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**SCRIPTURE**

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- The stories of creation from the Book of Genesis reveal that God alone created the universe.
- God created man and woman in his own image to live in harmony with him for all eternity.

**SCRIPTURE**

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**SCRIPTURE**

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- The Passover and the Eucharist celebrate God's saving action.

**SCRIPTURE**

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- The Ten Commandments help you stay close to God and in right relationship with others.
- The Ten Commandments are the laws of God's covenant with the Israelites, which was revealed in its fullness in Jesus.

**SCRIPTURE**

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- God the Father anointed his Son Jesus with the Holy Spirit to be priest, prophet, and king.

**SCRIPTURE**

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**SCRIPTURE**

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- Prophets of the Old Testament spoke for God, telling people to repent and obey God's laws.
- Christians believe that Jesus is the Messiah described by the Old Testament prophets.

**SCRIPTURE**

The Chosen One

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- The gospels are called the good news of Jesus because they proclaim his life and teachings.
- They are interpreted by the Church through Tradition and are the source of our belief.

**SCRIPTURE**

In the Temple

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The Anointed One

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- Jesus laid the foundation for the Church through his life and teachings. He sent the Holy Spirit to help the Church fulfill its mission.
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**SCRIPTURE**

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- The Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.
- The Church is a community of people, united in faith, working together to share the gospel, and to become closer to God.

**SCRIPTURE**

One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

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- The Great Commandment of Jesus allows you to achieve happiness and holiness.
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**SCRIPTURE**

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- Working toward justice means respecting the dignity of persons and peoples.
- Justice is giving what is due to God and others. Where justice is absent, peace is not possible.

**SCRIPTURE**

The Path to Righteousness

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- Through the Sacraments of Initiation, Christians are given new life and are called to spread the good news.

**SCRIPTURE**

Philip and the Ethiopian

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- Members of the communion of saints can intercede, or pray to God for others.
- The communion of saints includes all holy persons, both living and dead, who are united in the Eucharist.

**SCRIPTURE**

The Christian Community

Acts 2:42–47, 4:32–37

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- All of the baptized are called to follow Christ by serving others.
- Ordained ministers serve God through preaching the word and through celebrating the sacraments.

**SCRIPTURE**

The Washing of the Disciples' Feet

John 13:1–15

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- Catholics work to reunite the Body of Christ because God desires the unity of Christians.
- Today the ecumenical movement looks for ways to help all Christians work toward unity.

**SCRIPTURE**

The Prayer of Jesus

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- Matrimony helps a man and woman grow in love and holiness and prepare a home for children.
- The Church celebrates marriage through the Sacrament of Matrimony.

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- God will triumph over evil when Christ comes again in glory.
- In the new creation, God will reward good and punish evil.

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## Unit 2 Trinity

### In this unit you will...

learn that God invites all humans on a journey of faith. The Old Testament reveals the way God's people experienced his saving actions on their faith journey. God the Father continued his saving work by sending his Son, Jesus. Jesus teaches us to love as he loves. He establishes a new covenant at the Last Supper, and by his life, death, Resurrection, and Ascension he fulfills the covenant first established with the Israelites.



What do you think you will learn in this unit about your journey of faith?

## Chapter

## 4

# Invitation to Faith



## Let Us Pray

**Leader:** Faithful God, thank you for caring for us.

"My travels and my rest you mark;  
with all my ways you are familiar."

*Psalms 139:3*

**All:** Faithful God, thank you for caring for us. Amen.

## Activity Let's Begin

**A Journey** Traveling can be fun. You may be going to see friends or family members whom you have not seen in a long time. You may be taking a train or flying for the first time.

Taking a trip can also be unsettling. You may not know what to pack because you don't know what the weather will be like, or you may be afraid that you will not be able to find the place that you plan to visit.

Your journeys through life can be both exciting and scary. Journeys include both changes and challenges. Because there are often many unknowns, a journey can also include taking some risks.

- Imagine that life is a journey that requires a backpack containing only five things. What five things will you pack? Tell why you will include them.

# Abram and Sarai's Journey



**Focus** Who is Abraham?



The risks involved in a journey are not so scary if you know that God is with you. Abram and Sarai learned that God was with them always. They remained faithful to God, and God blessed them.



