

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 3 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 23 SACRAMENTS OF SERVICE

Objectives

- Give examples of using one's talents to serve others.
- Identify the two Sacraments of Service.
- Describe how a married man and woman serve their family.
- Compare the actions and effects of the two Sacraments of Service.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), pages 138–139

Ask your child to describe someone he or she knows who uses his or her talents to help others. Tell your son or daughter that using our talents to help others is called *service*. Pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 138.

Read the chapter title (**Sacraments of Service**) and the text on page 138. Point out that Mrs. Brown knew that Jill had the talents needed to read aloud at the prayer service. Ask: What are some other talents that people your age might have? (Accept all reasonable answers.)

Discuss the photo as follows: Ask: How did Jill's reading aloud serve the Church community? (She encouraged others to participate actively by clearly proclaiming God's word so all could hear, she helped people who could hear, and she helped people who could not read the passages on their own.)

Provide art materials for your child to do the **Activity**.

Draw attention to the photograph at the top of page 139 and read the caption next to it. Explain that the man being ordained is kneeling as a sign of his reverence for, and obedience to, God. Point out that only a bishop can ordain a new priest or deacon.

Read **Serving God's People**. Use the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook to clarify the highlighted term. Explain that the men who are called to serve the Church family as deacons, priests, and bishops dedicate their entire lives to this service. Stress that while only some men receive this special calling to priesthood, all members of the Church are called to serve God and the faith community.

Read aloud **Catholics Believe**. Use the statement to emphasize the selflessness of Matrimony and Holy Orders. Emphasize that although the lives of married people and ordained men are very different, both serve others.

Read aloud the bulleted question at the bottom of this page. Engage your child in a discussion of how your pastor serves the needs of the children in your parish.

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), pages 140–141

Invite your child to describe real or fictional couples he or she thinks are real examples of loving husbands and wives. Challenge your child to give reasons for his or her choices.

As you read **Serving One Another**, use the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook to clarify the meaning of the term **vows**. Ask your child to name other members of our Church family who take vows. (religious priests, brothers, and sisters)

Discuss the **Activity** with your child.

Read **Saints Walk with Us**. Ask: How can you tell that Saint Isidore is the patron saint of farmers? (He is shown plowing a field.) Explain that Isidore and his wife Maria are one of the few married couples the Church recognizes as saints.

Read together **Answering the Call to Serve** on page 141. Point out that both Sacraments of Service are meant to be lifelong commitments. Tell your child that the Holy Spirit gives the ordained minister and the married couple the strength to live out their commitments.

Read through the chart on the **Sacraments of Service** sacrament by sacrament. Explain that bishops and deacons are also ordained. Ask: Why do you think the Church views marriage and ordination as sacraments? (Answers will vary but might include that both states of life strengthen the Church community and make God's love present to others.)

Draw your child's attention to the pictures of the wedding bands and the priest's stole and Bible on this page. Ask: Why do you think a new husband and wife exchange rings? (to symbolize their vows to each other and to God) What do you think a priest's stole represents? (that he acts in the name of Jesus)

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 142

Review the material taught in this lesson by discussing **Recall**, **Think and Share**, and **Continue the Journey**. Complete the activity.

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

Complete the **Unit Six Review** on pages 144–145.

Complete the **Faith Journal** pages 45–46.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 143

Have your child describe how and when they pray for others. Ask: Do you ever ask other people to pray for you? Why or why not? (Accept all reasonable answers.)

Have your child talk about what he or she sees in the pictures on page 143. (a marriage ceremony; parents reading the Bible with their children) Ask: What does each picture show about loving others? (In the Sacrament of Marriage, the man and woman *promise* to serve others. In their daily lives they *act* to serve others.)

Read aloud **Celebrating Service** on page 143. Point out that just as our bodies need food and water, our souls need spiritual food—the Eucharist, God’s word in the Scriptures, and prayer. Emphasize that everyone needs other people’s prayers.

Begin the **Prayer** celebration. Read aloud each petition, and invite your child to respond: Lord, hear our prayer. Close the prayer with the Sign of the Cross.