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## UNIT 1 Jesus Gives Us the Church 17

### 1 God Sends Us His Own Son

Plan and Prepare	19A, 19B, 19D
Chapter Reproducible Master	19C
<b>Lesson Plan</b>	19
• God the Son became one of us. • Jesus grew up in Nazareth. • Jesus begins his work. • Jesus shows us how to live as his followers.	

Luke 1:26–35; 2:41–51; Matthew 3:2, 17; 13:55

*As Catholics* ..... The Title Lord

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Holy Childhood Association

**Take Home** Praying for Discipleship

**Chapter Test**

### 2 Jesus Teaches Us About God's Love

Plan and Prepare	27A, 27B, 27D
Chapter Reproducible Master	27C
<b>Lesson Plan</b>	27
• Jesus tells us how much God loves us. • Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of God. • Jesus teaches about the gift of faith. • Jesus dies and rises to save us.	

Romans 10:13; Luke 1:38; 17:5–6; 23:33, 34; 24:1–12; Mark 10:45

*As Catholics* ..... Mary, An Example of Faith

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring The Bible in Our Lives

**Take Home** Making a Bible bookmark

**Chapter Test**

### 3 Christ Will Come Again

Plan and Prepare	35A, 35B, 35D
Chapter Reproducible Master	35C
<b>Lesson Plan</b>	35
• Jesus has power over life and death. • Jesus will come again. • When Jesus Christ comes again, he will judge all people. • Jesus teaches us to love others.	

Matthew 24:42; 25:31–43; John 11:1–3; 17–44; Mark 12:28–32

*As Catholics* ..... Miracles of Jesus

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring The Path of Discipleship

**Take Home** Choosing ways to love

**Chapter Test**

### 4 The Church Begins

Plan and Prepare	43A, 43B, 43D
Chapter Reproducible Master	43C

**Lesson Plan** 43

• Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit. • The Holy Spirit comes to the disciples. • The Church begins on Pentecost. • The early Church grows.

Matthew 28:16–20; Acts of the Apostles 2:41, 42; 9:3–5

*As Catholics* ..... Evangelization

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Good News for All

**Take Home** Planning a prayer space

**Chapter Test**

### 5 We Learn About the Early Church

Plan and Prepare	51A, 51B, 51D
Chapter Reproducible Master	51C

**Lesson Plan** 51

• The Apostles led the Church. • The disciples of Jesus share the Good News. • The followers of Jesus stood up for their faith. • Many of our ancestors in faith are examples of holiness.

Acts of the Apostles 2:42, 45

*As Catholics* ..... An Early Christian Symbol

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring All Saints

**Take Home** Learning about saints

**Chapter Test**

## SEASONAL CHAPTERS

### 6 The Church Year

Plan and Prepare	59A
<b>Lesson Plan</b>	59
• The Church year celebrates Jesus.	
Mark 11:9; Matthew 28:20	
Chapter Reproducible Master	64A
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### 7 Ordinary Time

Plan and Prepare	65A
<b>Lesson Plan</b>	65
• In Ordinary Time, we celebrate the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.	
2 Corinthians 13:13	
Chapter Reproducible Master	70A
Family Reproducible Master	70B

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### 8 The Church Has Four Marks

Plan and Prepare ..... 75A, 75B, 75D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 75C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 75

- Jesus chose the Apostles to lead the Church. • The pope and bishops are the successors of the Apostles.
- The Church is one and holy. • The Church is catholic and apostolic.

John 6:35; 8:12; 11:25; Matthew 16:18

*As Catholics* ..... The Pope: The Voice of All Catholics

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Blessed Pope John XXIII

**Take Home** Listing family characteristics

**Chapter Test**

### 9 The Church Teaches Us

Plan and Prepare ..... 83A, 83B, 83D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 83C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 83

- The Church is the Body of Christ and the People of God. • We profess our faith through the Apostles' Creed.
- The Holy Spirit guides the Church. • The Church continues to teach the true message of Jesus.

1 Corinthians 12:14–21; 1 Peter 2:10; John 14:26

*As Catholics* ..... Saints Francis and Clare

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Catholic Charities USA

**Take Home** Showing respect

**Chapter Test**

### 10 The Church Prays

Plan and Prepare ..... 91A, 91B, 91D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 91C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 91

- Jesus teaches his followers how to pray. • We can pray with others or by ourselves. • There are different kinds of prayer. • The Church prays at all times.

