

Sacraments of Healing

Engage: Page 155

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture.
- ▶ Read aloud Mark 2:1–12 Then say: ***The Gospel of the Lord.*** Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*
- ▶ Ask: ***When a child scrapes his or her elbow, why do parents offer to kiss it and make it better?*** Discuss your child's response. Say: ***Parents know that symbolic actions have a real effect on us. The Sacraments of Healing are symbolic actions that have a real effect on us.***
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 155. Ask your child to identify the Sacraments of Healing. (Penance and Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick)
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer together and conclude with the Sign of the Cross.

Explore: Pages 156–157

- ▶ Say: ***The Church continues Jesus' healing ministry through two specific sacraments.***
- ▶ Invite your child to read aloud Anointing of the Sick on page 156. Ask: ***What does the Anointing of the Sick do for people who receive it?*** (It helps them identify with Christ's suffering; it gives strength, peace, and courage; it forgives the sins of those who are unable to receive the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.) Say: ***The Church also invites others to receive this sacrament, including those who are elderly, people with chronic illnesses such as cancer, people with addictions, and people suffering from mental illness.***
- ▶ Ask your child to read The Dignity of Human Life. Invite him or her to look up the boldface word in the Glossary. Ask: ***Why does the Church teach that euthanasia is wrong?*** (Human life is sacred and comes from God. People have dignity because they are God's creations.)
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Say: ***Chrism Mass is celebrated during Holy Week and is a sign of unity between the bishop and the local church.***
- ▶ Have your child read silently page 157. Ask: ***What does sin do?*** (It separates us from God and others.) ***What are the benefits of Reconciliation?*** (reunites us with God and the Church, brings us peace, renewal of the inner person, comforts us spiritually)
- ▶ Invite your child to look up the boldface terms. Say: ***Penance consists of prayers or actions that show you are sorry for your sins. A temporal punishment is a consequence of a sin a person bears that is not eternal but must be purified in Purgatory.***

Art Exploration: Page 158

- ▶ Find in a book, magazine, or online a representation of a disciple healing a person.
- ▶ Ask: ***What do you see in this picture?*** Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including what the disciple is doing to the person. Say: ***Jesus continues to heal with the power of the Holy Spirit through the Church today.***
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 158. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Jesus Sends Forth Healers. Discuss why Jesus gave his disciples the authority to heal. Explain that those who were ill were treated differently in Jesus' time. Say: ***Today Jesus' healing gifts are experienced through the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.***
- ▶ Have your child read the activity directions and complete it.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Ask: ***Who does Isaiah suggest will be included to see the glory of God?*** (all people)
- ▶ Provide several colors of paper from which your child can cut out small squares to glue to paper to make his or her own mosaic. Suggest that the topic of your child's mosaic represents healing in some way. Display the finished artwork in your home.

Reflect: Pages 159–160

- ▶ Together look at page 159. Say: ***Reconciliation brings you closer to God and others, reminds you to make good choices, and helps you avoid sin.***
- ▶ Read aloud the introductory paragraph. Pray aloud the Prayer of the Penitent together. Invite your child to take time to reflect on God's mercy and forgiveness. End by praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Have your child read silently Removing the Effects of Sin on page 160. Ask: ***What actions help us receive indulgences?*** (prayer and good deeds) ***What else can prayer and good deeds help us do?*** (overcome temptation, grow closer to God)
- ▶ Have your child read silently the Giving Restitution questions and carefully consider how he or she might make restitution in each situation. Have your child write his or her responses and discuss them together.

Respond: Pages 161–162

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud Faith Summary on page 161. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus.
- ▶ Ask your child to read the activity directions and fill out the charts.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud With My Family page 162. Together as a family, complete the page and do the activity. Pray the family prayer together.