



Morality, Our Lived Faith

Begin

Say: *I'll give you clues about a special family member. Call out her name when you know the person. She loves you even when you do something wrong. She prays that you will always love God.* (Possible answers: mother, grandmother, stepmother) Read aloud the unit title on page 121. *In this unit we will learn that God and Jesus are with us with every choice we make. The saint we will read about was also a mother.*

Introduce the Saint

Focus your child's attention on the picture and read aloud the text. **Ask:** *Who was Saint Monica's son?* (Saint Augustine) *What was Monica's prayer for him?* (She wanted him to be baptized.)

Turn to page 122 and point out the pictures. Read aloud the first paragraph.

Ask: *How do we know that Saint Monica loved Jesus very much?* (She wanted her family to share in Jesus' love and prayed for her family members to be baptized.)

Have your child read aloud the second paragraph. **Ask:** *What are some ways Monica showed her love for Augustine?* (never stopped praying for him, continued to hope for his conversion) **Ask:** *How did God answer her prayers?* (Augustine was baptized and became a great bishop and teacher.)

Read aloud the third paragraph. **Say:** *Some people do not know about Jesus' never-ending love for them. Like Monica, we can pray for them.*

With your child add Monica's feast day, August 27, to your calendar. Plan an event together to celebrate the patience of Saint Monica.

Faith, Hope, and Charity

Engage: Page 123

- ▶ Have your child trace his or her hand on construction paper and then cut out the paper hand. **Say:** *Let's think of a handful of ways you can help those in our parish or community.* Write an idea on each finger of the paper hand.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Say:** *In this session we will learn ways to follow the guidance that Jesus provides and to use God's gifts to lead good lives.*
- ▶ Choose one of the ideas on the paper hand and plan to do it together. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 124–125

- ▶ **Ask:** *How did Mary trust in God? (accepted God's invitation to be Jesus' mother) How did Joseph trust in God? (took care of Mary and Jesus)*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud Saints Who Showed Hope in God on page 124 and point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** *What does it mean to follow "the right path"?* (follow God's rule, live by Jesus' example, have faith in God) Talk about ways your family has helped your child follow Jesus. Have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Sacred Site feature. **Say:** *Saint Monica and Saint Augustine were good examples of the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Important Virtues on page 125. Point out the vocabulary words. **Ask:** *What are three of the most important virtues?* (faith, hope, and charity)
- ▶ Read aloud A Person of Virtues. Have your child complete the activity and share it with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *Saint Paul wrote this in a letter to his friends in Corinth, a city in southern Greece. He wanted them to know how important it is for Christians to love one another.*

Art Exploration: Page 247

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Jesus and his heart, which is the symbol for the virtue of charity.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including Jesus' pierced hands and the heart he is holding.
- ▶ **Say:** *Charity is how Jesus wants us to show our love for one another.*

- ▶ Have your child turn to page 247. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Symbols of the Virtues. **Say:** *Think about each virtue and how to make it present in your life.*
- ▶ Read aloud Matching Virtues. Allow time for your child to write his or her answers and then check them together.
- ▶ Using art supplies, have your child draw the symbol for the virtues of faith, hope, and charity and give the poster a title. Encourage your child to be creative and add details he or she thinks would enhance the poster. Display the poster in your home.

Reflect: Pages 126–127

- ▶ Together look at page 126. **Say:** *The boy and his dog are enjoying a walk. During this peaceful walk, the boy might be saying a prayer of thanks. When you pray, stay calm by inhaling the strength of the Holy Spirit and exhaling any concerns.*
- ▶ Read aloud the reflection slowly and thoughtfully. Pause between sentences so that your child has time to thank God for his gifts.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud She Lived Like Jesus on page 127. **Say:** *On October 11, 2009, Jeanne Jugan was declared a saint.*
- ▶ Read aloud Living Like Saint Jeanne Jugan and have your child complete the activity. Encourage him or her to share the story behind the picture.

Respond: Page 128

- ▶ 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 friendly to a child who seems lonely.
- ▶ 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.