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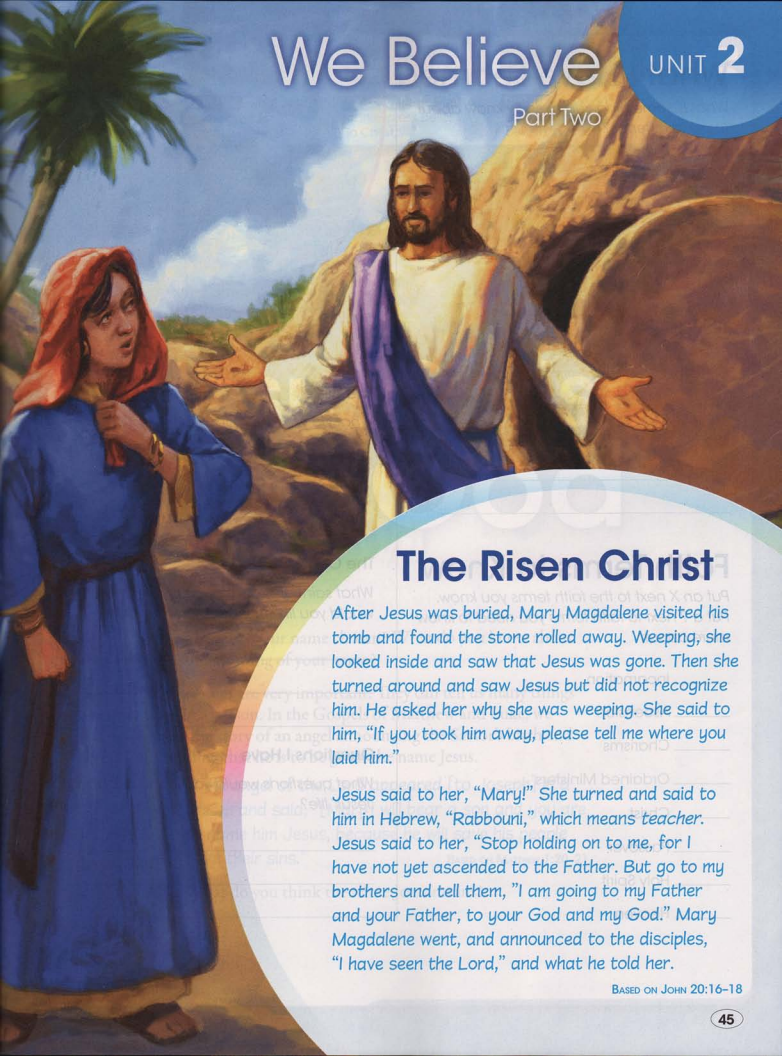
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The Risen Christ

After Jesus was buried, Mary Magdalene visited his tomb and found the stone rolled away. Weeping, she looked inside and saw that Jesus was gone. Then she turned around and saw Jesus but did not recognize him. He asked her why she was weeping. She said to him, "If you took him away, please tell me where you laid him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni," which means *teacher*. Jesus said to her, "Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am going to my Father and your Father, to your God and my God.'" Mary Magdalene went, and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and what he told her.

BASED ON JOHN 20:16-18

What I Have Learned

What is something you already know about these faith terms?

The Messiah

The Resurrection

The Marks of the Church

Faith Terms to Know

Put an X next to the faith terms you know.
Put a ? next to faith terms you need to know more about.

_____ Incarnation

_____ Ascension

_____ Charisms

_____ Ordained Ministers

_____ Christ

_____ Passover

_____ Holy Spirit

_____ Heaven



The Bible

What do you know about Jesus' birth?

The Church

What saint or organization of the Church would you like to learn more about?

Questions I Have

What questions would you like to ask about Jesus' life?

Looking Ahead

In this chapter the Holy Spirit invites you to ►



EXPLORE what Jesus' name reveals about him.



DISCOVER how art can express belief in Christ.



DECIDE how you will show others that you believe in Jesus.

Jesus Christ, Son of God

- ?** How was your name chosen? What do you know about the meaning of your name?

Names are very important. They can tell us many things about a person. In the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, we hear the story of an angel announcing the Savior's birth and revealing that he is to be given the name Jesus.

