

Living in Community

Preparation for the Session

Turn to Page 105,
the Family + Faith page.

In this chapter you will help
your child to:

- Recognize that the mission of God the Son and the Holy Spirit is to bring all people into the love of the Holy Trinity
- Define morality as living in right relationship with God, yourself, and others
- Appreciate that God created all people for one another and we must all work for the common good
- Connect that our love of our neighbor reflects the love of the Holy Trinity

Read the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

Parents, Consider This: All communities, from your immediate family to entire nations, survive and thrive only when there is recognition of the common good, the needs of the group and all of its members. Your family is the best place to learn this way of thinking. As decisions come up that you need to make as a family, you'll need to make these decisions based on the common good for your whole family.

Read these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the chapter.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



Let's Sing: These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

- Raise Your Voice for Justice
- Peacemaker

INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

Turn to Page 97,
Living in Community

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



Let Us Pray Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

Explain that God is three Divine Persons in One God—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Say: God loves, not only in Heaven, but also in community, in a true and deepening relationship. The Father gives us Jesus, who in turn, reveals the Father and sends the Spirit.



Guide your child through the Preparing for God's Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God's Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

Invite your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

Say: God the Holy Trinity has created us to be like himself—to give ourselves in love to one another. Self-giving love is not always easy, but we do as God wants when we give of ourselves. Real happiness is found in becoming who we were made to be.

Have your child read the questions in the box and respond. Prompt what else they might wonder about relationships and living a moral life.

DISCOVER: Learning God's Truth

Turn to Page 98,
Created to Love

Read aloud the first paragraph. Move to the Catholic Faith Words box and review the definition of the **Holy Trinity**.

Have your child read the last two paragraphs.

Parents, Consider This: *Your loving God always supports you in living by his laws. The relationships that your family has with those in your community—in your parish for example—help you by surrounding you with other believers. The relationships you and your family have with others help you form a correct conscience and develop life-affirming habits.*

Refer to pages 308–309 of the Our Catholic Tradition reference section of your child's book for more information on the Holy Trinity.

Read aloud the first paragraph.

Tell your child that a community tries to achieve a balance between rights and responsibilities.

Read the second paragraph to introduce the Scripture story.

Ask: What does it mean to be created in the image of God?



Proclaim "The Communal Life."

Invite your child to imagine what it might have been like to live among the first Christians.

Turn to Page 99,
Right and Responsibility

Ask: How is our parish like the early Christians who shared all things in common? (we help people who need food, we share Eucharist together, we contribute to our parish financially)

Turn to Page 100,
Living as Catholics

Ask your child to describe what it means to live a moral life.

Read the first two paragraphs aloud. Point out that the early Christians took Jesus' example as their model and that we still do the same today.

Read the paragraphs under the "Moral Living" section.

Direct your child to the Catholic Faith Word box and identify the definitions for **morality** and the **common good**.

Turn to Page 101,
The Common Good

Read the content on this page aloud to your child.

Activity

Read the directions for the Connect Your Faith activity. Complete the activity.

Parents, Consider This: Blessed John Paul II, in *The Hundredth Year*, emphasized the world's interconnectedness. Despite our differences, we are one human family. Discuss as a family how people's actions affect our neighbors. As a family, think of one thing you can do to show kindness to a neighbor, such as greeting each other with a smile or praying for a neighbor who is ill.

LIVE: Living Our Faith

Turn to Page 102,
Our Catholic Life

Discuss the question, "How should you live as part of a community?"

Read the paragraphs under the question.



Do the gold-star activity.

Parents, Consider This: Part of living in a community is showing solidarity. As a family, watch for situations in your extended family, neighborhood, or community in which you can show you care. Be alert to situations in which people are suffering from a natural disaster, an illness, or a loss. Help your child find ways to show care and concern, such as writing notes, making cards, or contributing money.

Turn to Page 103,
People of Faith

Read the paragraph about Saint Dominic.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Talk about how your family works together for the good of each person.

Activity

Do the Live Your Faith activity. Discuss your child's responses.

Parents, Consider This: Share the story of Saint Dominic. He founded a religious order called the Order of Preachers, also known as the Dominicans. The spread of the Rosary is attributed to Saint Dominic. For centuries, Dominicans have helped to spread the Rosary and emphasized the belief in the power of the Rosary. When Saint Dominic was a young student, he gave away his money and sold his clothes and furniture to feed the poor. As a family, say the Rosary together.

Turn to Page 105,
Family + Faith Page and
conclude with the Let's Pray
prayer on this page.

Parents, Consider This: It is important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Glory Be (see Page 321), during your night prayer this week.



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student and Family section of aliveinchrist.osv.com.