

# WALKING by FAITH

## Grade 2 / Home Lesson

### CHAPTER 12

### WE CELEBRATE ADVENT: COME, LORD JESUS

#### Objectives

- Describe Advent as a time to prepare for Christmas.
- Identify Saint John the Baptist as a prophet.
- Discover some Advent customs.

#### Step 1: We Are Invited (Life Experience), page 74

Discuss with your child a time he or she prepared or waited for something. Read the chapter title (**Come, Lord Jesus**), and pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 74.

As you read aloud or summarize the text, explain that *Advent* is the four-week season of preparation for Christmas. The Advent Season begins with the first Sunday that falls on or about November 30 and ends with the First Evening Prayer of Christmas. The first two Sundays of Advent focus on the second coming of Jesus; the final two Sundays focus on the birth of Jesus.

What do the words, *Come, Lord Jesus*, have to do with Advent? (Advent is a time when we prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus.) Why is Advent such a happy time? (It is fun to celebrate the coming of Jesus.)

Read the caption question and discuss the answer with your child.

#### Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), page 75

Read aloud or summarize **Prepare the Way** on page 75. Use the **Language of Faith** section to help your child explore the definition of a *prophet*. How did the prophets help God? (They gave his message to the people.)

As you read aloud the **Scripture Story: John's Message** and **Catholics Believe**, ask your child to listen for the important messages John gave. After the reading, explain that John prepared the Jewish people for the coming of Jesus, the Messiah. He told them they had to change their lives and especially open their hearts and hands to those who needed food and clothing. Who did John say was coming? (a savior named Jesus) What did John tell the people to do to prepare for the Savior's coming? (to be baptized and share their food and clothing)

Point out the picture of John the Baptist as you read the caption. Why was John called the Baptist? (because he baptized people) Whom did John baptize? (his cousin Jesus)

**Step 3: We Reflect** (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 76

Review the material taught in this lesson by discussing **Recall, Think and Share**, and **Continue the Journey**. Have your child complete the activity.

Read **We Live Our Faith: At Home and In the Parish**. Try to follow through on the suggestions found there.

Refer to the **Language of Faith** section in the back of the textbook for clarification and review of all highlighted words.

Complete the **Faith Journal**, pages 23–24

**Step 4: We Celebrate** (Prayer and Conclusion), page 77

Read or summarize **A Sign of Promise** on page 77. Be sure your child understands what the Advent calendar and Advent wreath are and how they are used. What are the candles of the Advent wreath a reminder of? (Jesus the Light of the World, the four weeks of Advent) How are the wreath and the calendar signs of promise? (They are reminders of the coming of Jesus.)

Close the chapter with prayer. If possible gather around your family Advent wreath, hold hands with your child, and pray together the Advent wreath blessing **Prayer**.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 35–37.