



Sacraments, Our Way of Life

Begin

Write the following words on a dry-erase board or a sheet of paper: *school, store, church, park*. Have your child read aloud the words. **Say:** *We meet people in all different places.* **Ask:** *Where else do we meet people?* **Say:** *Each time we meet Jesus, we learn more about him.* Read aloud the unit title on page 91. **Say:** *This unit will help us learn more about how we meet Jesus in the sacraments.*

Introduce the Saint

Focus your child's attention on the picture of Pope Saint Pius X on page 91 and have your child read aloud the text. **Say:** *Because Pius X was a pope who later became a saint, he has both the titles pope and saint in his name. The Roman numeral X stands for the number 10. That means he was the tenth pope named Pius.*

Turn to page 92. Have your child read aloud the heading and the first paragraph. **Say:** *Pope Saint Pius X wanted Catholics to receive Holy Communion more often. He also wanted children to be closer to God by receiving Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.*

Read aloud the second paragraph. **Say:** *Charities, such as the St. Vincent de Paul Society, are organizations that help people in need.* **Ask:** *How do you think Pope Saint Pius X was like Jesus? (He spent his life in service to others.)*

With your child add Saint Pius's feast day, August 21, to your calendar. Plan an event together to celebrate the service of Pope Saint Pius X.



New Life in Jesus

Engage: Page 93

- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you think makes a good team member? (being fair, giving everyone a turn, listening to other people's ideas)*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *In this session we will learn how the sacraments help each of us become a member of the Church and stay a good member.*
- ▶ Have your child think about teams or groups he or she belongs to. **Ask:** *How can you be a better member of each group or team? Pray aloud the prayer together.*

Explore: Pages 94–95

- ▶ **Ask:** *What are some signs that you belong to a certain team or group? (uniforms, badges, T-shirts)* **Say:** *A sacrament is a special sign for our Church members.*
- ▶ Read aloud Special Signs from God and Baptism on page 94. **Say:** *What are sacraments? (special signs that show God is with us) Who gave the sacraments to the Church? (Jesus) What are the Sacraments of Initiation? (Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist)*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *Water is a symbol of our new life in Baptism. The life we receive in Baptism is life as a member of God's family, the Church.*
- ▶ Read aloud Confirmation on page 95. **Say:** *We grow in faith as God's children in the Sacrament of Confirmation.*
- ▶ Read aloud Eucharist. **Say:** *At Mass the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ that we receive in Holy Communion. Consecration makes a thing or a person special to God through prayer. The priest consecrates the bread and wine.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Ready for the Sacraments feature. **Say:** *Sacraments are special occasions of grace, but we can enjoy the loving presence of Jesus in prayer anytime.*

Art Exploration: Page 250

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Saint Peter holding keys.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage children to describe the picture in detail, including the keys that Saint Peter is holding.
- ▶ **Say:** *Jesus called Peter to be the first leader of his Church. The Church continues to have leaders today who help us be close to God.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 250. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Read aloud Peter Speaks to the People. **Ask:** *Why did Peter encourage the people to be baptized? (Their sins will be forgiven, and they will receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of Saint Peter Is a Leader. **Ask:** *How do you think Saint Peter helped others become the best they could be? (baptized them, taught them, prayed with them)* Brainstorm a list of current local, diocesan, and universal Church leaders. Then read aloud the last paragraph and have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Have your child find a smooth, palm-sized rock. Share the Scripture passage from Matthew 16:18: “You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church.” Invite your child to paint symbols on the rock that remind him or her of the strength received through the Church. Display the rock paperweight in your home.

Reflect: Pages 96–97

- ▶ Together look at page 96. **Say:** *Use your imagination to tell what the girl in the picture sees, hears, feels, and smells.* Tell your child to do the same when he or she talks to Jesus in prayer.
- ▶ Read aloud each paragraph softly. Pause to allow your child time to think about his or her response to each question. Encourage your child to talk to Jesus in his or her heart. Together pray the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud The Sacraments in Our Lives on page 97. **Say:** *The sacraments are special signs that show us that God is with us.*
- ▶ Read aloud Making Peace. Suggest that your child look back at pages 94–95 for the answers while he or she completes the activity.

Respond: Page 98

- ▶ 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 times he or she can talk to Jesus throughout the day.
- ▶ 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.