

## Living as God's Children

### Engage: Page 189

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read Luke 2:41–52. Then say: ***The Gospel of the Lord.*** Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*
- ▶ Ask: ***When you are at your best, how do you interact with your parents?*** (I do what they ask without complaining.) Say: ***When we do what our parents ask, we honor them. What does this mean?*** (to recognize and accept our parents' authority) Read the paragraphs. Ask: ***How did Jesus honor Joseph and Mary?*** (He obeyed them.)
- ▶ Say: ***Let's pray that we will always share joy with our families and with other people.*** Conclude the prayer by praying *Amen.*

### Explore: Pages 190–191

- ▶ Display a greeting card. Ask: ***When do we send cards?*** (for birthdays, when someone is sick, when someone has completed a milestone, such as First Communion) ***Why do we give or send cards?*** (to show we care) Have your child read aloud The Domestic Church on page 190. Ask: ***What is another word for justice?*** (fairness) Read aloud A Thank-You Letter. After your child completes the letter, invite him or her to share it with you.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Saint Louise de Marillac on page 191. Ask: ***What do the Sisters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul do?*** (work in orphanages, hospitals, and schools) Say: ***Louise de Marillac is an example of how even the smallest effort spreads God's love to many people.***
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: ***A burden is something that is difficult to carry. When we help people with their problems, we are sharing their burdens.***

### Art Exploration: Page 192

- ▶ Find in a magazine, a book, or online an image of Saint Paul in art. As you look at the picture with your child, discuss how Saint Paul is characterized. (intense, purposeful, serious, caring, holy) Say: ***Paul was happy when he saw how his Church family grew in their faith.***
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 192. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question. Read aloud the title and the text. Ask: ***How did Paul's friends know he loved them?*** (He wrote them letters.) Say: ***Paul started churches in many places. He stayed close to his church family, just as we are close to those we love.***
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Thank You! and complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Check the Sunday Connection at the Loyola Press website to find a second reading from Paul for an upcoming Sunday.

- ▶ Together with your child, make a stained-glass window of a cross. Cut out a cross from the interior of a sheet of construction paper. Invite your child to glue or tape different-colored pieces of cellophane or tissue to the back to fill the opening. Place the completed work in a window.

### Reflect: Pages 193–194

- ▶ Together look at page 193. Say: *This boy is thinking about his family. We can show our love for our family members by holding each of them in our hearts as we pray. We can look at them with Jesus' eyes of love, and we can ask Jesus to bless them.*
- ▶ Read the paragraph above the reflection together. Then read aloud the reflection slowly to your child, pausing between sentences. Allow a few seconds for reflection between paragraphs. Lead your child in praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 194. Say: *When we work together with family members, we show one another that we care. By sharing the work, we help bring peace to our families.* Read How We Help One Another. Work through each exercise together, coming up with ways your child could help in each situation.

### Respond: Pages 195–196

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Word I Learned. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can do chores for someone who needs help. Then invite your child to complete the activity.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud With My Family on page 196. Invite your child to show your family and friends how much he or she loves them by being understanding and considerate in work and play, as Jesus would be.