**SCRIPTURE**

**The Book of Genesis**

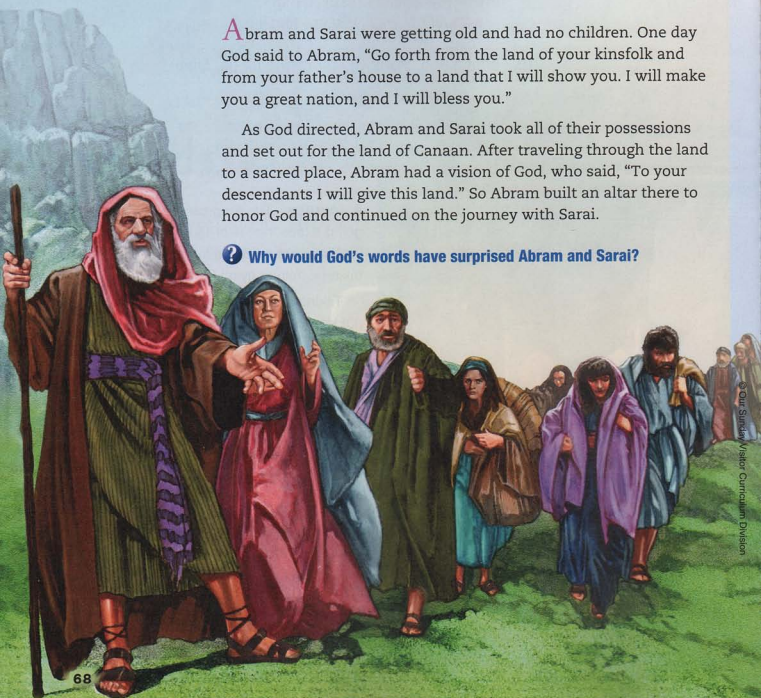
## Abram's Call

Abram and Sarai were getting old and had no children. One day God said to Abram, "Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you."

As God directed, Abram and Sarai took all of their possessions and set out for the land of Canaan. After traveling through the land to a sacred place, Abram had a vision of God, who said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So Abram built an altar there to honor God and continued on the journey with Sarai.



**Why would God's words have surprised Abram and Sarai?**





## The Journey Continues

God appeared again to Abram and told him that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky and that they would have a land of their own. Although he had no children, Abram put his faith in God. God changed Abram's name to Abraham and Sarai's name to Sarah as a sign of the covenant.

One day three men visited Abraham and Sarah. The couple quickly prepared a meal for their guests. The men told Abraham that Sarah would have a son, as God had promised. Sarah was listening and laughed to herself because she was too old to have children. But within a year Sarah did give birth to a son and named him Isaac, which means "one who laughs."

Based on Genesis 12:1-9; 15:1-6, 18; 17:4-5, 15-16; 18:1-14; 21:1-6

**?** How did God keep his promise to Abraham and Sarah?

### Activity

## Share Your Faith

**Reflect:** Think about important qualities that believers share, and unscramble the letters below to discover three of these qualities.

**Share:** With a partner, share examples of how Abraham and Sarah showed these qualities.

**Act:** Write one example of each quality from today's world, and present your examples to the class.

1. fitah

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2. opeh

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3. velo

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# God's Plan of Salvation


**Focus**
**What does it mean to have faith?**

The faith journey that began with Abraham continued with his son Isaac and Isaac's son Jacob. It is from Jacob that the nation of Israel would take its name.


**SCRIPTURE**
**The Book of Genesis**

## The Story of Joseph

In the Book of Genesis, Jacob was renamed *Israel* after wrestling with an angel. The name means “one who struggles with God.”

Jacob became the father of twelve sons, but Joseph was his favorite. Joseph's brothers were jealous of him and plotted to get rid of him. They sold him to a caravan of travelers, and Joseph became a slave. Because he could interpret dreams, Joseph saved Egypt from starvation during a great famine. Joseph's brothers arrived in Egypt to buy food and were united with Joseph, who invited them to settle there.

Based on Genesis 37–45

**?** If Joseph's story were made into a movie, what might the title be?



## God Invites

As seen through the faith stories of Abraham, Sarah, and their descendants, God keeps his promise of salvation.

