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## Q <br> Unit 2 Irinity

## In this unit you will...

learn that you are made in God's image and likeness and are to live and love in community. Showing love to others is a way we reflect the love of the Holy Trinity. Sin is the failure to do so. You will learn that Persons of the Trinity help you to do good and avoid evil. You do this by using your free will and following your conscience.


Catholic Social Teaching Principle: Life and Dignity of the Human Person

## Let Us Pray

Leader: God, we give you praise and thanks for all creation.
"When you send forth your breath, they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth."
Psalm 104:30
All: God, we give you praise and thanks for all creation. Amen.

## Me I Am

There is no other ME I AM who thinks the thoughts I do; the world contains one ME I AM, there is no room for two. I am the only ME I AM this earth shall ever see; that ME I AM I always am is no one else but ME!

A selection from the poem by Jack Prelutsky
Think about the best thing about being you.
-What special gifts and talents has God given you?

- Design Your Coat of Arms Design a coat of arms with symbols that tell what is special about you.


# An Image of Love 

## Focus

 What does it mean to be created in the image of God?
## FaithFact

James Augustine Healy
was the first African
American Catholic bishop
in the United States. He was named bishop of
Portland, Maine, in 1875.

God has given you life. He has created you and all people to reflect his own image of love. God's image can shine in you and in every person you meet. The story of Rosa Parks teaches us that all people should be treated equally.

A BIOGRAPHY

## Rosa Parks

On the evening of December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks boarded a public bus in Montgomery, Alabama, and took a seat in the white section. The bus filled quickly, and soon there were no more seats. The driver noticed that Rosa, a black woman, was not sitting in the colored section. He asked Rosa to move to the back of the bus, but she refused. She did not argue. She simply did not move.

Before the 1960s, African Americans were unjustly treated because of their skin color. They were separated from the rest of society in many ways. Long after that day on the bus, Rosa Parks wrote, "Our mistreatment was just not right, and I was tired of it. I kept thinking about my mother and my
grandparents, and how strong they were. I knew there was a possibility of being mistreated, but an opportunity was being given to me to do what I had asked of others."
(?) When have you observed that someone was being treated in a certain way simply because of the color of his or her skin?

## Created with Dignity

Rosa Parks was a true hero of the struggle for human rights in the United States. Yet she began by doing one simple thing on a day when she was tired. Rosa expressed the very basic Christian belief that all people have dignity because they are created in God's image.

## S CRIPTURE

God created man in his image;
in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:27

## Werds

 of FaithDignity is self-worth. Every human is worthy of respect because he or she is made in the image of God.

Soul is the spiritual part of a human that lives forever.

God made you with a human body, and you have a soul that will live forever. God gave you the ability to think, to love, and to make choices. You can make choices for human dignity every day.

## Activity

## Share Your Faith

Reflect: Think of a time when you or someone you know showed respect or treated someone with dignity.
Share: Tell a partner what happened.
Act: List some ways you can protect the dignity of others.

## Made to Love

God created you to be united to him and to all people. Every time you act in a loving way, you deepen your connection to God and to the members of the Church, the Body of Christ. When you choose to treat someone badly, you hurt this person and the whole community of faith. You choose not to show love and respect.

## Failure to Love

$\operatorname{Sin}$ is always a failure to love. A sinful thought, word, or act also hurts your friendship with God. Sin affects you, too, and keeps you from becoming the person God wants you to be.

There are two kinds of personal sin-mortal and venial. Serious sins, such as murder, are called mortal sins. They destroy the friendship a person has with God and with others. In order for a sin to be mortal, the act must be seriously wrong, you must know that it is seriously wrong, and you must freely choose to do it anyway.

Venial sins are less serious sins. They are things that you do, such as disobeying, cheating, and lying, or bad habits that you develop, such as being lazy or dishonest. Sometimes sin is a failure to act. This is a $\sin$ of omission. An example of this would be to remain silent when someone tells a joke that makes fun of another person or group. Venial sin hurts your friendship with God and others, but it does not destroy it.

