



Jesus, Our Lord and Savior

Begin

Say: Name people in your life whom you depend on every day. What do you depend on them for? I depend on my family to support and love me. Read aloud the unit title on page 31. **Say:** In this unit we will learn how Jesus depends on us to carry on his mission as members of his Church.

Introduce the Saint

Direct your child's attention to the picture of Saint Alphonsus Liguori and read aloud the text. **Say:** A Doctor of the Church is someone recognized as a model teacher of the faith. Saint Alphonsus Liguori wrote more than 100 works, and he is one of the most widely read authors on religion. He was a master of devotional literature.

Turn to page 32. Have your child read aloud the text. **Ask:** What order did Alphonsus found? (Redemptorists) **Say:** He met Sister Marie Celeste, who inspired him to found the Redemptorists, known for their preaching and missionary work. Explain that Alphonsus discovered a spiritual void among people and began teaching them the Gospel of Jesus.

Say: We remember Saint Alphonsus Liguori because he helped bring people back to God, and he taught people how to stay close to Jesus.

With your child add Alphonsus Liguori's feast day, August 1, to your calendar. Plan an event together to celebrate the writings of Saint Alphonsus Liguori.

New Life in Jesus

Engage: Page 33

- ▶ Together with your child, discuss ways we need Jesus' help. **Say:** *Through prayer, Jesus is present at all times of our life.*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Say:** *Praying, being honest and caring people, and helping those less fortunate are ways we live as Jesus teaches us. In this session we will learn about Jesus' mission.*
- ▶ Ask your child to think of different reasons why we might pray. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 34–35

- ▶ Ask your child to retell the story of Adam and Eve. **Say:** *Adam and Eve didn't obey God, which caused a break in the relationship between God and humanity. This break brought sin into the world, and God sent Jesus to save us from sin.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 34. **Ask:** *Why did Jesus live among us? (to reconcile our relationship with God) How does the Church continue Jesus' mission? (It teaches the faith taught by Jesus to his apostles, and it speaks for justice and works for peace.)* Ask your child to locate the words *mystery* and *Incarnation* in the Glossary.
- ▶ Read aloud The Role of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' Mission on page 35. **Ask:** *How does the Holy Spirit help in Jesus' mission? (guides the Church in carrying on Jesus' teachings) What kind of help does the Spirit give us? (grace and strength through Baptism and Confirmation to live our lives as honest and caring people)* Point out the vocabulary term. **Say:** *Baptism and Confirmation are examples of sanctifying grace because they are gifts from God.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Meet a Holy Person. **Ask:** *Why is Blessed John XXIII important in Church history? (His papacy was a turning point. He helped renew the Church.)*

Art Exploration: Page 230

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Jesus showing his disciples that they are the building blocks of the Church.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage children to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and what part of the building Jesus is touching.

- ▶ **Say:** *We are the stones upon which the Church is built, and Jesus is at the center of the Church. Jesus is like the capstone; he supports our faith in the Church.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 230. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud Jesus'—and Our—Role in the Church. **Ask:** *What is our role in the Church? (to be a living sign of God's presence in the world)* **Say:** *The Holy Spirit strengthens our commitment to the Church, which helps us carry on Jesus' mission.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Building Your Life and complete the activity on a separate sheet of paper. Discuss his or her drawing.
- ▶ Read aloud Reading God's Word. **Say:** *Those who put their faith in Jesus put their faith in someone who is solid and sure.*
- ▶ Have your child paint a picture of your church. Invite your child to consider elements he or she thinks are important to a church, such as believers, priests, sacraments, faith, praise, and community. Instruct your child to write these words or draw pictures that represent these words in and around the bricks of the church building.

Reflect: Pages 36–37

- ▶ Together look at page 36. **Ask:** *Why do you think the boy in the picture is smiling?* **Say:** *Talking to God is like talking to a good friend.*
- ▶ Have your child find a comfortable position and silently read the first two paragraphs. Then ask him or her to listen as you read aloud the Apostles' Creed. Read aloud the last paragraph and allow time for prayer. Close by praying *Amen* and the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the first paragraph on page 37. **Ask:** *Why is the Apostle's Creed important? (It summarizes the basic teachings of the Church.)* Have your child complete the activity and then discuss his or her answers.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. **Ask:** *Where does the word creed come from? (the Latin word *credo* for "I believe")*

Respond: Page 38

- ▶ 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 be an active participant in your parish.
- ▶ 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.