

CHAPTER 24 Matrimony and Holy Orders

Centering

- ✦ Read aloud the chapter title.
- ✦ Ask: **How are the following preparing you for adulthood: doing chores?** (prepares a person for responsibility and for owning a home) **Belonging to a sports team?** (prepares a person to make choices, work with others, use self-control, work toward a goal) **Going to school?** (prepares a person for a profession; helps a person grow intellectually)
- ✦ Say: **You have learned what it means to be courageous witnesses and members of the community of love, the Church. Today you will consider two ways people are called to serve God.**

Sharing PAGE 195

- ✦ Have your child read aloud What Do I Do? on page 195. Ask: **How is your life like a puzzle?**
- ✦ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph of Your Life Call and the Scripture passage.
- ✦ Ask: **How do you know if a person is holy?** Say: **Part of being holy is loving our neighbor.** (Leviticus 19:18) Ask: **Who is the holiest person who ever lived?** (Jesus)
- ✦ Have your child finish reading this section silently. Ask: **How can you respond to God's call right now?** (develop my talents so I can serve others better; witness to God's love in my family and with my friends)
- ✦ Say: **Each way of life has its joy and pain. Each challenges a person to discover and develop his or her talents. Each offers opportunity to grow in holiness and to bring people to the kingdom through loving service.**
- ✦ Ask: **How can a lay Catholic sometimes influence others more than an ordained person or a religious?** (A lay Catholic can bring Christ's values to places where ordained people and religious are not present. Lay people may have more influence over their peers.)
- ✦ Ask: **Should a normal young person, who has faults and gets into trouble, consider becoming a priest, a deacon, or a religious?** (Yes.) **Why?** (Priests, deacons, and religious are human. They are sinners like everyone else and desire to serve God.)
- ✦ Have your child read silently Call to Single Life and complete the activity.
- ✦ Say: **Some people choose the single life. Others are single because they are not yet married, are widowed, are separated from their spouse, or have family responsibilities.**

Sharing PAGE 196

- ◆ Have your child read and complete Call to Married Life on page 196.
- ◆ Have your child read silently A Covenant of Love. Ask: **What do you remember about covenants?** (God made covenants with Abraham, Noah, Moses, and the Israelites. Jesus instituted the new covenant in his blood.)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the definition of Matrimony from the Glossary. Say: **As Christ is faithful to his Church, so are husbands and wives called to be faithful to their marriage partners.**
- ◆ Have your child read silently Covenant Fidelity. Ask: **What is Christian marriage founded on?** (the sacredness of human life and the family)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the questions in Before Marrying. Ask: **What does it mean to be ready for marriage?** (You realize what marriage means. You can assume the responsibilities of it.)

Sharing PAGE 197

- ◆ Have your child read silently Mission to Love on page 197. Ask: **How can the family live out its mission of serving, worshiping, and evangelizing?**
- ◆ Have your child read silently Call to Priesthood and Diaconate. Ask: **What are the characteristics of an ordained minister?** Say: **An order is a type of ordained ministry in the Church.** Ask: **What orders are included in the Sacrament of Holy Orders?** (deacons, priests, bishops) **Who is the bishop of our diocese? Who is our parish priest?** Help your child find the answers if he or she doesn't know the names.
- ◆ Ask: **What are the three roles of a priest?** (a leader in proclaiming God's Word, a mediator in the sacraments, a servant of the Church)

Sharing PAGE 198

- ◆ Have your child read silently Call to Religious Life on page 198. Ask: **What do all religious have in common?** (prayer, community life, vows)
- ◆ Say: **When an individual answers God's call to enter religious life, he or she joins a community. The members pray together, share means together, and build friendships with one another. They encourage one another to live per the Gospel and serve the needs of the Church.**
- ◆ Say: **By the vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience, the religious dedicate their whole lives to God and living as Jesus lived.**
- ◆ Have your child read silently Listen. Then lead in prayer using A Moment with Jesus.

Acting PAGES 199–200

- ◆ Read the Chapter 24 Summary on page 199 together, then have your child complete the Review Activities on page 200 independently. When he or she is done, go through his or her work and review any incorrect answers.

Gather and Go Forth PAGES 201–202**INSPIRE**

- ✦ Read aloud the text and the Scripture in the sidebar on page 201. Say: **The Sacrament of Matrimony and the Sacrament of Holy Orders ask people to put God at the center of their lives.**

PROCLAIM

- ✦ Read aloud the Know and Proclaim text and the chart. Say: **God is always with us. Sometimes we have to slow down, quiet ourselves, and be still to recognize God’s presence.**
- ✦ Read aloud the question and answers in Test Your Catholic Knowledge. Have your child answer the question and ask: **How do deacons, priests, and bishops serve the Church?** (They administer the sacraments and teach the truths of the faith.)
- ✦ Read aloud A Catholic to Know on page 202. Say: **Saint John Leonardi’s story tells us that one well-lived life can make a difference to God and to others.**
- ✦ Read aloud the Witness and Share introductory text. Then read aloud each faith statement in My Way to Faith, pausing to allow time for your child to reflect on each one.
- ✦ Read aloud the Share Your Faith directions and have your child complete the activity.

TRANSFORM

- ✦ Ask your child to consider a vocation as a priest or a religious brother or sister. Ask: **Where is your call to holiness leading you?**
- ✦ Pray aloud: **O God, your Son, Jesus, told us the harvest is ready, but the laborers are few. May your Holy Spirit inspire men and women to continue his mission. May this same Spirit make known your will for my life.**