

Celebrating the Eucharist

Engage: Page 99

- ▶ **Ask:** *What is your favorite holiday? Why? What do we do to prepare for the day?*
Say: *Holidays are traditions for our family. We follow certain patterns each holiday.*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's responses. **Say:** *A ritual is an established pattern for performing an act that is part of a ceremony. In this session we're going to learn about the Eucharist, the most important ritual in which we participate.*
- ▶ Ask your child to identify other rituals that are part of the ceremonies we follow at Mass. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 100–101

- ▶ Discuss the order of events during Mass. **Say:** *The Mass follows a certain set of steps, starting with the Introductory Rite and ending with the Concluding Rites.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Christ's Presence in the Eucharist on page 100.
Ask: *What is the Real Presence? (Jesus actually present in the Eucharist)*
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud the sections found under the heading The Order of Mass on pages 100 and 101. Summarize each section after you are finished. If possible, look at a Mass booklet to locate the prayers mentioned in the sections.

Art Exploration: Page 241

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Jesus and his disciples sharing in the Last Supper.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the expressions on all the people's faces.
- ▶ **Say:** *Just as we have support and love from our family, Jesus was surrounded by his closest friends at the most difficult time of his life.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 241. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud The Eucharist Calls Us to Share. **Say:** *The Eucharist is a memorial because it recalls Jesus' sacrifice.* **Ask:** *What did Saint Paul suggest we do before celebrating the Eucharist? (examine ourselves)*
- ▶ Read aloud Worthy of the Eucharist and give your child time to complete the activity.

- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *To truly celebrate the Eucharist and be closer to Jesus, it is important that we are willing to live in harmony with others.*
- ▶ Have your child imagine that Jesus is present at your family's table at mealtime. Have your child draw a table and plates of the things that represent how he or she is worthy for Jesus, such as a bowl of smiles, because he or she is kind to others or a platter of prayers, because he or she has faith. Encourage your child to fill the table with things to show Jesus that he or she is ready for him.

Reflect: Pages 102–103

- ▶ Together look at page 102. Encourage your child to pray before the Real Presence of Jesus. Tell your child that he or she can attend Eucharist adoration services or simply sit in church in front of the tabernacle.
- ▶ Invite your child to find a comfortable position. Read aloud the first paragraph. Have your child read *Tantum Ergo* silently. Point out that *jubilation* is another word for joy. After he or she reads the prayer, finish reading aloud the remaining paragraphs. Close by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading, first paragraph, and directions for part A on page 103. Ask your child to complete the activity. Encourage him or her to use a Mass booklet as a reference if there are questions. Invite your child to complete parts B and C and then share the answers with you.

Respond: Page 104

- ▶ 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 stay close to Jesus.
- ▶ 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.