Before You Begin

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Sacraments, Our Way of Life

Begin

▶ Plan a "Celebrate Today" party for you and your child. Include healthy snacks, music, and a simple game. Say: It is fun to have a celebration! It helps us grow closer to each other. Remind your child that he or she learned about God's family, the Church, in the last unit. Ask: When do we celebrate together as God's family, the Church? (at Mass on Sunday or on a holy day)
Say: Now we will learn about a saint who answered God's call to become part of his Church and helped others grow closer to God.

Introduce the Saint

- ► Have your child turn to page 91 and read aloud the unit title. Read aloud the saint's name and look at his picture. Help your child locate the country of Spain on a map or globe. **Say:** Saint Ignatius lived in Spain about 500 years ago.
- ► Turn to page 92. Read aloud the title and the sentence as your child colors the picture. Then help your child tear out and fold the Unit 4 saint booklet at the back of the book. Read aloud pages A–D, inviting your child to track the words with his or her finger. Complete the activity on page D together.
 Say: Saint Ignatius changed his life after he heard God's call. His work is still important in our lives today.
- ▶ With your child, add Saint Ignatius of Loyola's feast day, July 31, to your calendar. Plan an event together to honor the teachings of Saint Ignatius.