



## ***The Church Teaches Us***

### **Engage: Page 69**

- ▶ Ask your child to do a chore such as yard work or housework. After he or she has started, offer to help finish the job. **Ask:** *Was it easier to work together? What behaviors do you think can help people work together well?* (communication, trust, respect)
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. Point out the picture. **Ask:** *Why might these two people find it helpful to work together?* (By working together, they can accomplish their task more quickly.) **Say:** *In this lesson we will learn about how our Church leaders carry on Jesus' mission in the world today.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think about tasks around your home where two people could work together to finish sooner. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### **Explore: Pages 70–71**

- ▶ Write the names of the apostles on a sheet of paper. They include Andrew, Bartholomew, James the son of Alphaeus, James the son of Zebedee, John, Judas, Matthew, Peter, Philip, Simon, Thaddeus, and Thomas. Together find their names in these Scripture passages: Matthew 10:1–4, Mark 3:14–19, and Luke 6:17–19.
- ▶ Read aloud page 70. **Ask:** *Who are the leaders of the Church today?* (the pope and the bishops) **Say:** *There are over 5,000 bishops in the Church. United by the pope, they symbolize the unity of the universal Church, the Body of Christ.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Shepherds of the People of God on page 71. Point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** *What do the bishops, the priests, and the deacons do?* (shepherd the People of God)
- ▶ Read aloud Knowing Our Leaders. Work together to complete the activity.

### **Art Exploration: Page 240**

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Jesus' followers, the twelve apostles.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the differences between the twelve apostles.
- ▶ **Say:** *While each of us is different, Jesus has called each of us to work together as members of the Church to carry out his mission in the world.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 240. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Read aloud A New Apostle. **Ask:** Which apostle betrayed Jesus? (Judas Iscariot) **Say:** When the apostles cast lots, they threw stones onto the ground. The way the stones landed determined the outcome of the apostles' decision. **Ask:** Who was chosen as the replacement for Judas Iscariot? (Matthias)
- ▶ Read aloud Choose a Candidate and have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Ask:** Why did the apostles believe the number 12 was important? (There were 12 tribes of Israel; the apostles thought of themselves as carrying on this tradition.)
- ▶ Invite your child to draw a picture of someone he or she knows who carries on Jesus' work in the world today. When your child is finished, have him or her explain how the person is following Jesus' example.

### Reflect: Pages 72–73

- ▶ Together look at page 72. **Say:** Every morning is a new opportunity to get to know God and others better. With God's help we celebrate the joys of each new day.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. Together pray aloud the Morning Offering. Read aloud the last paragraph and give your child time to reflect.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Growing with God on page 73. **Say:** Following the Precepts of the Church helps us grow in our relationship with God and with the Church.
- ▶ Read aloud Practicing the Precepts of the Church and have your child complete the activity. Encourage him or her to share the picture and caption 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 choose to live how God wants him or her to live.
- ▶ 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.