SESSION 21

## Jesus Opens Our Eyes

Keep these ideas in mind as you study Unit 5, Session 21.

Raymond Kolbe, devoted to the Blessed Virgin, chose the name Maximilian Mary when he took his final vows. He hid 2,000 Jews from Nazi persecution but was eventually taken to a concentration camp, where he remained steadfast in his faith until his death. **PAGE 178** 

After Jesus rose from the dead, he spent 40 days among his disciples before ascending into Heaven. His Ascension celebrates the entrance of his humanity into divine glory.

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From Heaven, Jesus and the Father sent the Holy Spirit. Jesus' pathway through life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension is our pathway, too, as we hope to be reunited with God in eternal life.

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Since Jesus' time, Christians have been listening to the living Word of God and receiving the Eucharist. Just as people on a journey choose paths, the early Christian community called itself the Way. The Eucharist nourishes us on the Way.

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The dignity of work is the sense of purpose and achievement that comes from doing work well. In work, people fulfill part of their potential given to them by God.

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A reasonable goal of work is to make money to meet our needs and the needs of those who depend on us. More importantly, work is a way to participate in God's creation.

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The Tenth Commandment teaches us not to desire more than we need or to desire what belongs to our neighbors. Consumerism is giving undue value to the acquisition of material goods. We strive to put God, not material goods, at the center of our lives.

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We become coworkers with God when we accept his invitation to take up his work in the world, bringing us to greater life and joy.

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God has given each of us gifts, talents, skills, and interests that are unique. Saint Paul told the early Christian community that there were different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit. It takes time to understand our gifts and the purpose, or mission, in life to which God calls us.

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All people have the right to the moral use of the earth's goods. PAGE 183

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