Psalms 141:2a; Luke 11:1

*As Catholics* ..... The Prayer Posture

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Prayer of the Faithful

**Take Home** Praying for others

**Chapter Test**

### 11 The Parish Is Our Home

Plan and Prepare ..... 99A, 99B, 99D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 99C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 99

- We belong to a parish. • Many people serve our parish. • Our parish worships together. • Our parish cares for others.

John 15:15; 13:34; Matthew 18:20; 25:40

*As Catholics* ..... Pastoral Administrators

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Serving the parish

**Take Home** Praying for the sick

**Chapter Test**

### 12 God Calls Us to Holiness

Plan and Prepare ..... 107A, 107B, 107D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 107C

**Lesson Plan** ..... 107

- God calls each of us. • God calls everyone to be holy. • God calls some men to be priests or deacons. • God calls some people to religious life.

1 John 4:11, 12

*As Catholics* ..... Diocesan and Religious Priests

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Helping Poor People

**Take Home** Taking a holiness survey

**Chapter Test**

## SEASONAL CHAPTERS

### 13 Advent

Plan and Prepare ..... 115A

**Lesson Plan** ..... 115

- The season of Advent helps us prepare for the coming of the Son of God.

Luke 3:4; Philippians 4:4–5

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### 14 Christmas

Plan and Prepare ..... 121A

**Lesson Plan** ..... 121

- The Christmas season is a special time to celebrate that God is with us.

Luke 2:1–12

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### 15 We Celebrate the Sacraments

Plan and Prepare ..... 131A, 131B, 131D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 131C

#### Lesson Plan 131

- The Church celebrates the sacraments. • Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist are the Sacraments of Christian Initiation. • Penance and Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick are Sacraments of Healing.
- Holy Orders and Matrimony are Sacraments of Service to others.

John 3:16

*As Catholics* ..... Sacramentals

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Martyrs for the Faith

**Take Home** Identifying sacramentals

#### Chapter Test

### 16 Celebrating Eucharist: The Mass

Plan and Prepare ..... 139A, 139B, 139D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 139C

#### Lesson Plan 139

- Jesus celebrated Passover and the Last Supper. • The Mass is a sacrifice and a meal. • We take part in the Mass.
- We celebrate Mass each week.

Psalms 106:1; 118:28; Matthew 26:26–28; 28:1;

Luke 22:19

*As Catholics* ..... Altar Servers

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Pope Saint Pius X

**Take Home** Donating at Mass

#### Chapter Test

### 17 We Worship at Mass

Plan and Prepare ..... 147A, 147B, 147D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 147C

#### Lesson Plan 147

- We gather to praise God. • We listen to God's Word.
- We receive Jesus Christ. • We go out to love and serve the Lord.

The Roman Missal

*As Catholics* ..... Blessed Sacrament

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Saint Katharine Drexel

**Take Home** Reflecting on readings

#### Chapter Test

### 18 Celebrating Penance and Reconciliation

Plan and Prepare ..... 155A, 155B, 155D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 155C

#### Lesson Plan 155

- We make the choice to love God. • God is our forgiving Father. • The Sacrament of Penance has several parts.
- The Church celebrates the Sacrament of Penance.

Luke 15:11–32

Rite of Penance

*As Catholics* ..... Special Place for Celebrating Penance Individually

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring An Example of Forgiveness

**Take Home** Rating TV series

#### Chapter Test

### 19 We Pray for Healing and Eternal Life

Plan and Prepare ..... 163A, 163B, 163D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 163C

#### Lesson Plan 163

- Jesus cared for and healed the sick. • The Church heals us in Jesus' name. • We believe in eternal life with God.
- The Church celebrates eternal life with God.

Mark 10:46–52

Rite of Anointing of the Sick

*As Catholics* ..... Mass Cards

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Pastoral Care for the Sick

**Take Home** Remembering the dead

#### Chapter Test

## SEASONAL CHAPTERS

### 20 Lent

Plan and Prepare ..... 171A

#### Lesson Plan 171

- The season of Lent is a time of preparation for Easter.

Isaiah 55:3; John 3:16–17

Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 176A

Family Reproducible Master ..... 176B

### 21 The Three Days

Plan and Prepare ..... 177A

#### Lesson Plan 177

- The Three Days celebrate that Jesus passed from death to new life.

