

## Serving Physical and Spiritual Needs

### Engage: Page 115

- ▶ Together share what your greatest talents are, such as good with tools, artistic, computer whiz, and good listener. **Say:** *All of us have received gifts from God that enable us to serve the needs of others.*
- ▶ Read aloud the title and discuss the questions in the blue box. **Say:** *In this session we are going to be reminded that we are members of a Church community and that as members of the Church, we are called to serve others, not ourselves.*
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer together.

### Explore: Pages 116–117

- ▶ Share stories of community crises and how people in the communities responded heroically. **Say:** *God does not cause crises or disasters to happen. What God does is equip us to love and support one another when they do.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the article title The Church Preserves and the section The Black Death. **Ask:** *Imagine that a person sitting next to you in school has a highly contagious disease that will kill you if you contract it. How does this make you feel? (Possible answer: It makes me very uncomfortable. It makes me want to stay away from this person and even the room.) How did the Church respond to people's needs? (by tending to those who were sick)*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Our Catholic Character. Turn to page 267 in the back of the book to read more about the Works of Mercy. Together brainstorm situations that young people might face that provide an opportunity to practice the Works of Mercy.
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud The Avignon Papacy. **Ask:** *What was Saint Catherine of Siena able to do? (convince Pope Gregory XI to return to Rome) Explain that the reason the bishops of France declared Urban's election invalid is that they were still upset that Urban's predecessor had returned to Rome. **Say:** *The Church is like a family. Sometimes we have disagreements, but we trust that God's Spirit will lead us to a faithful resolution.**
- ▶ Read aloud Past Meets Present. Share with your child how Catholic Relief Services has responded to the needs of people in your area in recent years.
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

### Explore: Pages 118–119

- ▶ **Ask:** *What place would you like to visit during your lifetime, and what means of transportation would you use to get there? **Say:** *In a similar way, we are called to the same spiritual destination, but there are many different ways of "getting there."**
- ▶ Take turns reading aloud the article The Sacraments at the Service of Communion and page 118. Explain that Holy Orders is comprised of three orders: the order of deacons, the order of priests, and the order of bishops. Holy Orders is a vocation. **Say:** *Men who receive Holy Orders have been called by God to serve the Church in a unique way.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the Ready for Confirmation feature. Suggest that when your child experiences the laying on of hands, he or she imagines an ongoing line of succession that connects him or her with Jesus and the Apostles.



- ▶ Have your child read aloud The Sacrament of Matrimony on page 119. **Ask:** *What is reflected in the commitment that people make in marriage?* (the love of Christ for his Church)
- ▶ Read aloud The Domestic Church and the Church and Divorce. Remind your child that one of the conditions necessary for a valid marriage is that the couple be open to having children. Invite your child to share what he or she has learned about faith from his or her family. **Say:** *The Church does not believe that a civil divorce dissolves the commitment that a couple makes when they celebrate their marriage.* Explain that if a couple is granted an annulment, the tribunal found evidence that one of the conditions necessary for a valid marriage was not present when the couple celebrated their wedding.
- ▶ Use the Study Corner as a quick review of the article.

### Reflect: Pages 120–121

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the title and the paragraphs in the left column. **Ask:** *How can you continue to develop healthy prayer habits?* (Possible answers: pray daily, use a variety of prayer forms, engage in both public and personal prayer)
- ▶ Pray aloud Vocation Reflection together. Then read aloud the following reflection. **Say:** *Samuel was going about his normal routine when God spoke to him. Ask yourself, "How has God spoken to me amid the ordinary events of my life?" These experiences may be an early sign of your vocation. Pay attention to them. Samuel had a good relationship with Eli, who was the first to recognize that he was hearing God's call. Ask yourself, "Who is my 'Eli'? Who can help me discern God's call?"*
- ▶ Display an image of Jesus and ask your child to provide adjectives that describe the person he or she sees. **Say:** *Because we are surrounded by other people's ideas and images of Jesus, we can forget who Jesus showed himself to be. This is why it is important to discover Jesus for ourselves. When we do, we can share him with others.* Have your child read aloud the introductory paragraph of Where Do I Fit In? on page 121.
- ▶ Read aloud I Am Not Alone. **Ask:** *What amazed the author when he finally read the Gospels?* (Jesus' humanity, the fact that he associated with the outcasts of society) **Say:** *The author felt alone, but he wasn't. Jesus was with him all the time.* **Ask:** *How did he come to know this?* (through the help and guidance of the priests) **Say:** *We can help others realize that they are never alone.*
- ▶ Read aloud The Life of Jesus and have your child write a one-paragraph biography of Jesus.

### Respond: Page 122

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the directions and complete the multiple-choice questions.
- ▶ Ask your child to list, define, and use in sentences the terms under Say What? Use the Glossary if necessary.
- ▶ Read aloud Now What? Give your child time to complete the activity. **Say:** *When we thank others for the example they have set for us, we acknowledge how God is working through them.* Together pray the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Invite your child to pray a 3-minute Retreat at [www.loyolapress.com/retreat](http://www.loyolapress.com/retreat).