

Multimedia for each lesson are accessed by scanning the QR code on the Children's Book page. If you don't have access to a QR code digital device, contact your child's catechist for assistance.

The Church, Our Community in the Spirit

Unit Opener: Pages 86–88

- ▶ Invite your child to think about the last time he or she worked on a jigsaw puzzle. Say: ***Just as every single piece of a jigsaw puzzle is necessary to complete the picture, so also is each and every Christian necessary for the community of the Church. We are united in our belief in Jesus and his presence in our lives.*** Invite your child to turn to page 86 and read aloud the unit title. Say: ***In this unit, we are going to learn more about the community of the Church and how we belong to it.***
- ▶ Draw your child's attention to the picture on page 86. Ask: ***What is Saint Ignatius doing?*** (writing) Say: ***After being injured in battle, Saint Ignatius devoted himself to serving God. Part of that devotion involved writing the Spiritual Exercises.***
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 87. Ask: ***How do we imitate Jesus?*** (by being kind to others, serving the community, volunteering at church) Reinforce that Saint Ignatius helped people find the courage to follow God's will for them. Say: ***Saint Ignatius founded the Jesuit community to serve the Church and teach Jesus' Word.***
- ▶ Read aloud the Be Inspired feature. Discuss the meaning of the phrase "to give and not count the cost."
- ▶ Invite your child to look at the title of his or her book, then compare it to the section heading on page 88. Explain that Saint Ignatius teaches us that God is always present to us and that we can practice becoming more aware of his presence and responding to him. Invite your child to read aloud Finding God in All Things.

- ▶ Read aloud the activity directions. Give your child a few moments to reflect on what gives him or her joy and what makes him or her aware of God's presence. Then invite your child to write those things on the lines provided. Together, say aloud, "God, I give you thanks for . . ." and complete the sentence using what your child wrote in the activity. Repeat this process for each of the three activity lines.
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Say: ***Just like Saint Ignatius's gratitude prayer, psalms are good models for prayers of praise and thanksgiving.*** Together, pray the psalm again with joyful voices.