

Jesus' Way of Love

Engage: Page 173

- ▶ Invite your child to quiet himself or herself and prepare to hear Sacred Scripture.
- ▶ Read aloud John 3:16–21. Then say: *The Gospel of the Lord*. Invite your child to respond *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*.
- ▶ Say: *If we're in a dark place, such as a basement, attic, or closet, we need to shine a light to find our way. When we encounter the darkness of sin, we look to the Light of Christ to show us the way to God.*
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the paragraphs on page 173. Ask: *How can we shine God's light in the world?* (by practicing charity)
- ▶ Pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude with the Sign of the Cross.

Explore: Pages 174–175

- ▶ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph on page 174. Say: *God gives us three Theological Virtues that bring us closer to him and help us share our gifts with others. They are nourished in us by the Church through the sacraments.*
- ▶ Ask your child to read the rest of the page. *What is faith?* (belief in God and giving ourselves to him.) *What is Christian hope?* (the desire for all the good things God has planned for us) *What does hope help us do?* (trust that if we live according to Jesus' teachings, we will have eternal life with God forever in heaven; choose to do what pleases God) *Where do we get Christian hope?* (from the Holy Spirit)
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Charity on page 125. Say: *Charity is another word for love, but the Theological Virtue of charity is a different kind of love.* Invite him or her to read 1 Corinthians 13:1–13 from the Bible. Discuss with your child what he or she thinks Saint Paul meant. Say: *We can show charity by working at a food pantry or donating things to people in need.*
- ▶ Tell your child he or she can read more about the virtues in the Prayers and Practices section on page 272.

Art Exploration: Page 176

- ▶ Find in a book, magazine, or online a representation of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux.
- ▶ Ask: *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage children to describe the picture in detail, including the halo, a crucifix, flowers, rosary, and a habit worn by a nun.
- ▶ Say: *Saints were ordinary people who put love of God before all else.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 176. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.

- ▶ Have your child read aloud *A Young Woman Who Listened to God*. Say: ***Saints were ordinary people who put love of God before all else.*** Discuss how Thérèse's faith and hope helped her pursue her wish to be a nun and how she showed her love of God every day.
- ▶ Read aloud the activity instructions. Allow time for your child to complete it. Discuss the response.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. Ask: ***How does this Scripture passage describe the love Saint Thérèse had for God?*** (Possible answer: She made daily sacrifices for God and Jesus Christ.)
- ▶ Discuss what a blog is—a person's personal webpage where he or she writes his or her thoughts about various topics. Have your child draw the outline of a computer screen. Then have your child write a blog entry about Saint Thérèse and how she lived a life of faith, hope, and love. Encourage your child to share the blog with other family members.

Reflect: Pages 177–178

- ▶ Together look at page 177. Say: ***Take traditional prayers like the Act of Faith to heart. They unite our minds, hearts, and voices and help us link the basic truths of our faith.***
- ▶ Read aloud the introductory paragraph. Pray aloud the prayer with your child. End by leading your child in praying the Glory Be to the Father.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud *Living the Theological Virtues* on page 178. Invite him or her to look up the boldface terms in the Glossary and discuss the definitions. Say: ***For many years, only men received the special title of Doctor of the Church. Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, Saint Catherine of Siena, and Saint Teresa of Ávila were the first women to be named Doctors of the Church.***
- ▶ Have your child read the activity directions and complete it. Encourage your child to choose one way to show faith, hope, or charity during the week.

Respond: Pages 179–180

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud *Faith Summary* on page 179. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud *Ways of Being Like Jesus*.
- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the activity directions and complete it.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud *With My Family* on page 180. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today. Together as a family, complete the page and do the activity. Pray the family prayer together. Say: ***Think about ways this week that you can help others by practicing the virtues of faith, hope, and charity.***