

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 2 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 20

WE CELEBRATE LENT: A TIME OF SACRIFICE

Objectives

- Discover the ways Catholics celebrate the Season of Lent.
- Explore the meaning of receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday.
- Discover some Lenten customs and practices.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 122

Ask your child to recall a time when he or she gave up something to help someone else. Remind your child that this is called a *sacrifice*. Pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 122.

Read **A Time of Sacrifice** on page 122. Read the text and refer to the **Language of Faith** at the back of the textbook to clarify the meanings of the highlighted words. Also point out to your child that *resurrection* means “a rising from the dead.” Then call attention to the pictures of children with ashes on their heads, and invite the children to discuss what is happening. (Ashes are being placed on the children’s foreheads in the form of a cross.) The children can check their responses as you read aloud the caption on this page.

Step 2: *We Explore* (Doctrine), page 123

Read the text and explain that a *sacramental* is a holy sign given to us by the Church to help us celebrate our faith. Other sacramentals include the use of holy water, the crucifix, a rosary, and a blessed palm.

Read **Catholics Believe** on page 123. Point out to your child that the last week of Lent is called Holy Week. At this time we celebrate Jesus’ life from his entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Holy Week includes Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil.

Have your child identify the pretzels and the hot-cross buns in the pictures on page 123. After reading aloud the caption, ask your child to name other Lenten customs they have experienced, perhaps in other homes.

Close with the following prayer: “Dear Jesus, thank you for sacrificing your life for us. As we celebrate Lent, help us . . .” Invite your child to end the prayer.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 124

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 39–40.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 125

Read **We Sacrifice for Jesus!** on page 125. Read the heading *We Sacrifice for Jesus!* with your child. Ask: What happens when we sacrifice for Jesus? (We remember him. We grow closer to him.)

As you read the text, remind your child that like the ashes we receive on Ash Wednesday, holy water is also a sacramental. Ask: Of what are we reminded when we make the Sign of the Cross? (We are reminded of the cross upon which Jesus died. We are reminded that God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit are always with us.)

Before your child shares his or her sacrifices, look at the pictures on this page with him or her. Ask them what sacrifice the boys are making in helping to take out the garbage. (They are using their time to help instead of using the time for play.)

Pray the closing **Prayer** aloud, inviting your child to repeat each phrase after you. Then both you and your child name the sacrifice you will make this Lent.

For additional activities contact your director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 59–61.