



## Celebrating Lent and Holy Week

### Engage: Page 117

- ▶ Make a paper calendar strip that shows the days of Holy Week. Have your child help you label the following days: Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. **Say:** *The Church season leading up to Easter is called Lent. Let's read about this important Church season.* Add small symbols to help your child recognize each day.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text. Point out the terms *Lent* and *Holy Week* and help your child find them in the Glossary. Discuss the definitions. **Ask:** *What is the last week of Lent called? (Holy Week)*
- ▶ Use your calendar strip to review the days and events of Holy Week. Then pray aloud the prayer together. Conclude by praying *Amen*.

### Explore: Page 118

- ▶ **Ask:** *What helps us grow on the outside? (fresh air, healthy food) How can we grow on the inside? (Be kind, be helpful, talk to and listen to God.)*
- ▶ Read aloud the title and the sentences. **Say:** *We can grow on the inside by growing closer to Jesus. During Lent, we pray, fast, and give alms.* Help your child understand these terms by completing the activity together.
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *The Bible told of the events of Holy Week before they actually happened.*

### Reflect: Page 119

- ▶ **Say:** *Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. Let's read about what happens on Ash Wednesday.* Read aloud the title and the sentences. **Say:** *The cross on our forehead reminds us to turn our hearts to God by being more loving and caring during Lent.* Have your child complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Did You Know? feature. **Say:** *Lent lasts for 40 days. We remember Jesus' suffering and Death, and we get ready to celebrate Jesus' rising from the dead on Easter.*



### Art Exploration: Explore Art Print 20 Blackline Master

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Saint Veronica holding a cloth bearing the likeness of Jesus.
- ▶ **Ask:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the face on Veronica's cloth.
- ▶ **Say:** *When we comfort others, we are being like Jesus.*
- ▶ Display the Art Print Blackline Master for Session 20. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question. Discuss ways to comfort others, such as giving hugs and helping them when they are not feeling well.
- ▶ Read aloud the section Jesus Wants Us to Be Forgiven. **Say:** *Jesus died because he wanted us to be saved.* Read aloud the section Lenten Paper Chain. Help your child prepare the paper strips. Add additional strips of paper to reach the number of days left until Easter. Then use the chain to help you count down the days to Easter.
- ▶ **Say:** *Let's make Helping Hands to remind us to help others during Lent and Holy Week.* Help your child trace around his or her hands on construction paper and cut out the tracing. On each hand, write a way to help someone, such as carry groceries or pick up toys. Display your helping hands and have your child choose a helpful task each day.

### Respond: Page 120

- ▶ Read aloud the Faith Summary. Have your child trace the terms *Lent* and *Holy Week*. **Say:** *We have talked about Lent and what we can do to grow closer to Jesus.*
- ▶ Invite your child to pray silently while you pray aloud. **Say:** *Dear Jesus, help me grow to be more giving and loving during Lent by helping others.* 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.