Rite of Baptism

Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 182A

Family Reproducible Master ..... 182B



## UNIT 4 We Are Called to Discipleship .....185

### 22 We Continue the Work of Jesus

Plan and Prepare ..... 187A, 187B, 187D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 187C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 187

• Jesus brings God's life and love to all people. • Jesus shares his mission with his disciples. • The Church works for justice and peace. • We live out the Good News of Jesus Christ.

John 20:19, 21; Luke 4:16–19

*As Catholics* ..... Missionaries

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Supporting Missionary Work

**Take Home** Working for peace and justice

#### Chapter Test

### 23 The Church Respects All People

Plan and Prepare ..... 195A, 195B, 195D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 195C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 195

• People around the world have different beliefs about God. • The Jewish faith is important to Christians. • Christ calls his followers to be united. • The Church works for Christian unity.

John 17:20–21

*As Catholics* ..... Christian Unity

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Respect for All People

**Take Home** Respecting different faiths

#### Chapter Test

### 24 The Church Is Worldwide

Plan and Prepare ..... 203A, 203B, 203D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 203C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 203

• The Catholic Church is all over the world. • Catholics share the same faith. • Catholics celebrate their faith in different ways. • We are the light of the world.

Luke 4:42–43; Matthew 5:14, 16

*As Catholics* ..... The Baptismal Register

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring One Faith, Many Languages

**Take Home** Identifying family customs

#### Chapter Test

### 25 We Are God's Holy People

Plan and Prepare ..... 211A, 211B, 211D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 211C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 211

• We belong to the Communion of Saints. • Mary is the greatest of all the saints. • The Church remembers and honors Mary. • God calls us to be saints.

Luke 1:38

*As Catholics* ..... Being canonized a saint

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring Praying for the Dead

**Take Home** Praying to Mary

#### Chapter Test

### 26 The Kingdom of God Continues to Grow

Plan and Prepare ..... 219A, 219B, 219D  
Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 219C

#### Lesson Plan ..... 219

• Jesus used parables to teach about the Kingdom of God. • Jesus taught that the Kingdom of God will grow. • Jesus' miracles were signs of the Kingdom of God. • The Kingdom of God grows.

Luke 11:1; 13:18–19; Matthew 13:3–8, 18–23; 14:22–33

*As Catholics* ..... Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

**PROJECT DISCIPLE** featuring The Kingdom of God

**Take Home** Reading about the Kingdom

#### Chapter Test

## SEASONAL CHAPTER

### 27 Easter

Plan and Prepare ..... 227A

#### Lesson Plan ..... 227

• In the Easter season, we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus.

John 20:19–29

Chapter Reproducible Master ..... 232A

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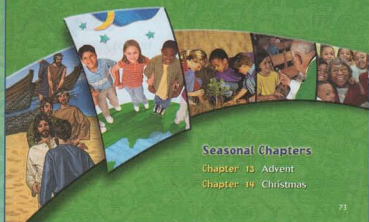
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# We Are Members of the Church

## UNIT 2

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Chapter 12	God Calls Us to Holiness	107



### Seasonal Chapters

- Chapter 13 Advent  
Chapter 14 Christmas

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## CLASS CONNECTION

Read aloud the unit title and the chapter titles. Ask the children: *What do you think you will be learning about in this unit?* Invite a few volunteers to respond. Then explain to the children that they will be learning about the marks of the Church, the ways in which the Church teaches us, the ways in which we pray as Catholics, the parish as a worshipping and caring community, and serving God in our vocations.

## HOME CONNECTION

### Project Disciple Dear Family

Sadlier *We Believe* calls on families to become involved in:

- learning the faith
- prayer and worship
- living their faith.

Highlighting of these unit family pages and the opportunities they offer will strengthen the partnership of the Church and the home.

For additional information and activities, encourage families to visit Sadlier's

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

### PROJECT DISCIPLE DEAR FAMILY

**In Unit 2 your child will grow as a disciple of Jesus by:**

- learning that the pope and the holy, catholic, apostolic Church
- recognizing that the Church is guided by the Holy Spirit to teach the truth
- praying alone and with others to praise God, thank God, ask for forgiveness, offer blessings, and seek God's help
- joining with our parish to worship God and to serve others
- appreciating the ways that people can grow in holiness as laypeople, ordained men, and religious.