You encounter God today through the Bible, the sacraments, and the Church. God's Son, Jesus, is the way of salvation for you. The Holy Spirit, whom Jesus sent, will help you on your faith journey. Wherever you go, God the Father is with you.

God invites you to respond to him in the same way that Abraham and Sarah did—with **faith**. This means that you freely choose to believe in God and all that God has revealed. When you respond to God with faith, you offer your heart and mind to him. You begin your own journey of faith, as Abraham and Sarah did. You have faith that God will guide you and keep his promises to you.

## Faith and Prayer

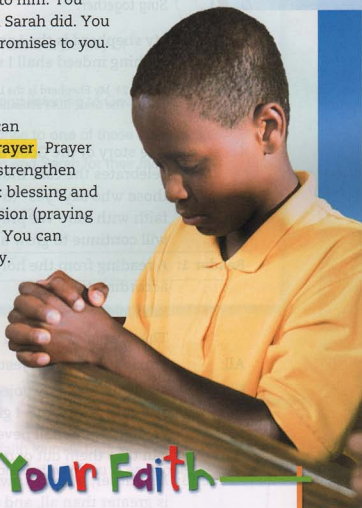
God still speaks to people today, and people can communicate with God. This is done through **prayer**. Prayer begins and ends with listening to God. You can strengthen your faith with prayer, using one of these forms: blessing and adoration, petition for your own needs, intercession (praying for the needs of others), thanksgiving, or praise. You can take time to pray at any time throughout the day.

- ? When and where are you most comfortable praying?
- ? What helps you listen for God's voice?

## Words of Faith

**Faith** is believing in God and all that God has revealed. Faith is both a gift from God and a free choice.

**Prayer** is raising your mind and heart to God. In prayer, you both listen and talk to God.



## Activity

## Connect Your Faith

**Choose Gestures** Write the names of the five prayer forms on this page. Choose a prayerful gesture for each form, and share it with your class.

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# Celebration of the Word



## Let Us Pray

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.



Sing together.

My shepherd is the Lord,  
nothing indeed shall I want.

"Psalm 23: My Shepherd Is the Lord"

© 1963, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

**Leader:** The story of the Good Shepherd celebrates the care that Jesus gives to those who say "yes" to a journey of faith with him. We pray that our faith will continue to grow as he leads us.

**Reader 1:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Read John 10:14–18.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Reader 2:** My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand.

**Reader 3:** My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand.

John 10:27–29

**Leader:** Let us pray.

Bow your heads as the leader prays.

**All:** Amen.



Jesus as the Good Shepherd,  
Exeter Cathedral, England



# Review and Apply

## **A Work with Words** Complete the following statements.

1. God promised that he would make a great \_\_\_\_\_ from Abram and his descendants.
2. Sarah gave birth to a son whose name was \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Jacob received the name \_\_\_\_\_, which means "one who struggles with God."
4. The journey that God calls you to make is a journey of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is talking to and listening to God.

## **B Make Connections** Write your response to **one** of these questions.

- In what ways did God bless Abraham and Sarah for their faith in him?
- How do you show your own faith in God?

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## Activity

## Live Your Faith

**Track Your Journey** Make a time line of your faith journey thus far. Include several significant events, and tell how God was present with you in each one.



# Family Faith



## Catholics Believe

- God calls you on a journey of faith toward salvation.
- The path toward salvation is paved with prayer, which allows the Holy Spirit to lead you away from sin.



## SCRIPTURE

Read *Romans 1:8–15* to learn about others who praised God for his assistance on their faith journey.



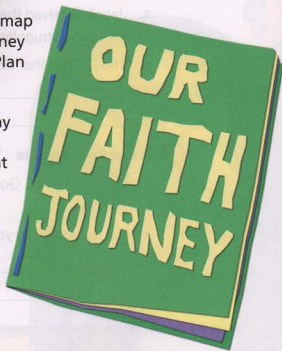
[www.osvcurriculum.com](http://www.osvcurriculum.com)

For weekly scripture readings and seasonal resources

## Activity

# Live Your Faith

**Plan Your Trip** Each person has his or her own journey of faith toward salvation, but your family is also on a journey together. Create a map of your family journey for the next year. Plan some of the stops your family will make along the way on the journey of faith. Plot important events, such as birthdays and holidays, that you foresee along the way.



