

## New Life in Jesus

### Engage: Page 47

- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read aloud Colossians 1:15–20. Then say: **The Word of the Lord.** Invite your child to respond, *Thanks be to God.*
- ▶ Explain how some people wear locket with pictures of loved ones, or show your child such a locket of your own. Say: **We want those we love to be near to us at all times. Thankfully, our God is present to us throughout our lives.** Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 47. Ask: **How is Jesus present to us today?** (in the Church, the Eucharist, and in all creation)
- ▶ Say: **Let's ask Jesus to help us share God's presence with others.** Pray aloud the prayer, then conclude by praying *Amen.*

### Explore: Pages 48–49

- ▶ Invite your child to retell the story of Adam and Eve. Say: **Adam and Eve disobeyed God, which caused a break in the relationship between God and humanity.** Read aloud Jesus' Mission on Earth on page 48. Ask: **Why did Jesus live among us?** (to reconcile us to God) Explain that *reconcile* means to reestablish or heal a once-close relationship. Invite your child to locate the words *mystery* and *Incarnation* in the Glossary and review the definitions.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Jesus' Church Continues His Mission. Ask: **How does the Church continue Jesus' mission?** (It teaches the faith taught by Jesus to his Apostles; it speaks for justice and works for peace.)
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud The Role of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' Mission on page 49. Ask: **How does the Holy Spirit help in Jesus' mission?** (The Holy Spirit guides the Church in carrying on Jesus' teachings.)
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Meet a Holy Person. Invite your child to look up *canonize* in the Glossary. Ask: **Why is Saint John XXIII important in Church history?** (His papacy was a turning point. He helped renew the Church.)

### Art Print: Page 50

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Jesus showing his disciples that they are the building blocks of the church.
- ▶ Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the setting. Point out and discuss any symbolism that is present in the picture. Say: **We are the stones upon which the Church is built, and Jesus holds the Church together. Jesus is like the capstone, the crowning point of a church building.**

- ▶ Invite your child to turn to page 50. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph and the Scripture passage in Jesus' Role and Our Roles in the Church. Then invite your child to read aloud the rest of the section. Ask: **What is our role in the Church?** (to be living signs of God's presence in the world) Say: **The Holy Spirit strengthens our commitment to the Church, which helps us carry on Jesus' mission.**
- ▶ Read aloud Building Your Life and give your child time to complete the activity on a separate sheet of paper. Discuss his or her drawing.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Reading God's Word. Say: **Those who put their faith in Jesus put their faith in someone who is solid and sure.**
- ▶ Invite your child to sketch or paint a picture of your church. Invite your child to consider elements he or she thinks are important to a church, such as believers, priests, sacraments, faith, praise, and community. Encourage your child to write these words or draw things that represent those words in and around the bricks of his or her church building.

### Reflect: Pages 51–52

- ▶ Pray the prayer on page 51 ahead of time to become familiar with it.
- ▶ Look at page 51 together. Ask: **What is the child in the picture doing?** (praying) Say: **Prayer is how we talk to God. Talking to God is like talking to a good friend in some ways.**
- ▶ Invite your child to find a comfortable position and invite him or her to read silently the first two paragraphs. Say: **We pray the Apostles' Creed to remind us of our faith in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and in the teachings of the Church.** Pray aloud the Apostles' Creed while your child prays along silently. Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud the heading and the first paragraph on page 52. Ask: **Why is the Apostles' Creed important?** (It summarizes the basic teachings of the Church.) Read aloud the activity directions. Give your child time to complete the activity. Together, find the passages from the Apostles' Creed on page 51 that support your child's answers.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Ask: **Where does the word creed come from?** (the Latin word *credo*, which means "I believe") Invite your child to find the Nicene Creed on page 249 and compare it to the Apostles' Creed.

**Respond: Pages 53–54**

- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 53. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Discuss what it means to be an active participant in worship.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions and give your child time to complete the activity. Discuss his or her answers.
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer as your child prays along silently. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ As a family, read and discuss With My Family on page 54. Discuss what it means to live out Jesus' mission, then complete the activity. Pray aloud the prayer together. Say: ***We are living stones of Jesus' Church. Jesus wants us to carry out his mission, and we depend on him for guidance and wisdom in the process.***