



Sacraments, Our Way of Life

Begin

Say: Think about things you do well. **Ask:** What is one of your strengths? Share your own strengths with your child. **Say:** Our strengths are gifts from God. Read aloud the unit title on page 91. **Say:** This unit helps us learn about people whose strength was following God and leading others to do the same. We will also learn how we encounter Jesus today through the sacraments.

Introduce the Saint

Focus your child's attention on the image of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.

Ask: How is Saint Ignatius portrayed? (He has a halo around his head. He looks holy.) Have your child read aloud the text. **Say:** Saint Ignatius lived 500 years ago, but he still has followers today—about 20,000, and they work in 112 countries. They are called Jesuits.

Turn to page 92. Have your child read the page silently. **Ask:** Where did the Jesuits in Ignatius's time work? (in Europe and Japan) What gave Ignatius the strength to do his work? (prayer, Mass)

Say: Saint Ignatius's leadership made a difference in the Church. We will read about several Old Testament leaders—prophets—who also made a difference. They encouraged people when life was difficult and reminded them to follow God's laws.

With your child add Ignatius's feast day, July 31, to your calendar. Plan an event together to celebrate the work of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.



Prophets Challenge the People

Engage: Page 93

- ▶ **Ask:** Have you ever told a friend something he or she didn't want to hear? Why were you truthful? How did your friend react? Was it easy or hard for you? Why?
- ▶ Read aloud the session title and the text in the blue box. Discuss your child's response. **Say:** In this session we will learn about how God spoke through people who wanted to help others live good lives, even when it was challenging for them to share God's message.
- ▶ Ask your child to make a list of people in his or her life who are truthful and give a reason why each person is trustworthy. Pray aloud the prayer together.

Explore: Pages 94–95

- ▶ Discuss historical figures who have stood up for their beliefs such as Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr. **Ask:** How did people react to their message?
- ▶ Have your child read silently page 94. Together look at the map of the area in Old Testament times in the Children's Book. **Ask:** What did prophets do? (They told people that society could live in harmony by following God's commandments.) What message did Jeremiah give the exiled Jews? (that God's love would be with them no matter where they were)
- ▶ Read aloud God Calls Isaiah on page 95 and point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** How did the angel purify, or cleanse, Isaiah? (The angel used fire to get rid of Isaiah's sin.) What was Isaiah's response to God's call? ("Here I am; send me!")
- ▶ Read aloud the Reading God's Word feature. **Say:** In this verse, Isaiah was calling on God to comfort the Jewish people as they neared the end of their exile.

Art Exploration: Page 244

- ▶ Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of the prophet Jeremiah.
- ▶ **Ask:** What do you see in this picture? Encourage your child to describe the picture in detail, including how the prophet Jeremiah is dressed.
- ▶ **Say:** The prophets who called the Chosen People to repentance and conversion were powerful witnesses to God.
- ▶ Have your child turn to page 244. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.



- ▶ Have your child read silently A Prophet's Challenge. **Ask:** *What did the prophets ask the rulers, priests, and people to do?* (turn away from their sinful ways, turn their lives back to God)
- ▶ Read aloud A Prophecy for Today. Allow time for your child to write his or her messages and share them with you.
- ▶ Have your child choose one prophecy he or she wrote to illustrate as a bumper sticker. Make a long rectangle by folding a sheet of drawing paper in half. Ask your child to write the message neatly and then illustrate the bumper sticker. Display the message in your home.

Reflect: Pages 96–97

- ▶ Together look at page 96. **Say:** *The girl in the picture is sharing her music. Ask God to show you how to be more like the prophets and share his message with others.*
- ▶ Read aloud the first paragraph. Have your child read aloud the prayer. Read aloud the last paragraph and ask your child to reflect on the words you just prayed. Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross together.
- ▶ Have your child read aloud What It Means to Reform on page 97. Point out the vocabulary word. **Ask:** *What are some reforms for which the Catholic Church works?* (abortion laws, immigration, migrant workers, the death penalty) Have your child complete the activity and discuss his or her ideas with you.
- ▶ Read aloud the Meet a Modern Prophet feature. **Ask:** *What are some things that Dorothy Day tried to reform?* (She worked to help those who were poor and those who were homeless. She protested war.)

Respond: Page 98

- ▶ Ask your child to read aloud the Faith Summary. Review the Words I Learned in this session. Read aloud Ways of Being Like Jesus. Ask your child to suggest specific ways he or she can speak out against injustices.
- ▶ 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.