

# WALKING by FAITH

## Grade 5 / Home Lesson

### CHAPTER 13 A SIGN TO THE WORLD

#### Objectives

- Recognize hospitality as a ministry.
- Explore the four main characteristics or marks of the Church.
- Describe the important images of the Church.

#### Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), pages 96–97

Ask your child to recall a time when someone helped him or her feel welcome. Remind him or her that Jesus calls us to welcome others into our lives. Then pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 96.

Read and discuss the opening story for the chapter **A Sign to the World**, on page 96–97. How did Tom feel before he met the archbishop? (uncomfortable, nervous) How do you think Tom felt when he actually met Archbishop Berry? (surprised, more relaxed, welcome)

Look at the picture. What sacrament is pictured? (Confirmation) Explain that Confirmation, Baptism, and Eucharist are the Sacraments of Initiation. Initiation is the process of being welcomed into the life of the Church. Work together on the **Activity** on page 97.

Read **Signs of Welcome** on page 97. Discuss with your child the signs of welcome we use in our daily lives. Point out that hospitality is an attitude toward life, not only a response to certain situations.

Read **Scripture Signpost** and answer the question posed there. (to announce the praises of God) Make sure your child understands that we are the Church. Whenever we love others and welcome them in God's kingdom, we are being Church and sign of God's kingdom.

## Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), pages 98–101

As you discuss **What Is the Church?** on page 98, refer to the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook to help your child understand the *marks of the Church*. Ask: What are the four identifying marks of the Church? (one, holy, catholic, and apostolic) Where else have you heard these words? (Hint: think Mass) Have your child read the statement in **Catholics Believe** and help him or her to understand what that means in our daily lives. (As members of the Church, we must let the Holy Spirit work through us to bring about the peace, justice, and unity that are signs of God's kingdom.)

Read aloud the **Scripture Story: Built upon the Apostles**, pages 98–99, and **Opening the Door of Faith**, on page 98. Have your child answer the question on page 98. (the role of leader, first among the apostles)

Refer to the **Language of Faith** section in the back of the textbook to help your child understand the terms *apostolic* and *catholic*.

Explain to your child that Saint Paul is considered the greatest missionary of the Church. What are some of the qualities that made Paul successful? (strength, holiness, courage, determination, love) What did Paul preach? (Answers should include the Church is universal and that we are all one in Christ.)

If time permits, have your child read **Saints Walk with Us** about Blessed Catherine Drexel. Point out that the photograph is an actual picture of her. You might explain that a traditional habit, or religious clothing, like the habit she is wearing is no longer required by many religious orders.

Read **A Holy and United People** on page 100. Discuss with the child what it means to be holy and to be united with others. Continue reading **Teaching Authority** and clarify the terms *magisterium* and *infallible* by referring to the **Language of Faith** section in the back of the textbook.

Next read the **Landmark**. Explain that a council is a meeting of bishops from the worldwide Church under the leadership of the pope. The Second Vatican Council was the most recent of these and the most unique. It had the largest and most culturally diverse group of participants and its purpose was to renew the Church and promote peace and unity among all peoples.

Read the chart on the **Images of the Church** on page 101. Discuss with your child which images are most familiar to him or her, and which are new.

Invite your child to examine the two photographs and explain how they are related to the images of Pilgrim People and Teacher. (One photograph shows a precession of people walking together in prayer like pilgrims; the other shows a large audience gathered in a stadium for a papal Mass.)

**Step 3: We Reflect** (Integration of Faith into Daily Life), page 102

Review 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** and 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 terms.

Complete the **Faith Journal**, pages 25–26.

**Step 4: We Celebrate** (Prayer and Conclusion), page 103

Read **To Be One in Christ** on page 103. Has your parish participated in any interfaith activities? (Possible answers: National Day of Prayer, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Thanksgiving Ecumenical Prayer Services, and so on) If your family has participated in one of these celebrations, discuss how that felt and what you learned. If your family has not had the opportunity to participate in an interfaith activity, check with your parish and if possible plan to do so.

As your child examines the photographs, point out that in one, Pope John Paul II is meeting with two leaders of the Orthodox Church. Ask: Why do you think a photograph of important Christian leaders is included here? (to show Christian unity) Help your child to understand that communities—whether faith communities or geopolitical communities—are represented in words and action by their leaders.

As a sign of unity, hold hands with your child as you pray the closing **Prayer**.