

Called to Holy Orders

Engage: Page 97

- ▶ Read aloud the session title. Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture. Read aloud John 21:15–19. Then say: ***The Gospel of the Lord.*** Invite your child to respond, *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the first paragraph on page 97. Ask: ***Why might someone who loves us ask us the same question three times in a row?*** (to invite us to think carefully about something) Next, ask: ***How do we show that we are committed to something?*** (We practice it every day.) Talk with your child about what he or she practices every day, and why. Point out that being a Christian works the same way. Then invite your child to read aloud the second and third paragraphs.
- ▶ Say: ***Priests serve God by tending to us, God's lambs. Let's pray for our priests.*** Pray aloud the prayer, making sure to pray for your parish priests by name. Close by praying *Amen.*

Explore: Pages 98–99

- ▶ Together, name the sacraments. Invite your child to read silently the first paragraph on page 98. Ask: ***What do Holy Orders and Matrimony have in common?*** (Both of them build the Kingdom of God and contribute to personal salvation.) Invite your child to read the second and third paragraphs. Ask: ***What special service do priests provide?*** (They continue Jesus' presence on earth by carrying on the tradition begun by the Apostles.) ***How is the Sacrament of Matrimony a service to others?*** (The love between married people is a reflection of Christ's love for his Church.)
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Invite your child to ask any questions he or she might have about the Church's teaching on Matrimony. Emphasize that although divorce is not part of God's plan for Matrimony, divorced Catholics still play important parts in the life of the Church.
- ▶ Say: ***Now let's learn about the Sacrament of Holy Orders.*** Take turns with your child reading aloud The Sacrament of Holy Orders on page 99. Then read aloud The Rite of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Invite your child to read aloud the first two sections on page 71. Ask: ***What does a man receive through the Rite of Ordination?*** (a permanent, spiritual mark; a character)

Art Print: Page 100

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of the pope meeting with other members of the clergy.
- ▶ Ask: **What do you see in this picture?** Encourage your child to identify the pope and what appears to be happening at the meeting. Say: **Like the Apostles, Church leaders are chosen to be witnesses to Jesus Christ and carry on his work.**
- ▶ Invite your child to turn to page 100. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud The Apostles Choose a New Member. Say: **The Sacrament of Holy Orders celebrates the commitment of Church leaders to live like Jesus, spread the Word of God, and serve the community.**
- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions and give your child time to complete the activity.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: **Jesus used a rock as a symbol of something strong upon which to build the Church. Peter, whose name meant "rock," would be the foundation of the Church.**
- ▶ Invite your child to imagine that he or she was present when the Apostles picked Matthias. Have your child make a sketch of what was happening as the Apostles reached a decision. Encourage your child to capture the emotions of the Apostles in their expressions.

Reflect: Pages 101–102

- ▶ Together look at page 101. Ask: **Why do you think a place like the one in the picture would be a good place to pray?** (Possible responses: It is peaceful; it would help me focus on God's blessings in his creation.)
- ▶ Read aloud the paragraphs on page 101. Say: **This prayer is a prayer of petition, asking God for the selflessness to serve him and others completely.** Pray aloud the prayer, pausing briefly at the end of each line to allow your child to reflect silently. Allow a few moments after the prayer for your child to pray silently to Jesus, then conclude by praying *Amen*.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Knowing Your Church Leaders on page 102. Read aloud the activity directions, then work with your child to complete the chart.
- ▶ Read aloud the Sacred Site feature. Explain that the title of *basilica* is an honor given by the pope to certain churches to recognize some particular distinction of the church, its location, or its people.

Respond: Pages 103–104

- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Faith Summary on page 103. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus and discuss how your child can show kindness to someone today.
- ▶ 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 104, then make plans to complete the activity. Pray aloud the prayer together. Say: ***Let's be thankful for the love and guidance we receive from Jesus and from all our teachers and leaders.***