[T]he angel of the Lord appeared [to Joseph] in a dream and said, "[Mary] will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

BASED ON MATTHEW 1:20-21

- ?** What do you think the name Jesus means?



Disciple Power

Faithfulness

Faithfulness is one of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are twelve signs that we are cooperating with the grace of the Holy Spirit. When we are faithful, we live according to God's will. We put into practice the teachings of Jesus, the Scriptures, and the Catholic Church.

THE CHURCH FOLLOWS JESUS

Madonna and Child

From the earliest days of the Church, Christian artists have proclaimed the Nativity. Through painting, sculpture, woodcarvings, and music, Christian artists have retold the story of the birth of Jesus.

The Christian devotion to Mary and her son, Jesus, is often expressed through the portrayal of Mary holding the Christ child. These works of art are called "Madonna and Child." The word *madonna* means "my lady."

God asked Mary to be the mother of his Son, Jesus. Mary trusted in God and said yes to his will with her whole heart. Mary is our model of a faithful disciple. She teaches us to love and obey God and to trust in his will for our lives.



Activity Look at the art of the Madonna and Child. Share what they tell you about the faith of people in Mary and her Child. Check the one you like best. Write a few sentences to explain what it tells you about Mary.



Son of God, Son of Mary

In the Bible, a person's name often describes the role they play in God's plan of Salvation. The Hebrew name for *Jesus* means "God saves." The very name of Jesus reveals that he is the Savior of the world.

All of God's promises in the Bible come true in Jesus. Jesus is the center and heart of God's loving plan of Creation and Salvation. Jesus **Christ** is the Messiah, the **Lord** and the Savior of the world.

Titles for Jesus

There are also several important names or titles for Jesus used in the Gospels. These express the faith of the Church in who Jesus is and the work the Father sent him to do. Three of these titles are Messiah, Christ, and Lord.

Messiah. Throughout the Old Testament God promised to send a messiah. The title *messiah* means "anointed one." The messiah would be a king who would save, or deliver, God's people from their enemies.

Christ. The English word *Christ* is used for the Hebrew word *messiah* and for the Greek word *kristos*. Jesus is the Christ—the Messiah or Anointed One.

Lord. The Israelites used the word *Lord* for God in place of the name YHWH. The letters YHWH of the Hebrew alphabet are the letters of the name by which God identified himself to Moses (read Exodus 3:11–15). When we call Jesus "Lord," we are professing the faith of the Church, that Jesus Christ is truly God. He is the Son of God, the second Divine Person of the Holy Trinity. Jesus is true God and true man.

FAITH FOCUS

What does it mean that Jesus is both Son of God and Son of Mary?

FAITH VOCABULARY

Christ

A title for Jesus that states that he is the Messiah, the One whom God promised to send to save his people.

Lord

A title for Jesus that states that Jesus is truly God.

? How do the titles of Jesus help you come to know who Jesus is?

An illustration of the birth of Jesus from an Asian perspective.





Faith-Filled People

Saint Matthew and Saint Luke, Evangelists

Matthew was a tax collector and one of the first Twelve Apostles. Luke was a physician and a companion of Paul the Apostle. It is only in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke that we read the account of the birth of Jesus.

The Incarnation

The angel Gabriel brought Mary a message telling her that God had chosen her to be the mother of his Son. Gabriel said to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive and give birth to a son and name him Jesus. When Mary asked how that was possible since she was a virgin, Gabriel replied,

"The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God."

LUKE 1:35

After the birth of Jesus, Luke's Gospel tells us that an angel of God appeared to shepherds, proclaiming the good news of Jesus' birth. The angel said to them,

"[T]oday in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord."

LUKE 2:11

The Church names the mystery of the Son of God becoming man the *Incarnation*. The word incarnation means "putting on flesh." This word names our belief that the Son of God, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, became fully human without giving up being fully God. Jesus Christ is true God and true man.

Activity

Write words that you would use in each setting to express your faith in Jesus Christ.

At Home

At School

In My Community

Mother of God, Mother of All

The four accounts of the Gospel do not tell us much about the childhood life of Jesus. His life was probably very much like the life of other Jewish children in Nazareth. Mary and Joseph shared their Jewish faith with Jesus. They taught him the customs and practices of their religion.