▲ Saint Monica  
c. 331–387

## People of Faith

**Monica**, a woman of great faith, lived in North Africa. Through Monica's influence, both her husband and mother-in-law were baptized. Monica had a son named Augustine. In his youth, Augustine led a disgraceful life. For many years Monica prayed constantly for his conversion, and her prayers were answered. With God's help, Augustine turned his life around and became a great bishop, writer, and teacher. Today the Church honors him and his mother as saints. Saint Monica's feast day is August 27.



## Family Prayer

**Saint Monica, pray for us that we may follow your example of faithful prayer. Remind us to pray for our family members. Amen.**

In Unit 2 your child is learning about the TRINITY.

Chapter  
**5**

# God's Saving Action



Let Us Pray

**Leader:** Eternal God, make us open to your presence.

"Blessed be the Lord day by day,  
God, our salvation, who carries us."

*Psalm 68:20*

**All:** Eternal God, make us open to your presence. Amen.

Activity

Let's Begin

**A Hero** A hero in a comic book may have big muscles or supernatural powers. A sports hero is admired for his or her physical abilities. A hero in an adventure story is courageous in the face of danger. People look up to heroes and want to be like them.

Heroes are also those who go to work every day and do their jobs. The work they do makes people such as nurses, ambulance drivers, firefighters, and police officers true heroes. Occasionally their names appear in the news. But every day they are heroes.

- Who are your heroes? What qualities do you find heroic?

# God Calls People


**Focus**

## How does God save his people?

God calls ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things. From biblical times to the present, God calls people where they are to do his work.

### A REAL-LIFE STORY

## September 11, 2001

September 11, 2001, began like any other day. But before it was over, Victoria and Richie had become heroes. Victoria was in the World Trade Center in New York City when she heard shouts and loud noises. It was 8:52 A.M. Terrorists had crashed an airplane into one of the twin towers.

Victoria was the director of a New York train system. She realized that if the tower collapsed, everyone in the train station under the towers would be in great danger. Victoria quickly phoned Richie, the train master, and told him not to let any passengers out at the World Trade Center.

Richie acted right away. He told the train conductors to keep all of the passengers on the trains and to pick up everyone else at the station. By 10:29 A.M. both towers had collapsed. Thanks to Victoria and Richie, thousands of people were saved.

**? What qualities did Victoria and Richie have that allowed them to respond the way they did?**





## God Saves

The Old Testament contains many stories of people whom God called to do extraordinary things. Moses was one of these people. Through him, you can see God's saving power at work.



### SCRIPTURE

### The Book of Exodus

## Moses

After the time of Joseph, the pharaoh of Egypt made the Hebrews his slaves. Despite their slavery, the Hebrews, also called Israelites, grew stronger and more numerous. Finally, the pharaoh ordered every Hebrew boy to be killed.

To save her child, Moses' mother placed him in a basket and floated the basket on the Nile River. The pharaoh's daughter found Moses and raised him in the royal palace.

When Moses was a man, God sent him to the pharaoh to demand freedom for the Hebrews. Moses did as God asked, but the pharaoh refused to listen. God then sent nine plagues to the Egyptians. When the pharaoh still refused, God sent a tenth plague, the angel of death, to kill all of the firstborn Egyptian sons.

Based on Exodus 1:6—2:10, 7:1—11:10, 12:29

**?** What qualities did Moses have that helped him answer God's call?

### Activity

## Share Your Faith

**Reflect:** Reflect on what you already know about how God called Moses.

**Share:** In a small group, read and discuss *Exodus 3:1–22*.

**Act:** In the space below, draw a symbol that expresses the message of the reading.



# Remembrance Meals



## Focus

What is the meaning of the Passover meal and the Last Supper?

## Faith Fact

In the Old Testament, the name *Lord* (in capital letters) is the Hebrew word *Yahweh*. *Yahweh* is the name of the God of Israel. In the Hebrew Scriptures, *Yahweh* is written with the four consonants YHWH.

In the Bible, you read about two special meals. In the Old Testament, God commands the Jewish people to remember the Exodus by celebrating the Passover meal. In the New Testament, Jesus tells his followers to remember him in the breaking of bread.

