitation to Joy

Have your child read this section. When your child has finished reading, read aloud Revelation 3:20 from the **God's Word** feature. Say: *Jesus is our Lord and Savior. He is also our friend and calls us to follow him. The way we live our faith is how we behave like friends to Jesus.* Have your child complete the activity **The Ultimate Test** on page 13.

Page 14 Growing as a Disciple

Have your child read the section and then name ways he or she can get to know Jesus. Ideas will include praying, serving others, and receiving the sacraments. Read aloud John 15:14 from the **God's Word** feature on page 14. Say: *The way we know that we are Jesus' friends is if we listen to him and respond to his invitation to follow him.*

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

Keeping in Touch: A Reflection Notebook

Have your child read the paragraphs of this section and the **Journaling Tips.** Give your child a reflection notebook if he or she does not already have one. Allow time for your child to read **A Moment with Jesus** on page 14 and record any thoughts in his or her reflection notebook.

Pages 15-16 Chapter Review

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

Review the questions and answers in the **We Remember** section and decide if any information needs further review. Have your child read the **We Respond** section and allow time for your child to decorate the reflection notebook.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary.** Consider bookmarking the first page of the **Glossary** so it will be easy to access the next time. Allow your child to select a **Your Turn** activity.

Allow time for your child to complete the activities on page 16.

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: *Jesus invites us into friendship with him. We are called to share that friendship with others.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *Faith is a gift from God. Faith allows us to understand Divine Revelation and recognize Jesus as our Savior.*

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. (ANSWER: Scripture and Tradition) Say: **The Deposit of Faith helps us know Jesus better**.

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. Explain that by learning about the lives of the saints, we can deepen our faith in Jesus. Say: **Saint Martin lived out the Christian call to be peacemakers. Like him, we are all called to bring the peace of Christ 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.

Chapter 2

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 will you be a disciple?* Share with your child how you respond to the call to be Jesus' disciple.

Together, read John 15:15 and reflect silently upon the reading to bring the chapter to a close.

Page 19 Chapter 3: Jesus, the Messiah

Before You Begin

- 1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and a reflection notebook.
- 2. Have your child assemble their Scripture Booklets before you discuss this chapter.
- 3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *Evangelist*, *synoptic*, and *inspired*.
- 4. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter.

The Bible

Have your child read the two paragraphs of this section. Ask your child two or three things that he or she learned about the Bible from reading this section.

Review with your child how to look up references in the Bible. The name of the book of the Bible is followed by a number that indicates the chapter of that book. The numbers following the colon indicate specific verses. So, for example, Matthew 8:23–26 identifies the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 8, verses 23 through 36. Once you have reviewed how to locate specific Scripture passages, have your child complete the activity **Meeting Christ in Scripture**.

Read aloud Jeremiah 15:16 from the **God's Word** feature. Say: *This passage reminds us that God's Word, the Bible, should guide our lives.* Share with your child what the Bible means to you and how you use it in your life.

Page 20 The New Testament

Ask your child to share what he or she already knows about the New Testament before reading this section.

Pages 20-21 The Gospels

Have your child read pages 20–21. Ask: *What do we do when we receive good news?* (We share it with others.) Ask: *What is the Good News of Jesus Christ?* (He came so that we may have eternal life.) Discuss ways your family can share this good news.

Ask your child to read some of the Scripture verses listed under **Getting to Know Jesus**. Ask your child to share what they learned about Jesus from the verses they read. Have your child complete the activity **By the Numbers**.

Point out the definitions of *Evangelists* and *synoptic* in the **Words to Know** feature on page 21. Say: *The Evangelists are Saints Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. However, we are all called to be evangelists, to proclaim the Good News.* Review the chart at the bottom of page 21. Ask your child to share how this information can help them know Jesus better.

If you choose, scan the QR code on page 21 and watch the video together.

Invite your child to read **A Moment with Jesus** and reflect on the descriptions of Jesus that are important to share with people today. You may want your child to refer to the descriptions listed in **Getting to Know Jesus** on page 20. Encourage your child to record his or her reflections in his or her reflection notebook.

Page 22 Knowing Jesus

Have your child read the paragraph in this section. Read aloud the definition of *inspired* from the **Word to Know** feature. You may want to clarify the Catholic Church's teaching on the inerrancy of Scripture. The Scriptures teach without error the truth that God wanted for the sake of our salvation. The Catholic Church's teaching on the inerrancy of Scripture is that the Bible teaches religious truths about God and his relationship with us, not scientific truths.