**Foot Facts**

The Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed and rebuilt, and now archaeologists are working to discover what it was originally like. Part of one reconstruction remains—the Western Wall. People still go there to pray. They often write their prayers out and place them in the Wall.

Reverend Pope John Paul II at the Western Wall

**Question Corner**

In Chapter 8 the children will learn about the four marks of the Church—one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. Complete the following:

Our parish is united when \_\_\_\_\_

Our parish shows holiness when \_\_\_\_\_

Our parish is welcoming when \_\_\_\_\_

Our parish follows the teachings of Jesus and the Apostles by \_\_\_\_\_

**Reality Check**

*"Authority, stability, and a life of relationships within the family constitute the foundations for freedom, security, and fraternity within society."*  
(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2807)

**More to Explore**

Catholic Charities USA (see page 89) was founded in 1910. Through their work, they carry on the mission of Jesus. Visit their Web site to see some of their current work. Talk about the needs in your own community. What can your family do to respond?

**Show That You Care**

Chapter 12 talks about the ways we live as disciples of Jesus through different vocations. Find out if anyone in your parish is preparing to become a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister, or if there is a couple preparing for marriage. Put their names where you will remember to pray for them. You might even send a card to let them know you are praying for them!

**Take Home**

**Be ready for:**

Chapter 8: Listing family characteristics

Chapter 9: Talking about ways to show respect

Chapter 10: Choosing someone to pray for at Mass

Chapter 11: Praying for people who are sick

Chapter 12: Taking a holiness survey

## Overview

In this chapter the children will learn about the four marks of the Church, which are its special characteristics.

### Doctrinal Content

For Adult Reading and Reflection  
*Catechism of the Catholic Church*

The children will learn:	Paragraph
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus chose the Apostles to lead the Church. ....</li> <li>The pope and bishops are the successors of the Apostles. ....</li> <li>The Church is one and holy. ....</li> <li>The Church is catholic and apostolic. ....</li> </ul>	765 880 823 857

### Key Words

bishops  
dioceses  
pope  
marks of the Church

## Catechist Background

In what way do I rely on the Church to help me live a holy life?

At Mass, as we pray the Nicene Creed, we profess our belief in the one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We also believe that the four marks or chief characteristics of the Church do not exist in a vacuum. They stand out as benchmarks when Catholics demonstrate a oneness that welcomes diversity and works for unity with other Christians. The Church bears witness to holiness by reaching out to sinners who need God's mercy and compassion in their lives. The Church is catholic when all its members expand thinking in narrow ways—"my Church, my diocese, my parish"—and start envisioning the Church as large enough to share its Gospel with the

Go to [www.webelieveweb.com](http://www.webelieveweb.com), Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter's correlation to:

- Six Tasks of Catechesis
- Catholic Social Teaching.

whole world. The Church is apostolic because we believe the pope and bishops are successors of the Apostles. All Catholics participate in this apostolic charism by sharing the Good News with others, especially the poor. The marks of the Church define it as one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. Yet we are called to continue growing in each of these characteristics. The Church, under the Spirit's inspiration, teaches the way.

How can I expand my vision of the Church?



# Lesson Planning Guide

## Lesson Steps

## Presentation

## Materials

### 1 WE GATHER

page 75

 Prayer

 Focus on Life

- Pray the words of Scripture.


- Discuss leaders of groups.

For prayer space: Bible, candles, holy water, globe, and picture of the pope and bishops

### 2 WE BELIEVE

page 76


*Jesus chose the Apostles to lead the Church.*

- Read and discuss the text about Jesus' choice of Apostles.
-  Write the Apostles' message about Jesus.

- medium-sized rock


page 77

*The pope and bishops are the successors of the Apostles.*

- Read the text about the pope and bishops.
-  Share what you know about your bishop, your diocese, and the pope.
- Read and discuss *As Catholics*.

page 78

*The Church is one and holy.*

- Read about the Church as one and holy.
-  Discuss the answer to the question.

- large cardboard ring
- scissors, glue, construction paper
- drawing paper and markers


page 79

*The Church is catholic and apostolic.*

- Read and discuss the text about the Church as catholic and apostolic.

### 3 WE RESPOND

page 79

-  Illustrate one of the four marks of the Church.

