

WALKING by FAITH

Grade 5 / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 24

WE CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK: CHRIST'S PASSOVER

Objectives

- Examine the relationship between Holy Week and Baptism.
- Explore the meaning of Holy Thursday.
- Recognize ways to honor Christ in the Eucharist.

Step 1: We Are Invited (Life Experience), page 182

Ask your child what water makes them think of. Remind him or her that in the waters of Baptism, we rise and die with Jesus. Ask him or her to keep their Baptism in mind as you pray together the opening **Prayer** on page 182 for the chapter on **Christ's Passover**.

As you read the text on the page, help your child understand the term *covenant*. Refer to the **Language of Faith** section at the back of the textbook to enhance the meaning of the term.

Use your family Bible for the **Activity** on the bottom of page 182. (The Church uses this story to show that God is faithful to his promises. Just as God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, so through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God delivered us from the power of sin and everlasting death.)

Step 2: We Explore (Doctrine), page 183

Talk briefly with your child about how love involves self-sacrifice; it often means considering someone else's needs before your own.

Call attention to the photograph and read the caption on page 183. Tell your child that in Jesus' time roads were unpaved, people wore sandals, and so their feet got dusty and dirty. It was unheard of for a host to wash a guest's feet—only slaves did this. Ask: Why is this ritual such a powerful symbol of love? (Response should show an understanding that by doing this, Jesus—the Son of God—humbled himself for us.)

Read **Catholics Believe**. Remind your child that our participation in the Eucharist involves giving as well as receiving. Discuss some of the ways you can “give”—some of the ways you can sacrifice.

Read **Our Bond with God Through Christ**. Ask: What are some acts of love Holy Thursday recalls? (Jesus’ washing the feet of his disciples; Jesus’ offering his life for us in the Eucharist) What did Jesus teach us at the Last Supper? (Jesus taught us how to love through his own example of self-sacrifice; he taught us how to serve one another.)

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 184

Review the material taught in this lesson by completing the sections: **Recall, Think and Share, and Continue the Journey**.

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

Complete pages 47–48 in the **Faith Journal**.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion), page 185

Point out the decorative object pictured at the bottom of page 185. Explain that this is called a *monstrance*, whose purpose is to hold the Blessed Sacrament (host). The word *monstrance* comes from a Latin word meaning “to show.” Ask your child why he or she thinks we put the Blessed Sacrament in such a decorative container. (Possible answers: It is sacred; we honor the Body of Christ by putting it in a very special container.)

Close the lesson by reading about Thomas Aquinas in **Saint Thomas’s Song** and then praying the **Prayer** Thomas wrote.