The Rest of the New Testament

Have your child read this section. Ask: What are some of the differences between the Acts of the Apostles and the Epistles? (The Acts of the Apostles were written by Saint Luke the Evangelist, while most of the Epistles were written by Saint Paul; the Acts of the Apostles tell the history of the early Church, while the Epistles tell about the issues faced by the early Church.) Read aloud 2 Timothy 3:16 from the God's Word feature on page 22. Ask: Why can the Bible be thought of as a training manual for disciples? (The Bible is God's Word that communicates the truths God wants us to know for our salvation.) Ask: How can you use the Bible? (read from it daily, pray with it, listen to the readings at Mass, talk about it with family and friends)

If you have not already done so, have your child assemble the Scripture Prayer Booklet from the back of the book and read about how to pray using Scripture.

Pages 23-24 Chapter Review

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

Review the questions and answers in the **We Remember** section and decide if any information needs further review. Have your child read the **We Respond** section and allow time for your child to reflect on a Scripture passage.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating each word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Consider bookmarking the first page of the **Glossary** so it will be easy to access the next time. Allow your child to select a **Your Turn** activity.

Allow time for your child to complete the activities on page 24.

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: *We learn about who Jesus is, his mission, and his relationship to the Father by reading the Gospels.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: **The Bible is the Word of God, and Jesus Christ is the Word of God made flesh.**

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. [ANSWER: They present similar stories of Jesus' life.] Say: *The Gospels all proclaim the Good News that Jesus is the Messiah come to save us from sin and death.*

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. Explain why Saint Mark is a model for us. Say: Saint Mark wrote his Gospel for Christians who were being persecuted for their faith. The Gospel according to Mark can comfort and encourage us when we are facing our own difficulties and challenges.

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith**, pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to tell you about what he or she wrote. Invite your child to share his or her favorite gospel story with you. Share your favorite gospel story with your child.

Together, read John 1:1–5 and reflect silently upon the reading to bring the chapter to a close.

Page 27 Chapter 4: Jesus, the Nazarene Before You Begin

- Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, the Map of the Holy Land in the Time of Jesus from the back of the Student Book, writing supplies, and a reflection notebook.
- 2. This chapter sets the scene for the life of Jesus and gives young people an idea of his world. The information will make future lessons more meaningful.
- 3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *Gentile* and *Pharisee*.
- 4. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter.

The Land Jesus Walked

Have your child look at the Map of the Holy Land in the Time of Jesus in the back of the Student Book. Say: When the Son of God became man, he chose to live in this region. If your child is well-informed about current events, you might want to discuss recent events in the region. Have your child read page 27. Ask your child to share one or two items of interest from this section.

Page 28 The Political Scene

Have your child read the two paragraphs of this section. Say: The State of Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank were part of a province of the Roman Empire called Palestine. Jewish kings like Herod Antipas answered to the Roman emperor.

Read aloud the definition of the word *Gentiles* from the **Words to Know** box on page 28. Ask: *Why would it have been a scandal for Jesus to associate with Gentiles*? (The Gentiles were non-Jews, and Jews were not allowed to mix with non-Jews.) Ask: *What message did Jesus' behavior send when he associated with Gentiles*? (God's love is for all people.)

Some Religious Groups

Have your child read this section. Have your child read the definition of *Pharisees* from the **Words to Know** box on page 28 and ask him or her to define a Pharisee in his or her own words. Say: *While the Gospels often show many of the Pharisees opposing Jesus, they were sincerely seeking holiness. They loved God and their faith.*

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

Page 29 Jesus' Religion

Have your child read page 29. Discuss the religious practices of your family. Identify the celebrations, prayers, practices, and other observances that identify you as a Catholic family.

Allow time for your child to pray **A Moment with Jesus** on page 29. Your child can record his or her thoughts in a reflection notebook. After your child has finished the reflection, share with him or her ways you love God with all your heart, soul, and strength.

Page 30 Daily Life in the Time of Jesus

After your child has read this section, ask him or her to compare and contrast his or her life with life in the time of Jesus.

