



## Celebrating Ordinary Time

### Engage: Page 27

- ▶ Together with your child, look at different types of calendars, such as academic, church, or family calendars. **Ask:** *Why do people use calendars?* (to remember appointments, to record special events)
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and text. Discuss the picture. **Ask:** *Why do we celebrate feasts and seasons?* (to remind us of the great things God has done for us) *How many times during the year do we celebrate Ordinary Time?* (two) *What two feasts do we celebrate in the fall, near the end of Ordinary Time?* (All Souls Day and All Saints Day) **Say:** *In this session we will learn how Ordinary Time helps us grow as Jesus' disciples.*
- ▶ Encourage your child to make Ordinary Time stand out on one of the calendars you looked at. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### Explore: Page 28

- ▶ List these virtues on a sheet of paper: *honesty, charity, patience, prudence, joy, hope, justice, courage, faith, temperance, self-control*. Take turns using each word in a sentence to show its meaning. Use the following to define the listed virtues: *honesty*: truthfulness; *charity*: love; *patience*: waiting for something, even when it is difficult to do so; *prudence*: being directed toward the good; *joy*: happiness; *hope*: trust that God will always be with us; *justice*: the desire to give to God and to others what is due to them; *courage*: bravery; *faith*: belief in something that cannot be seen; *temperance*: moderation in thought, action, and feeling; *self-control*: the ability to control one's thoughts, actions and feelings.
- ▶ Read aloud We Grow in Virtue During Ordinary Time. **Ask:** *What do we try to better understand during this season?* (Jesus' invitation to love God, to serve others, and to avoid sin) *What does God's grace help us do?* (grow in virtue and avoid temptation)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Growing Strong and complete the activity. Discuss your child's response.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *When we live in Jesus' light by following his teachings, we produce good things.*

### Reflect: Page 29

- ▶ With your child find John 13:1–9 or Matthew 10:40–42 in your Bible. **Say:** *Here are two Gospel stories in which Jesus teaches what it means to be a disciple.* Read aloud the stories.
- ▶ Read aloud Mass During Ordinary Time. Point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** *What do disciples do?* (believe in and follow Jesus' teachings)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud What We Experience. **Say:** *The candles in church symbolize the light of Christ and remind us that we are called to share Christ's light with others.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Sharing Christ's Light and complete the activity.



- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Remind your child that Ordinary Time goes from the Monday after the Baptism of the Lord until the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, and then from the Monday after Pentecost until the first Sunday of Advent. Use a calendar to point out the days.

### Art Exploration: Page 233

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a person praying.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the actions and facial expression of the person who is praying.
- ▶ **Say:** *When we pray, we use traditional prayers, use our own words, read Scripture, or focus on an object or an image.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 233. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud Called by God. **Ask:** *How can we learn what God is calling us to do? (by praying) What do we discover when we take time to pray and reflect? (how God wants us to share his peace and love with others)*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Respond to God's Call and complete the activity. **Say:** *Pray a prayer of thanks to Jesus for giving us an example of how to share God's peace and love with others.*
- ▶ Together with your child, read your most recent parish bulletin or information on your parish Web site. Invite him or her to use art supplies to make a poster of different opportunities your family can participate in together through your church to serve others. Display the poster in your home and discuss what you would like to do as a family.

### Respond: Page 30

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Word I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can practice the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.
- ▶ 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.