

WALKING by FAITH

Grade K / Home Lesson

CHAPTER 4 MARY, OUR MOTHER

Objectives

- Understand that Mary, the mother of Jesus, is our mother, too.
- Learn the Hail Mary.
- Explain that the whole Church honors and celebrates Mary as our mother.

Step 1: *We Are Invited* (Life Experience), page 19

Begin the lesson by praying the opening **Prayer** aloud. Invite your son or daughter to repeat it after you.

Talk with your child about how mothers take care of their children. Encourage your child to share ideas from his or her own experience. If your child does not live with his or her mother, talk about others who care for them.

Step 2: *We Explore* (Doctrine), page 19 continued

Talk about Mary as the loving mother of Jesus. Remind your child that at Christmas we celebrate the birth of Mary's son, Jesus.

Have your child point to the picture of Mary and Jesus on this page. Then have your child draw himself or herself into the picture to show that Mary is his or her mother too.

Tell your child that we have a special prayer to honor Mary called the *Hail Mary*. Explain that this prayer helps us remember that Mary is the mother of Jesus. Teach the prayer to your child. The entire text of the prayer can be found in the back of your child's textbook on page 139. Explain that the word *hail* is a greeting that means "hello."

Read aloud **Catholics Believe**. Talk about how special Mary was to be chosen by God to be the mother of Jesus, who is the Son of God.

Step 3: We Reflect (Integration of Faith into Everyday Life), page 20

If you have available a statue or picture of Mary in your home, show it to your child. Explain that many Catholics display pictures or statues of Mary in their homes, just as we display family pictures at home.

Explain that we honor Mary in prayer and celebration. In those celebrations, we often use the gifts of creation, such as flowers and happy music.

Have your child color the picture of Mary on this page. Ask him or her to draw a crown of flowers around Mary's head. If possible, play or sing a popular Marian hymn as your child works.

Read aloud the **Scripture** verse at the bottom of the page. Explain that these words from the Bible are Mary's words. Tell your child that the word *blessed* here means "chosen" or "holy."

As a way to enrich or review the lesson on Mary, have your child tear out pages 25–28 (**Scripture Story: Mary, Mother of Jesus**). Read the Scripture story with your child and help him or her do the activities found there.

Step 4: We Celebrate (Prayer and Conclusion)

Close the lesson by praying together the *Hail Mary*. Invite your child to repeat each line of the prayer after you. End with the Sign of the Cross.

For additional activities contact the director of religious education or teacher regarding *Reproducible Activities*, pages 11–13.