

The Catholic Church

Engage: Page 69

- ▶ **Ask:** *What are important jobs to have in our neighborhood? (teachers, crossing guards, police officers, firefighters) Why are these jobs important to our community?*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. Point out the picture. **Say:** *This family is a member of both the community they live in and of the Catholic Church, their church community. In this session we will learn that a church is not just a building. The word Church describes our community as we gather to pray and praise God.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think of things to do in your Church community. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 70–71

- ▶ **Ask:** *What does a coach do? (helps train and support the team and serves as a leader)*
- ▶ Read aloud *Serving the World in God's Name* on page 70. **Say:** *It takes many people to lead the Church.* **Ask:** *Who is the Vicar of Christ? (the pope)*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud *Leading the Church*. Help your child fill in the names of your parish, pastor, bishop, and pope.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Ask:** *Why did Jesus tell Peter to feed his sheep? (He wanted Peter to take care of his followers.)*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud *Our Holy Catholic Church* on page 71 with your child. Point out the vocabulary words. **Say:** *Name some keywords for each of the Marks. (one: one faith, one life; holy: Body of Christ, sacraments; catholic: accepts everyone, universal; apostolic: apostles, Church leaders)*
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Say:** *We pray for the Church, its leaders, and others during the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass.*

Art Exploration: Page 238

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Saint Peter.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the objects shown in the artwork.
- ▶ **Say:** *Jesus told Peter he was the rock on which Jesus would build his Church and that Jesus would give Peter the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.*

- ▶ Have your child turn to page 238. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Peter and the Church. **Ask:** *To what object did Jesus compare Peter? (a rock) What will Jesus give Peter? (keys to the Kingdom of Heaven)*
- ▶ Read aloud Symbols of Peter and have your child complete the sentences. Share your own responses to the questions.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Say:** *When we look at a rock, we can think of how Jesus chose Peter to be the foundation on which to build the Church.*
- ▶ Invite your child to make a key out of modeling clay that hardens. While the clay is still moist, make a hole with a pencil. Then have your child thread string through the hole to hang the key. Tell your child to keep the key as a symbol of faith.

Reflect: Pages 72–73

- ▶ Together look at page 72. **Say:** *The boy in the picture looks happy and calm.* Tell your child to focus on his or her breathing before praying.
- ▶ Remind your child that you have been learning the parts of the Apostles' Creed together. Read aloud the first paragraph. **Say:** *Repeat each line of the last part of the Apostles' Creed after me.* Then invite your child to pray the entire Creed with you. Read aloud the last paragraph pausing, after each sentence. Allow time for your child to talk to Jesus silently and then pray *Amen*.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the heading and the first paragraph on page 73. Read aloud the words in the box and have your child answer the questions. Read aloud the directions at the bottom of the page. Ask your child to share his or her answer with you.

Respond: Page 74

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can spread God's love in your parish community.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.