## The Passover Meal

Before God sent the final plague, he gave Moses special instructions for the people of Israel. Each family was to kill and eat a lamb and cover the door frame of the home with the lamb's blood. The angel of death would pass over the houses marked with blood, sparing the firstborn sons of the Israelites.

On that last night in Egypt, the people had to eat quickly, making bread without yeast to save time.

This great and terrible night is known as the **Passover** of the Lord because it was the night that death passed over the houses of the Israelites. It would be remembered as a new beginning for the people—the night that, through Moses, God delivered them from slavery to freedom. This was the beginning of the **Exodus**.

Since that time, the descendants of the Israelites, later called *Jews*, have eaten a special meal called the *Passover Seder* to remember, make present, and celebrate God's saving power. The people eat bitter herbs to remind them of their ancestors' bitter suffering as slaves in Egypt. They also eat unleavened bread called *matzoh*. Like the bread Moses and his people ate on the first Passover night, *matzoh* contains no yeast and does not need to rise before it is baked.



The Jewish Passover Seder Meal

- ❓ How does the Passover meal help people remember the Exodus?
- ❓ Why is Passover still celebrated by Jews today?

## Jesus Saves

God made a covenant with both Moses and the Israelites, an agreement that he would be their God and that they would be his people. When God the Father sent his Son, he made a new covenant with all people forever. This covenant calls for the same kind of faithfulness that the earlier covenant promised. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, you participate in the new covenant every time you take part in the Church's sacraments or make good choices. Because Jesus did his Father's will even in death, God's saving work is completely fulfilled in him.

Like the other Jews of his time, Jesus celebrated God's saving power at a Passover meal. As Jesus blessed bread and wine at the **Last Supper**, he told the Apostles that the bread and wine were a sign of the new covenant between God and God's people. The bread and wine became Christ's own Body and Blood.

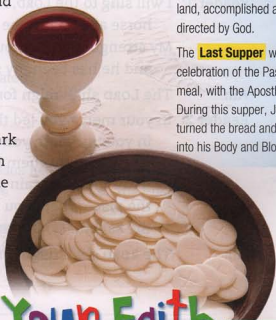
The actions of Jesus at the Passover meal mark the new covenant brought about by Jesus' death and Resurrection, offering salvation to all people who are faithful. The new ritual meal, first shared at the Last Supper, is the Eucharist, which is still celebrated today.

## Words of Faith

**Passover** is the Jewish holy day that celebrates God's leading the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt.

The **Exodus** is the Israelites' journey from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land, accomplished and directed by God.

The **Last Supper** was Jesus' celebration of the Passover meal, with the Apostles. During this supper, Jesus turned the bread and wine into his Body and Blood.



## Activity

## Connect Your Faith

**Compare Ritual Meals** With a partner, research the Passover and Eucharistic meals. Find out what foods are eaten at each meal and what is remembered and celebrated. Record the information below.

PASSOVER	EUCARIST

# Prayer of Praise



## Let Us Pray

Gather and begin with the Sign of the Cross.

**Leader:** When Moses and the Israelites were saved from the Egyptians, they responded in song. May their song be our song.

**Reader 1:** I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;  
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.

**All:** The LORD shall reign forever and ever.

**Reader 2:** In your mercy you led the people you redeemed;  
in your strength you guided them to your holy dwelling.  
And you brought them in and planted them  
on the mountain of your inheritance—  
the place where you made your seat, O LORD,  
the sanctuary, O LORD, which your hands established.

**All:** The LORD shall reign forever and ever.

Exodus 15:1-2, 13, 17-18



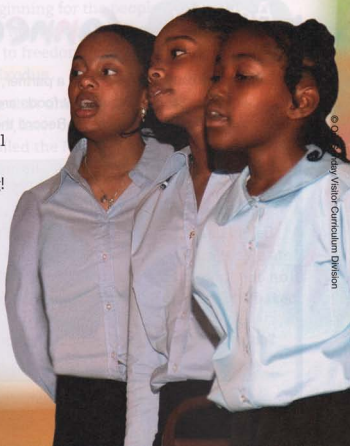
Sing together.

