

## Living as God's Children

### Engage: Page 135

- ▶ Together look through a family photo album. Recall happy times that your family has spent with one another.
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. Point out the picture. **Ask:** *How can you tell the people in this family are enjoying themselves? (They are laughing.)* **Say:** *In this session we will learn more about living as God's children.*
- ▶ Together plan a family get-together for the near future. Think about an activity that will make everyone in your family happy. Pray aloud the prayer together.

### Explore: Pages 136–137

- ▶ Display a greeting card. **Ask:** *When do you send cards? (for birthdays, when someone is sick, to congratulate) Why do you give cards? (to show you care)*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Our Call to Care on page 136. **Ask:** *What is another word for justice? (fairness)*
- ▶ Read aloud My Letter of Thanks. After your child completes the letter, invite him or her to share it with you.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud Saint Louise de Marillac Cared on page 137. **Ask:** *What do the Sisters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul do? (work in orphanages, hospitals, and schools)* **Say:** *Louise de Marillac is an example of how the smallest effort spreads God's love to many people.*
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** *A burden is something that is difficult to carry. When we help people with their problems, we are sharing their burdens.*

### Art Exploration: Page 249

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of Saint Paul.
- ▶ **Say:** *What do you see in this picture?* Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including the colors and the halo around Saint Paul's head.
- ▶ **Say:** *Paul was happy when he saw how his Church family grew in its faith.*
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 249. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph and the Scripture passage of Saint Paul's Joy. **Ask:** *How did Paul's friends know he loved them? (He wrote them letters.)* **Say:** *Paul started churches in many places. He stayed close to his Church family, just as we are close to those we love.*
- ▶ Have your child read aloud the directions and complete the activity.
- ▶ Read aloud the Link to Liturgy feature. Check the Sunday Connection at [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com) to find a Second Reading from Paul for an upcoming Sunday.
- ▶ Give your child a cross that is cut from construction paper. In advance cut out two-inch pieces of its interior, allowing the paper to serve as "lead" for a stained-glass window. Ask your child to cut and tape colored cellophane behind the cross, making a faux stained-glass picture to hang in one of your windows.

### Reflect: Pages 138–139

- ▶ Together look at page 138. **Say:** *These are photos from one family. We can show our love for our family members by holding each of them in our hearts as we pray. We can look at them with Jesus' eyes of love, and we can ask Jesus to bless them.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph slowly, pausing for a few seconds between sentences so that your child can reflect on your family. Continue with the second and third paragraphs. Pause for personal reflection. Lead your child in praying the Sign of the Cross.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud page 139. **Say:** *When we work together with family members, we show one another that we care. By sharing the work, we help bring peace to our families. Work through each situation together, coming up with ways your child could help in each situation.*

### Respond: Page 140

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Word I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can do chores for someone who needs help.
- ▶ Read aloud the prayer as your child follows along. Pray the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Read aloud the With My Family suggestions. Invite your child to choose one or more to complete today.