



Celebrating Lent and Holy Week

Engage: Page 117

- ▶ Discuss the picture on page 117. **Ask:** *What is happening? (A girl is receiving ashes on her forehead.) When do we receive ashes on our forehead? (Ash Wednesday)*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and text. **Ask:** *What do we prepare for during Lent? (the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection)*
- ▶ Discuss ways that your family will prepare for Lent and Holy Week. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Page 118

- ▶ Together read aloud the Scripture passage Matthew 14:13–21. Discuss the example Jesus sets for his followers in this passage.
- ▶ Have your child read We Become More Like Jesus During Lent and Holy Week. **Say:** *Jesus' enemies put him to death on the cross.* **Ask:** *What is this event called? (the Crucifixion) What is Jesus' rising from the dead called? (the Resurrection)*
- ▶ Read aloud Lenten Promises. Have your child write his or her promises and then share them with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *God gave us a great gift in his Son, Jesus. Everyone who believes in Jesus will live with God forever in Heaven.*

Reflect: Page 119

- ▶ Suggest to your child that the two of you become prayer partners during Lent and pray for each other.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Mass During Lent and Holy Week. **Ask:** *What is the Gospel Reading about on Good Friday? (Jesus' Passion)*
- ▶ Read aloud What We Experience. **Ask:** *What is the washing of the feet a symbol of? (Jesus' love) **Say:** *In Jesus' day people traveled by foot. Their feet got very dirty. When Jesus washed the feet of the disciples at the Last Supper, he practiced a humble act of service.**
- ▶ Read aloud Acts of Love and Kindness. Give your child time to complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Ask:** *When else does the Church use the color purple? (during Advent) **Say:** *Purple is a symbol of penance.**



Art Exploration: Page 248

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of the resurrected Christ.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including how the picture was made.
- ▶ **Say:** *The season of Lent ends with the celebration of the Triduum during Holy Week.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 248. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud The Triduum. **Ask:** *What are the three days of the Triduum?* (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday) *What do we do during the Easter Vigil?* (wait to celebrate the glory of Christ's Resurrection)
- ▶ Read aloud Celebrate the Triduum and have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Before the session make three separate prayer spaces, each using symbols for one of the days of the Triduum. For example, you can use bread or a chalice for Holy Thursday, a cross for Good Friday, and a candle for Holy Saturday. Together process to the prayer spaces for each day of the Triduum. At each space, review what we remember on that day and then pray aloud a prayer that reflects that day of the Triduum.

Respond: Page 120

- ▶ 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 to share God's love with everyone, not just the people he or she likes.
- ▶ 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.