



## The Church Celebrates

### Engage: Page 99

- ▶ Discuss your family traditions. **Ask:** *What yummy foods do we eat? What special activities do we do?* (Answers will vary.) **Say:** *Our Church family has special traditions too.*
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the poem. Have your child track the words with his or her finger. **Ask:** *How do family traditions bring people together?* (Families share love when they get together. They enjoy each other's company.)
- ▶ Help your child make an invitation for someone to come to your next family celebration. Then pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying *Amen*.

### Explore: Pages 100–101

- ▶ Together make a small door banner for an upcoming family celebration. **Say:** *The Church has celebrations too.*
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the sentences on page 100. Have your child point to the word *sacrament*. Help him or her find it in the Glossary and discuss the definition. **Say:** *Jesus gave us sacraments to show us his love.* Read aloud the directions and the name of each sacrament. Describe how each image represents the sacrament. Then have your child color each picture.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *We celebrate the sacraments at certain times in our lives.*
- ▶ **Say:** *We have already learned about three sacraments. But Jesus gave us four more sacraments!* Read aloud the title and the sentences on page 101. Again, say the name of each sacrament and describe how each image represents the sacrament. Then have your child color each picture.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. Together name the seven sacraments. **Ask:** *Why do we celebrate the sacraments?* (We celebrate the sacraments to remember that God is always with us.)



### Art Exploration: Explore Art Print 17 Blackline Master

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of a wedding ceremony.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the setting and the role of each person in the wedding party.
- ▶ **Say:** *Matrimony means marriage. Matrimony is a sacrament. When we celebrate the sacraments, we welcome God into our hearts.*
- ▶ Display the Art Print Blackline Master for Session 17. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- ▶ Read aloud the section Signs of Love. **Say:** *Jesus gave us the sacraments. The sacraments help us live as God wants us to live.* Read the section Matrimony Maze. Discuss each sign of the sacrament that is in the maze. Then have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Say:** *Priests pray blessings over people at Mass and at the celebration of each sacrament, such as Baptism.*
- ▶ Play traditional wedding songs, such as “Canon in D Major” by Johann Pachelbel or “Ave Maria” by Franz Schubert. Explain that these songs are usually played at a wedding ceremony. Share family wedding pictures as you listen to the music. Encourage your child to ask questions about what happens during a wedding ceremony. **Say:** *The Sacrament of Matrimony brings people together in love.*

### Reflect: Pages 102–103

- ▶ Together look at page 102. **Ask:** *What is the boy doing?* (praying in church) **Say:** *We ask for God’s blessing as we gather to praise and celebrate at church.*
- ▶ Review the first part of the Lord’s Prayer, found on the prayer card and on page 96, with your child. **Say:** *Now we will learn the second part of the Lord’s Prayer.* Read aloud the title and the introductory sentences on page 102. Invite your child to echo each line of the Lord’s Prayer after you pray it aloud. Then pray the entire prayer together using the prayer card.
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the sentences on page 103. **Ask:** *What do we need for our bodies to stay strong and healthy?* (food, water, exercise, fresh air, sleep) **Say:** *“Our daily bread” from the Lord’s Prayer stands for all the things we need to stay healthy, not just the bread we eat.*
- ▶ Read aloud the directions. Encourage your child to complete the activity by drawing a food-related scene, such as eating a family meal or shopping at a supermarket.

### Respond: Page 104

- ▶ Read aloud the Faith Summary. Have your child trace the word *sacrament*. **Say:** *We have talked about the sacraments and how we celebrate them at special times in our lives.*
- ▶ Invite your child to pray silently as you pray aloud. **Say:** *Loving Jesus, thank you for giving us the seven sacraments. Help us be more like you in everything we do.* Together pray the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Read aloud the words from the story in With My Family and have your child say the picture words. Use the Picture Glossary on pages 206–207 if needed. Invite your child to answer the question at the end of the story.