Sing a new song to the Lord,  
He to whom wonders belong!  
Rejoice in his triumph and tell  
of his power,  
O sing to the Lord a new song!

"Sing a New Song to the Lord"  
Timothy Dudley-Smith, © 1973,  
Hope Publishing Co.

**Leader:** Let us pray.  
Bow your heads  
as the leader prays.

**All:** Amen.





# Review and Apply

## **A Work with Words** Circle the letter of the correct response.

- Whom did God send to lead his people out of Egypt?
  - Jesus
  - Moses
  - the pharaoh
- What is the Israelites' journey from slavery to freedom called?
  - the ten plagues
  - the pharaoh's wrath
  - the Exodus
- What do Passover and Eucharist celebrate?
  - God's saving action
  - God's blessed water
  - food from heaven
- When was the Last Supper celebrated?
  - at the king's meal
  - at the Passover meal
  - at the Exodus meal
- What is the new ritual meal that Jesus celebrated?
  - the Seder
  - a sacrifice
  - the Eucharist

## **B Check Understanding** Tell what Jesus did at the Last Supper and how it connects with the celebration of Mass today.

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## Activity

## Live Your Faith

**Make a Video** Moses was an "action hero" whose faith helped free the Israelites. Design a video of Moses' life. Create three scenes from this chapter. Draw them in the storyboard frames. Tell the class why these scenes would have been important to the Israelites.

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# Family Faith

## Activity

### Live Your Faith

#### Catholics Believe

- God rescued the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt and sent his Son to save all people from the power of sin and everlasting death.
- The Passover and the Eucharist celebrate God's saving actions.

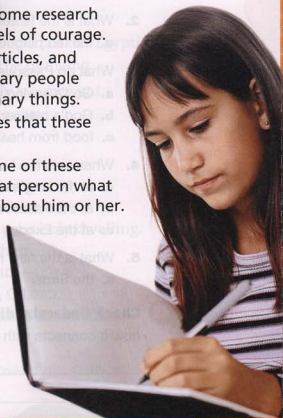


#### SCRIPTURE

Read *Deuteronomy 31:1–8* to learn what Moses said about courage.

**Honor a Hero** Do some research on present-day models of courage.

- Look for stories, articles, and books about ordinary people who do extraordinary things.
- Discuss the qualities that these people share.
- Write a letter to one of these heroes, and tell that person what you most admire about him or her.



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For weekly scripture readings and seasonal resources



▲ Saint Teresa  
Benedicta  
1891–1942

## People of Faith

**Edith Stein** was born in Germany. When she was in her thirties, Edith became a Catholic and entered a convent. She took the religious name Sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. During World War II, she moved to the Netherlands. In the Netherlands, the Nazis began persecuting Jews. Because she was of Jewish origin, Teresa was arrested and sent to the death camp at Auschwitz, where she was executed. Pope John Paul II beatified her in 1987 and named her a saint in 1998. Her feast day is August 9.



## Family Prayer

**Saint Teresa, pray for us that we may remain faithful, even during difficult times, and that we may work to overcome prejudice. Amen.**

In Unit 2 your child is learning about the TRINITY.

## UNIT 2 REVIEW



### **A Work with Words** Complete the following statements.

1. The laws that God first gave to Moses are called the \_\_\_\_\_, or the Ten Commandments.
2. The Jewish holy day that celebrates God's leading the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt is called \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is both a gift from God and a free choice.
4. During the \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus turned the bread and wine into his Body and Blood.
5. Directed and accomplished by God, the \_\_\_\_\_ is the Israelites' journey from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land.

### **B Check Understanding** Circle the letter of the choice that best completes each sentence.

6. The ritual meal first shared at the Last Supper is the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Mass
  - b. Eucharist
  - c. Passover
  - d. Great Feast
7. The natural moral law is based on \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the human heart
  - b. the Scriptures
  - c. God's eternal law
  - d. common sense
8. The Sabbath was made for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. man
  - b. all creatures
  - c. God
  - d. priests
9. The name *Israel* means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. "one who laughs"
  - b. "one who struggles with God"
  - c. "one who leads"
  - d. "one who loves God"
10. On the night of the Passover, the people of Israel ate bread without \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. water
  - b. butter
  - c. yeast
  - d. any other food