

Celebrating Ordinary Time

Engage: Page 27

- ▶ Together with your child, talk about your favorite seasons and identify them by the months of the calendar. **Say:** *The liturgical year is the Church calendar that marks seasons and days in a special way.*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and text. **Ask:** *What does Ordinary Time refer to? (counted time)* **Say:** *In this session we will learn about Ordinary Time—the part of the year when we strive to understand Jesus better and think about how to follow his ways.*
- ▶ Turn to the liturgical calendar on page 151. Ask your child to identify the seasons that fall during Ordinary Time. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Page 28

- ▶ Invite your child to talk about the sacraments he or she has received, such as Baptism, First Communion, and Reconciliation. **Say:** *One way to be more like Jesus is to celebrate the sacraments.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. **Say:** *Sacramentals are reminders of Jesus, and we use them to connect us to the sacraments.* Ask your child each of the three questions following the first paragraph. Invite your child to answer each one.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud How Can I Grow? and complete the activity. Discuss his or her picture and sentence.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *We pray to Jesus and ask him to be with us and guide our steps to live as he did. When we ask this of Jesus, God blesses our lives.*

Reflect: Page 29

- ▶ Have your child read aloud Mass During Ordinary Time. **Ask:** *What are some examples of sacramentals? (sacred oils, prayers, rosaries)* **Say:** *We incorporate sacramentals into our everyday lives to help us remember how much God loves us and how he is ever present in our lives.*
- ▶ Ask your child to close his or her eyes as you read aloud What We Experience. Give your child time to visualize your church during Ordinary Time.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud God Touches My Life and complete the activity. Discuss your child's response.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Say:** *Vestments and altar cloths reflect the season's designated color: white is for Holy Thursday, Christmas, and Easter; red is for Pentecost, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and for celebrating Confirmations; green is for Ordinary Time; and violet is for Advent, Lent, and Holy Saturday.*

Art Exploration: Page 229

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of symbols or objects that represent peace.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail.
- ▶ **Say:** *Ordinary Time is when we think about what keeps us centered in God's love.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 229. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the first two sections. **Say:** *During Ordinary Time we focus our attention to the gift of the sacraments.* **Ask:** *What are the sacraments?* (Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Ordinary Joy and complete the activity.
- ▶ **Say:** *One kind of sacramental object is the rosary.* Give your child beads, a simple cross, and thread to string a decade of the rosary. Remind your child how to pray a decade of the Rosary. Encourage your child to pray a decade of the Rosary daily.

Respond: Page 30

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Word I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can be kind to younger children.
- ▶ 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.