Pages 31-32 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 4 Review on page 31. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Review the questions and answers in the **We Remember** section and decide if any information needs further review. Have your child read the **We Respond** section and allow time for your child to complete the silent meditation.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating each word and its definition in the **Glossary.** Consider bookmarking the first page of the **Glossary** so it will be easy to access the next time. Allow your child to select a **Your Turn** activity.

Allow time for your child to complete the activities on page 32.

Page 33 Families in Mission

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

SCRIPTURE

Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 33. Say: *Jesus' life tells us the truth of God's love. He calls us to love God's law with grace and understanding.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *As Catholics, we respect the Jewish faith. All forms of anti-Semitism are contrary to the 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: the Pharisees) Say: *Jesus taught that the spirit of love and worship was more important than the external observations of what the Law required. The Pharisees believed in the strict observance of the Law.*

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. Explain the significance of Saint Mary Magdalene in the history our faith. Say: *Without Saint Mary Magdalene, we may not have heard the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection. She bore witness to Jesus even when others were afraid.*

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith**, pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to tell you about what he or she wrote. Ask: *What impact can your faith have on the world?*

Together, read Deuteronomy 6:4–5 and reflect silently upon the reading to bring the chapter to a close.

Page 35 Chapter 5: Jesus and the Holy Family Before You Begin

- 1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, reflection notebook, and a rosary.
- 2. This would be an appropriate time to review praying the Rosary. See pages 234–236 of the Student Book.
- 3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *Infancy Narratives*, *inerrancy, Mother of God*, and *doctrine*.
- 4. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this chapter.

Infancy Narratives

Have your child read the first paragraph in this section on page 35. Ask: *Why are the Incarnation and the Resurrection important?* (In the Incarnation the Son of God chose to be like us in every way but sin; in the Resurrection Jesus shows us that love is more powerful than death.)

Have your child read the remainder of this section. Read aloud the definition of the *Infancy Narratives* from the **Words to Know** box on page 35. Ask your child to summarize the Annunciation, Visitation, Nativity, and Presentation. Ask your child to choose one of the events and discuss the impact it has on his or her understanding of God's relationship with us.

Read the definition of *inerrancy* from the **Words to Know** box on page 35. Say: **What does the Bible tell you about God's relationship with us?** (God loves us, and he is always faithful to us. God will always bring us back to himself and wants us to know him.)

Pages 35-36 The Gospels in Miniature

Have your child read the paragraph of this section on page 35. Say: *The main message of the Infancy Narratives is that Jesus is the Son of God who saved us.* Have your child complete the activities **An Album of Jesus** and **The Gospel Truths** on page 36. Ask your child to select one of the gospel truths and explain how it impacts his or her faith.

Page 37 Mary Listened to God

Have your child read this section. Ask: *What example does Mary give us?* (Mary shows us how to say yes to God, to trust in God's will rather than our own.)

Read aloud the definition of *Mother of God* from the **Words to Know** box on page 37. Ask: **Why is Mary the Mother of God?** (She gave birth to Jesus, who is the Son of God made flesh.)

Read aloud the definition of *doctrine* from the **Words to Know** box on page 37. Say: *The doctrines about Mary help us understand her relationship to Jesus. Mary helps us know Jesus better.*

Following Mary's Example

Together, pray Luke 1:38 from the **God's Word** feature on page 37. Ask your child to reflect on how he or she can be like Mary and let God's will be done. Then have your child read this section. Say: **We are not just called to listen to Jesus. We are called to live out his teachings. Sometimes following Jesus is as simple as seeing where there is a need and then understanding how you can help meet that need.**

Page 38 Honoring Mary

After your child has read this section, teach him or her how to pray the Rosary. Together, review pages 234–236 of the Student Book. Present your child with a rosary of his or her own if possible.

Have your child read **Our Lady of Guadalupe** and **Our Lady of Lourdes** on page 38. Have your child research Our Lady of Guadalupe, Saint Juan Diego, Our Lady of Lourdes, or Saint Bernadette Soubirous. Have your child share whatever information he or she learns. Ask: *How do the saints help you follow Christ?* (They teach us that Mary will lead us to Jesus.)

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

Pray together **A Moment with Jesus** on page 38. Share with your child times when you felt you have said yes to God. Describe any Marian devotions you observe and explain why you observe them.