## Love and Respect

Social $\sin$ refers to the results of $\sin$ that can build up over time in a community or nation. One example of social $\sin$ is not allowing someone of a certain race or group to buy a house in a certain neighborhood. Rosa Parks acted against inequality and social sin. She defended her own dignity and the dignity of others.

All people are equal. Every person has dignity and is worthy of respect because he or she is made in God's image. Because he is the Son of God, Jesus is the perfect image of God. You are called to become more like Jesus and to reflect the love and care that he shows all people.

## Werds

 of FaithSin is a deliberate thought, word, deed, or omission contrary to the law of God.
Social $\sin$ is a sinful social structure or institution that builds up over time so that it affects the whole society.


## connect Your

Ask for Forgiveness Everybody sins, but not everybody asks for God's forgiveness. Write a personal prayer, asking God's forgiveness for some of your past actions.

Seeing God's Image
Focus
Where do you see God's Image?

God shows you something of what he is like through his image in people and the reflections of him in the world he created. If you are alert to these clues, you will learn many things about him.


## Nature Shows the Glory of God

The loveliness of a flower or the brilliance of a sunset tells you something about God. Reflections of his glory may bring with them feelings of love or peace that fill your soul. Take a moment to look closely at nature and find the reflection of God in it.

## People Show the Glory of God

Think about people who have shown you love. These might include your parents or guardians, a good and loyal friend, an understanding teacher, or a devoted grandparent. A tiny baby may make you think of God's power and wonder. An older person may remind you of God's wisdom.
(7) When have you seen a reflection of God in another person?

## Activity <br> Live Your Faith

Make a Collage By using pictures cut from magazines or by drawing the pictures yourself, make a collage of items that show reflections of God. These can include people, nature scenes, or other items. After you have finished, choose one item from your collage. Explain why it is special to you, and share your writing with the class.

## Prayer for Dignity and Respect

Let Us Pray
Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

Sing together.
Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.
"Behold, I Make All Things New" © 1994, The Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Reader: God of life, All: We pray for the dignity of life.
Reader: God of creation, All: We pray for the dignity of life.
Reader: God, the source of all life,
All: We pray for the dignity of life.
Reader: God, the protector of all humanity,
All: We pray for the dignity of life.
Leader: God, we give you praise and thanks for all creation.
All: Amen.
(4) Work with Words Circle True if a statement is true, and circle False if a statement is false. Correct any false statements.

1. A bully can never reflect God's image.

True
False
2. God is with everyone at all times in all places.

True
False
3. You commit a mortal sin when you cheat on a spelling test.

True False
4. Rosa Parks was a victim of social sin.

True False
5. Each person is unique and created by God.

True
False
(3) Check Understanding Complete the following statements.
6. The $\qquad$ is the spiritual part of you that lives forever.
7. You have $\qquad$ because you are made in the image of God.
8. When you commit a $\qquad$ you hurt your friendship with God.
9. and $\qquad$ show the glory of God.
10. You are $\qquad$ to show God's love and care to others, as Jesus did.

## (unc) Eimily Eailh

## Activity

## Catholics Believe

- Every person is worthy of respect because he or she is created in God's image.
Each person has a soul that will live forever.


## S GRIPTURE

Read Leviticus 19:1-18, 31-37 to learn other ways in which you can respect others and yourself and treat each person with dignity.

## Live Your Faith

Inside and Outside When we respect our own dignity and that of others, we give honor to God, who has created us in his image. Gather some paper bags and magazines. Find pictures that show how you think others see you. Glue the pictures on the outside of a bag. Then find and place pictures inside the bag that show what God sees in you. Invite each person to share the contents of the bag if he or she wishes.


- Saint Teresa Benedicta 1891-1942


## People off F'aith

Saint Teresa Benedicta was a teacher, a convert, and a Carmelite nun. Born Edith Stein, she lived during the first part of the twentieth century and took the name Teresa Benedicta. Her life was dedicated to teaching, especially the teaching of young girls and women. During the Nazi persecution of Jews, Edith was arrested and executed at Auschwitz. She is a model of the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation during a time of great violence. Saint Teresa's feast day is August 9.

## Family Prayer

Saint Teresa, may your life be a model. Pray for us that we might learn to forgive, even our enemies. Amen.

