

## Celebrating Jesus

### Engage: Page 147

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Open the Bible and read aloud John 6:32–35. Then say: **The Gospel of the Lord.** Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*
- ▶ Ask your child: **What do human beings need to live?** (food, water, air) Say: **We also need love in order to live!**
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraphs on page 147. Say: **Jesus calls himself the Bread of Life because he gives us the love we need to live.** Ask: **Where do we receive the Bread of Life?** (at Mass, in the Eucharist) Say: **The Bread of Life helps us grow closer to God.**
- ▶ Say: **Let's ask Jesus to be with us.** Pray aloud the prayer. Then pause briefly for reflection. Conclude by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen.*

### Explore: Page 148

- ▶ Ask: **What is your favorite meal that we enjoy together?** Discuss dishes that you and your child eat at different family celebrations. Say: **Jesus shared an important meal with his friends.**
- ▶ Read aloud the title and all but the last paragraph. Ask: **What did Jesus share with his friends at this meal?** (blessed bread and wine) Say: **Jesus told his friends to remember him when they ate the blessed bread.**
- ▶ Read aloud the last paragraph. Point out the boldface term *Last Supper* and have your child repeat it after you. Ask: **What do we call this meal that Jesus shared with his friends?** (the Last Supper) Say: **The Last Supper was the last meal Jesus shared with his friends. Soon after the meal, Jesus died, but then he rose from the dead.**
- ▶ Ask your child: **How do you think Jesus' friends felt when he wanted to share his last meal with them?** (Possible answers: important, special, close to Jesus) Say: **Sharing is something that you too can do every day to make people feel special and important. Let's try to be sharing people every day.**

### Explore: Page 149

- ▶ Explain to your child that we share Jesus' meal at Mass. Say: **Sharing Jesus' special meal shows him that we remember him and know he is with us.**
- ▶ Read aloud the title and first paragraph. Point out the boldface word *Eucharist* and have your child repeat it after you. Ask: **What is another name for Eucharist?** (Holy Communion)

- ▶ Read aloud the second paragraph. Point out the boldface word *consecration*. Ask: **What happens at Mass during the consecration?** (The priest prays. He blesses the bread and wine and says “This is my Body” and “This is my Blood.” The blessed bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus.) Say: **During the consecration, the priest repeats the words and actions of Jesus at the Last Supper. The bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. We know Jesus is with us whenever we share this special meal together.**
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions as well as the words and phrases in each column. Ask your child to complete the activity.

### Art Print: Page 150

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online a picture of many people walking to church for Mass. Ask: **What do you see in this picture?** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including where the people are walking to. Say: **In celebrating the Mass, we remember what Jesus has done for us.**
- ▶ Read aloud the title and first paragraph. Ask: **How do we remember Jesus as he asked us to do?** (We share in a special meal.) Say: **Jesus is with us in the consecrated bread and wine.**
- ▶ Read aloud the second paragraph. Ask: **How can we glorify God?** (Possible answers: pray, attend Mass, love and serve others)
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. After your child colors the picture, remind him or her that Mass is a celebration with our friends, followers of Jesus.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God’s Word feature. Say: **No matter what we do—whether it’s going to Mass or playing with a friend—we should do it to show our love for God.**
- ▶ Say: **Like the special meal we have at Mass, meals are good times we share with our family and others we care about.** Invite your child to make a “meal” collage by cutting out pictures from magazines of favorite foods and people sharing a meal and by drawing pictures of family members and friends who are special to him or her. Ask your child to glue these pictures to a sheet of construction paper. Encourage your child to add to the collage by labeling pictures and adding his or her own drawings.

### Reflect: Page 151

- ▶ Together look at the picture. Ask: **Where is the family in the picture?** (at the kitchen table) **What is the family doing?** (praying) Say: **Before each meal, we ask God to bless us and the food we are about to eat.**
- ▶ Read aloud the prayers. Invite your child to pray each prayer with you a second time.

- ▶ Then say: **Now let's take a moment to thank God in our hearts for everything he has given us.** Pause briefly before saying: **Let's pray the Lord's Prayer together to end our prayer time.** After praying the Lord's Prayer, conclude by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.

### Reflect: Page 152

- ▶ Ask your child to name some of his or her favorite foods. Then ask: **If you could invite anyone to a meal, whom would you invite? Why?** Begin by sharing whom you would invite and why you would invite that person.
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the two paragraphs. Point out the boldface term *Blessed Sacrament* and have your child repeat it after you. Ask: **What are the consecrated hosts and wine called?** (the Blessed Sacrament) Ask your child to tell where the tabernacle is in your church and to describe it. Say: **The tabernacle is a sacred box or container in which the Blessed Sacrament is kept so that Holy Communion can be taken to those who are sick.** Then ask: **Why do we genuflect or bow in front of the tabernacle?** (to show respect for the Blessed Sacrament inside the tabernacle)
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Invite your child to complete the activity.

### Respond: Pages 153–154

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 153. Review the Words I Learned. Then read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can make others feel special.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity title and directions. Have your child complete the activity by filling in the blanks as you read aloud the sentences to him or her.
- ▶ Say: **When we eat and drink the consecrated bread and wine at Holy Communion, we receive Jesus' Body and Blood. Let's thank Jesus for this gift.** Have your child prepare for prayer. Then have him or her pray aloud the prayer. Close by praying together the Sign of the Cross and *Amen*.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph of With My Family on page 154. Then read aloud and discuss the Scripture verses as suggested in the next paragraph.
- ▶ Discuss Faith on the Go. Then choose when to complete the activity together.
- ▶ Conclude by praying together the Family Prayer.