Pages 39-40 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 4 Review on page 39. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Review the questions and answers in the **We Remember** section and decide if any information needs further review. Have your child read the **We Respond** section and allow time for your child to reflect on the Infancy Narratives.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating the word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Consider bookmarking the first page of the **Glossary** so it will be easy to access the next time. Allow your child to select a **Your Turn** activity.

Allow time for your child to complete the activities on page 40.

Page 41 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 41. Say: **Because Jesus was** fully human, he grew and learned.

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *Mary said yes to God with her life. We ask the Holy Spirit for the grace and wisdom to say yes to God with 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: the Mother of God) Say: *In the Annunciation, the angel Gabriel told Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus.*

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 41.

Page 42 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 42. Explain that saints respond to the call of God. Say: **Saint Juan Diego did not believe that he was worthy to meet the Mother of God. Yet, when he was called, he still responded.**

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith**, pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to tell you about what he or she wrote. Say: *Through our service to others, we bring Jesus' love into the world.*

Together, read Luke 1:46–55 and reflect silently upon the reading to bring the chapter to a close. Say: *This prayer is known as the* Magnificat, *or the Canticle of Mary. It is prayed every evening in the Liturgy of the Hours.*

Chapter 6: Jesus the Christ

Before You Begin

- 5. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and a reflection notebook.
- 6. For young people at this age, it is important to stress that temptation is not a sin.
- 7. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *temptation*, *venial sin*, *mortal sin*, *Original Sin*. Other key terms in this chapter include *Messiah*.
- 8. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter.

The Role of the Messiah

Have your child read the first paragraph of this section. Then have him or her read **Priest, Prophet, and King** on page 43. Say: *Through your Baptism, you were anointed to share in Christ's ministry of priest, prophet, and king. How can you exercise each of these roles?* (Priest: I can pray for others; prophet: I can listen to God's Word and share it with others; king: I can help other people make good choices.)

Have your child finish reading the rest of the page. Ask: *What kind of kingdom was Jesus trying to establish?* (He was trying to bring about the reign of God in our hearts.) Say: *In the Letter to the Romans, Saint Paul describes the Kingdom of God.* Read Romans 14:17 from your Bible. Discuss with your child how he or she can serve Christ by being joyful, peaceful, and righteous.

Page 44 John's Testimony to Jesus

Have your child read this section. Ask: How was John the Baptist a witness to Christ? (He rejoiced in Christ's presence while still in his mother's womb; he preached repentance; he pointed out Jesus to others.) Say: We can follow the example of John the Baptist by rejoicing in Christ's presence in the Mass, by repenting of our sins, and by pointing out Jesus to others. Pray together a decade of the Rosary for the Visitation. Say: As we pray, think about how you can lead others to Jesus.

Read aloud Matthew 3:1–3 from the **God's Word** feature on page 44. Ask: *What was John's role in Jesus' ministry?* (He was preparing people for Jesus' coming.)

Have your child complete the activity **John the Baptist Baptizes Jesus** on page 44. Invite your child to share a detail of Jesus' baptism and what it tells us about Jesus' mission.

Page 45 Anointed for Mission

Have your child read the two paragraphs of this section. Ask: How was Jesus' baptism different from ours? (Jesus did not need to be cleansed of sin; Jesus was sinless.) Ask: What did God reveal at Jesus' baptism? (the Trinity) Ask: What did God the Father and God the Holy Spirit do at Jesus' Baptism? (God the Father revealed the Jesus is the Son of God. The Holy Spirit anointed Jesus for his work.)

The Messiah Is Tested

Have your child read the section and complete the activity The Temptation of Jesus on page 45. Ask: Why might the desert have been a scary place for the Hebrews and for Jesus? (The desert was a wild place; it was dangerous.) Ask: How did Jesus' experience in the desert prepare him for his mission? (He was strengthened in his faith and proved himself to be the Messiah by remaining faithful to his Father.) Say: Faith can help us face the challenges we encounter in life without giving in to temptation. Like Jesus, we must trust in God the Father. Offer your child some examples of times when you put your trust in God.

Have your child pray **A Moment to Jesus** and record his or her responses in a reflection notebook.