Mary is truly the Mother of God because Jesus is true God and true man. We remember and celebrate this truth about Mary each year on January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. This feast of Mary is a holy day of obligation for Catholics in the United States of America.

Mary is our Blessed Mother. She is the Mother of the Church. When Jesus was crucified, Mary, several other women disciples, and John were there with him.

As he was dying on the cross, Jesus said to Mary, "**Woman, behold your son.**" Then he said to John, "**Behold, your mother**" (John 19:26–27). The Church has always seen in these words that Mary is our mother, the Mother of the Church. We trust that Mary cares for us and wants us to grow closer to her Son, Jesus.

? How do Catholics show their devotion to Mary? How can you show Mary your love for her?

Catholics Believe



Christmas Customs

Catholics all over the world express their faith in the Incarnation in different ways. In Brazil, families create a *Presépio*, or a manger scene. In Mexico, Las Posadas, which begins on December 16, recreates the search of Mary and Joseph for shelter. Christians in Uganda greet one another, saying, *Afuzariiware*, or "He's been born for us."



Mary and the Child Jesus, an icon at the Church of Mary Magdalene in Jerusalem, Israel.

I FOLLOW JESUS

Each Year the Church celebrates the events of Jesus' life. You can celebrate God's love for you, for your family, and for all people. The Holy Spirit invites you to celebrate that love through living a life of faithfulness, and sharing your faith in Jesus with others each and every day.

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Create a Web home page. Use words, pictures, or symbols that tell others about your faith in Jesus Christ.



MY FAITH CHOICE

This week I will show that I am faithful to Jesus. I will:



Pray, asking God to help you become a more faithful follower of Jesus.

Chapter Review

Choose the correct word from the word bank to complete each sentence.

Madonna	Luke	Annunciation
Christ	Incarnation	John

1. The word _____ is a title for Mary meaning "my lady."
2. The story of Jesus' birth appears in the Gospel of _____.
3. The _____ means the mystery of God becoming man.
4. The title _____ means that Jesus is the Messiah, the Anointed One of God.
5. The announcement of the birth of Jesus to Mary is called the _____.

Jesus' Holy Name

Pray this prayer of petition from the Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus. In this kind of prayer we ask, or petition, God for his grace to live a life of faithfulness to him.

Leader: Jesus, Son of the living God,

All: have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus, Son of the Virgin Mary,

All: have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus, Good Shepherd,

All: have mercy on us.
Amen.

TO HELP YOU REMEMBER

1. Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah.
2. Jesus Christ is Lord. He is true God, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, who became true man without giving up being God.
3. The Virgin Mary is the Mother of God.

With My Family

This Week...

In **Chapter 5**, "Jesus Christ, Son of God," your child learned:

- ▶ Titles for Jesus, such as Christ, Lord, and Messiah help us understand who Jesus is and the work God the Father sent him to do.
- ▶ The mystery of the Son of God becoming fully human while remaining fully God is called the Incarnation.
- ▶ Mary, the mother of Jesus, is truly the Mother of God because Jesus is the Son of God.
- ▶ Faithfulness is a quality that shows we are cooperating with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

For more about related teachings of the Church, see the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 422–451, 456–478, 484–507; and the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, pages 77–87.

Sharing God's Word

Read together the Bible story about the birth of Jesus at the beginning of the Gospel according to Matthew and the Gospel according to Luke. Emphasize what the Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth tell us about who he is and the work he was sent to do.

We Live as Disciples


The Christian home and family is a school of discipleship. Choose one of the following activities to do as a family or design a similar activity of your own.

- ▶ The angel Gabriel told Mary to name her child Jesus. Names are very important. Talk about how each family member's name was chosen.

- ▶ Jesus showed his love for his mother. It is very important to show our love for family members. Be sure to do special things this week to show your love for one another.

Our Spiritual Journey

Showing reverence for the name of Jesus is an expression of our faith in him, the Son of God and the Son of Mary. Bowing our heads slightly when we speak or hear the name Jesus spoken is a long tradition of the Church. Encourage one another to use this expression of reverence and faith when you speak or hear the name "Jesus" spoken. In this chapter your child prayed a prayer of petition. Read and pray together this prayer on page 53.



For more ideas on ways your family can live as disciples of Jesus, visit

www.BeMyDisciples.com