Page 46 Our Test

After your child finishes reading this section, invite him or her to define *temptation*, *venial sin*, *mortal sin*, and *Original Sin* in his or her own words. Compare your child's definitions to the definitions provided in the **Words to Know** feature box on page 46. Say: *Accidents and mistakes are not sins. Neither are temptations. Sin is a choice to walk away from God.*

Resisting Temptation

Reinforce that no matter how many times we turn away from God, God is always eager to forgive us in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Say: *Mortal sin destroys the love of God in our hearts. The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation not only restores that love but also strengthens our desire not to sin again.*

Discuss how fasting, prayer, self-control, works of mercy, and the sacraments can help us resist temptation. Say: *We are not left alone in our struggle against temptation. Through the Church, God gives us the strength to overcome temptation.* Encourage your child to write in his or her reflection notebook a prayer to overcome a particular temptation that he or she might face.

If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and complete the interactive together.

Pages 47-48 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 6 Review on page 47. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Review the questions and answers in the **We Remember** section and decide if any information needs further review. Have your child read the **We Respond** section and allow time for your child to record his or her thoughts in a reflection notebook.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating each word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Consider bookmarking the first page of the **Glossary** so it will be easy to access the next time. Allow your child to select a **Your Turn** activity.

Allow time for your child to complete the activities on page 48.

Page 49 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 49. Say: **The Holy Spirit** works through the sacraments to give us the gifts of strength and courage to face our temptations.

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: **Jesus faced temptations, just** as we do. Like Jesus we can turn to God the Father for the strength and grace to resist them.

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. (ANSWER: is a conscious choice to do wrong.) Say: *Sin is an offense against God*.

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 49.

Page 50 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 50. Explain that we can imitate the faith of the saints by respecting the life and dignity of human beings. Say: **Saint Peter Claver treated** each person as a child of God. His witness is a model for us to follow.

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith**, pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to tell you about what he or she wrote. Say: *Prayer, service, and study are ways to exercise our faith in God.*

Together, read Micah 6:8 and reflect silently upon the reading to bring the chapter to a close.

Page 51 Chapter 7: Jesus and the First Disciples Before You Begin

- 1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, quotations from Pope Francis (optional), and a reflection notebook.
- 2. As part of this lesson, you may want to look up information on your local bishop on the diocesan website and share that information with your child.
- 3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *disciple*, *Apostle*, and *witness*.
- 4. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

The First Disciples

Have your child read the first paragraph of this section. Ask: *What makes you a disciple of Jesus?* (I learn from him and follow him.) Read aloud the definition of *disciple* from the **Word to Know** feature on page 51. Ask: *How can we share in Jesus' mission, his suffering, and his joys?* (We can share in his mission by serving others; we can share in his suffering by participating in the Eucharist; we share in his joys by introducing other people to him.)

Invite your child to read the second paragraph of this section and Mark 1:16–17 from the **God's Word** feature. Ask: *What do you think attracted people to Jesus?* (He was inviting; he inspired them.) Share what attracts you to Jesus, and invite your child to do the same.

Page 52 The Twelve

Read aloud the definition of *Apostle* from the **Word to Know** feature on page 52. Ask: **What made Apostles different from other disciples?** (They were specially chosen by Jesus to continue his work after he returned to his Father in heaven.) Ask your child to read this section and name one or two of the most important ideas from this section.

Pages 53-55 Portraits of the Apostles

Invite your child to read the portraits of the Apostles, and ask him or her to select a portrait and share how it inspires him or her to follow Christ. Ask: *What do all the Apostles have in common with one another?* (They were all called by Jesus; they were all imperfect.)

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

Pray **A Moment with Jesus** on page 55. Remind your child that he or she can record his or her thoughts and reflection in a reflection notebook.

Page 55 Successors of the Apostles

Have your child read this section. Provide your child information about your local bishop, or have your child look up the biography of the local bishop on the diocesan website. As an option, share with your child some quotations from Pope Francis.

Page 56 The First and Perfect Disciple

Have your child read the three paragraphs of this section. Ask: *How did Mary show her faith and obedience?* (She agreed to be the mother of Jesus; she trusted her son; she was with him when he died.)

Have your child complete the activity **Jesus' Mother and Brothers** on page 56. Ask: **What do you think the effect of Jesus' response means?** (We are all part of Jesus' family.)

Read aloud the definition of *witness* from the **Word to Know** feature and then have your child complete the activity **The Way of the Witness.** Invite your child to share his or her responses to the question. Share your own responses.

Pages 57-58 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 7 Review on page 57. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Review the questions and answers in the **We Remember** section and decide if any information needs further review. Have your child read the **We Respond** section and allow time for your child to write in his or her reflection notebook.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating each word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Consider bookmarking the first page of the **Glossary** so it will be easy to access the next time. Allow your child to select a **Your Turn** activity.

Allow time for your child to complete the activities on page 58.

Page 59 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 59. Say: **Saint Paul was** willing to get rid of anything that prevented him from following Christ.

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: **As disciples, we are all called to know and proclaim the Gospel.**

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge**. Have your child answer the question. (ANSWER: are the principal pastors of their dioceses.) Say: *The bishops who lead the Church today are following the same directions Jesus gave to the Apostles*.

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 59.

Page 60 Families in Mission, continued

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 60. Explain that the saints were ordinary people who experienced the extraordinary call of Jesus. Say: **Saint Andrew went from catching fish** to being a disciple of Christ. He shared his faith in a way that invited others to believe in and follow 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 have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to tell you about what he or she wrote. Say: *The call to discipleship is for everyone. How we proclaim our faith is unique.*

Together, read Psalm 106:3–4 and reflect silently upon the reading to bring the chapter to a close.

Page 61 Chapter 8: Baptism and Confirmation Before You Begin

- 1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and a reflection notebook.
- 2. While the Eucharist is introduced in this chapter, a more detailed study of the Eucharist is in Chapter 20. You may want to refer to that chapter to answer any questions that your child might have about this sacrament.
- 3. Familiarize yourself with the **Words to Know** for this chapter: *Mystical Body of Christ*, *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*, and *mystagogy*.
- 4. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter.

The Seven Sacraments

Have your child read the two paragraphs in this section. Ask your child to define a sacrament in his or her own words. Ask: Why are the Seven Sacraments so important to us as Catholics? (The Seven Sacraments are encounters with God. Through them, we receive the grace to live as disciples.) Say: Sacraments are visible signs that signify invisible, divine things. The Seven Sacraments actually effect what they signify. For example, the water of Baptism signifies washing, and the Sacrament of Baptism washes away sin. In each sacrament, there is an encounter with God.

Have your child read the definition of *Mystical Body of Christ* from the **Words to Know** feature on page 61. Ask: **Why is the Church more than an organization or institution like a sports team or school?** (The Church is formed into a spiritual body bound by grace.)

Pages 61-62 Christian Initiation

Have your child read the first paragraph of this section. Share any experience you have of the OCIA—maybe you know someone who went through the process, are a part of the OCIA team, or went through it yourself. Have your child read the definition of *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults* from the **Words to Know** feature on page 61.

Have your child read the story about Chris and Joe in the remainder of this section, including excerpts from Joe's journal in **Responding to the Call** on page 62. Have your child describe the steps of the OCIA process, including the Rite of Sending, the Rite of Election, the scrutinies, and the presentations.

Page 63 Sacraments of Initiation

Have your child read this section. Ask: *What effect do the Sacraments of Initiation have on people?* (They become members of the Body of Christ; they are strengthened and sealed with the Holy Spirit. They can participate in the mission of the Church.)

Read aloud the definition of the word *mystagogy* from the **Word to Know** feature on page 63. Ask: *How can we continue to reflect on the sacraments?* (We can learn about them; we can continue to celebrate them; we can share our experiences of receiving them.)

Have your child summarize the last paragraph of this section in his or her own words.

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

Baptism: Water and Spirit

Ask: What do you receive in Baptism? (I receive new life in Christ.) Say: We are called to live out our Baptism. What do you think this means? (We have to act in a way that shows others that Christ is alive in us.)

Pray together **A Moment with Jesus** on page 63. Share with your child ways that you live out your baptismal call.

Pages 63-64 A Flood of Gifts

Ask: What are the effects of the Sacrament of Baptism? (You are forgiven of Original Sin and any personal sin; you receive the Holy Spirit; you become a member of the Church; you share in Jesus' ministry of priest, prophet, and king.)

Have your child complete the activity **Signs of Baptism** on page 64. Ask your child how these signs can help us understand the Sacrament of Baptism and our own Baptism.

Page 64 Confirmation: Sealed with the Spirit

Ask: *How are Confirmation and Baptism related?* (Confirmation strengthens the gift of the Holy Spirit that was first received in Baptism.)

Eucharist: Made One by the Spirit

Ask: Why does the Eucharist complete and fulfill Christian Initiation? (We receive the Body and Blood of Christ and are united with him and others.) Say: The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. Invite your child to come up with other ways to describe the importance of the Eucharist.

Read aloud 1 Corinthians 10:17 from the **God's Word** feature on page 64. Ask: *What is the loaf of bread Saint Paul is referring to in this passage?* (He is referring to the Body of Christ.) Discuss with your child ways you and your family can help people who are food insecure.

Pages 65-66 Chapter Review

Help your child complete the Chapter 8 Review on page 65. If you choose, scan the QR code on the page and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Review the questions and answers in the **We Remember** section and decide if any information needs further review. Have your child read the **We Respond** section and allow time for your child to write his or her prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Review the **Words to Know** in this chapter by locating each word and its definition in the **Glossary**. Consider bookmarking the first page of the **Glossary** so it will be easy to access the next time. Allow your child to select a **Your Turn** activity.

Allow time for your child to complete the activities on page 66.

Page 67 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 67. Say: *We receive God's grace in the sacraments of the Church.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: *The Sacraments of Initiation* prepare us to be disciples and witness our faith in Christ.

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. (ANSWER: Initiation.) Say: **Through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, we commit ourselves to Jesus Christ.**

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 67.

Page 68 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 68. Explain that the saints proclaimed their faith in Christ with great energy and intensity. Say: *Saint Paul was inspired by the Holy Spirit. He witnessed Christ by writing his epistles. Saint Paul invites us to be witnesses for Christ too.*

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.

Chapter 8

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. Say: *We can find God in all things*.

Together, read John 6:53–57 and reflect silently upon the reading to bring the chapter to a close.

Page 69 Chapter 9: Unit 1 Review

Before You Begin

- 1. Prepare or collect any materials that you will need, such as a Bible, the *Christ Our Life* Student Book, writing supplies, and a reflection notebook.
- 2. Decide how or whether you will experience the media for this unit and chapter using a web-enabled smartphone or tablet.

Looking Back

Have your child read the first paragraph on this page. Ask: *Are there any topics from the unit that you would like to review?* Review whatever topics your child mentions.

Have your child complete the activities **Reflecting on Unit 1** and **Personal Inventory** on page 69.

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

Pages 70-71 Faith in Action: The Doughnut Priest

Ask: *Why was making doughnuts a way to proclaim the Good News?* (It was a simple way to share God's love with the people.) Have your child complete the activity **The Life of a Disciple** on page 70. Share how you can apply these Scripture verses to your own life.

Have your child complete the activities **My Catholic Faith**, **Rite Order**, and **Sacraments of Initiation** on page 71.

If you choose, scan the QR code on page 71 and have your child take the **Interactive Chapter Review**.

Pages 72-73 We Celebrate: Jesus the Way

Pray with your entire family the prayer service on pages 72 and 73. You can take the role of Leader, and your child or another family member can take the role of Reader.

Page 74 Unit 1 Review

Have your child complete the crossword puzzle How Well Do You Know Jesus? on page 74.

If you choose, scan the QR code on page 74 and have your child complete the **Stump the Shepherd** unit review.

Page 75 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 75. Say: *Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.*

KNOW AND PROCLAIM

Read aloud the **Know and Proclaim** text and the chart. Say: **By the grace of Baptism, you are** also part of the Body of Christ. You share in Jesus' mission to proclaim the Good News!

TEST YOUR CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE

Read aloud the question and possible answers in **Test Your Catholic Knowledge.** Have your child answer the question. (ANSWER: Incarnation.) Say: **The Son of God became** one of us, becoming fully human in the person of Jesus, while never losing any of his divinity.

Access additional Family Resources by scanning the QR code at the bottom of page 75.

Page 76 Families in Mission

A CATHOLIC TO KNOW

Read aloud **A Catholic to Know** on page 76. Explain that when we imitate the example of the saints, we learn how to love our neighbors as ourselves. Say: **We can follow the example of Saint Vincent de Paul by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.**

WITNESS AND SHARE

Read aloud the **Witness and Share** introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in **My Way to Faith**, pausing after each one for reflection.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Read aloud the directions in **Share Your Faith** and have your child complete the activity. Invite your child to tell you about what he or she wrote. Say: *Our actions speak louder than words. We can always preach the Gospel; we only need to use words when it is necessary.*

Together, read Matthew 25:31–46 and reflect silently upon the reading to bring the chapter to a close.