- copies of Reproducible Master 8, guide page 75C

pages 80–81

**Project Disciple**

- Complete the **Project Disciple** activities.
- Explain the *Take Home* activity.
- Discuss/send home **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master for this chapter.

- colored pencils or crayons
- scissors
- copies of **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master, Chapter 8 (back of book)

page 82

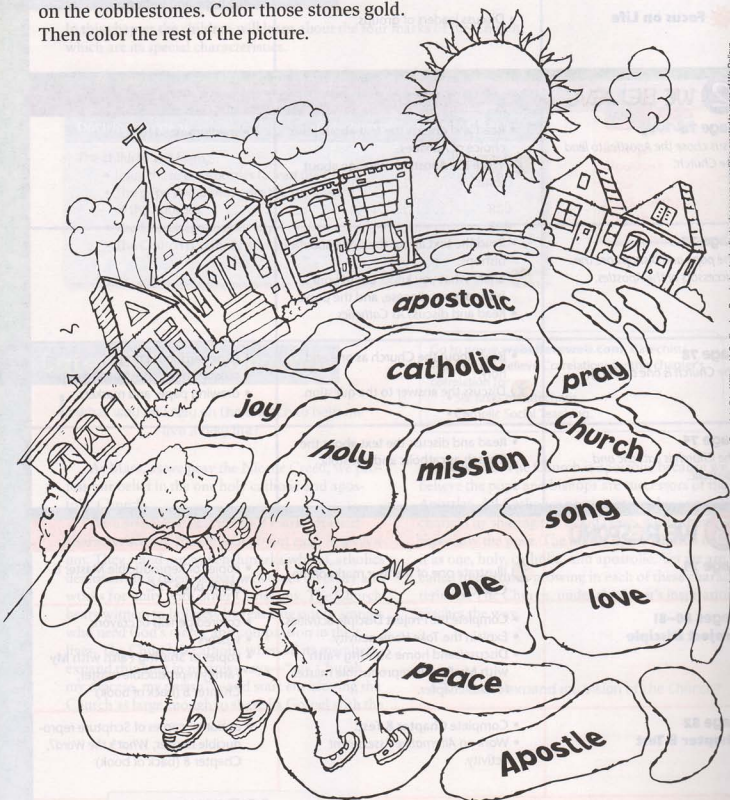
**Chapter 8 Test**

- Complete **Chapter 8 Test**.
- Work on *Alternative Assessment* activity.

- optional: copies of Scripture reproducible master, *What's the Word?*, Chapter 8 (back of book)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Help these third graders find the marks of the Church. Look for the marks of the Church on the cobblestones. Color those stones gold. Then color the rest of the picture.



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# PROJECT DISCIPLE

## Additional Activities

### What's *the* Word?

Scripture reproducible master, Chapter 8

**Materials needed:** copies of *What's the Word?* (back of book); optional—props and costumes for dramatization

Distribute copies of the Scripture reproducible master. Choose volunteers to take the parts of Narrator, Jesus, and Peter. Have the other children read the words of the disciples. Explain that Elijah and Jeremiah are prophets we can read about in the Old Testament. When the children are finished reading the script, have them highlight or underline the direct words from Scripture.

### More *to* Explore

Invite the children to work in small groups to learn more about the current or a past pope. Provide a list of popes the children may research. Ask children to concentrate their research on ways the pope speaks out for what is right. Encourage the children to find information, photos, or video that feature the pope. Provide guidelines to focus their effort. Have the children develop a multimedia presentation to share with the class.

### Show What *you* Know

Invite the children to sit in a circle. Make sure you have plenty of space for movement. Explain to the children that they will be playing a game that is a variation of “Duck, Duck, Goose!” Review the rules of the game. Explain that instead of “duck” the children will use descriptive words about the Church. Whenever they use one of the marks of the Church, these words count as the “goose” signal. Play the game until each child has had a turn.

### Picture This

**Materials needed:** poster board rectangles (12 per child), crayons or colored pencils

Give each child 12 trading card-sized rectangles cut from poster board. Invite the children to design a trading card for each of Jesus' twelve Apostles. Each trading card should include the name of the Apostle, an illustration, and any additional biographical information. Instruct children to finish the following for each Apostle: *Helped the Church to grow by*. Once children have finished designing their own twelve cards, invite them to trade cards. Encourage them to trade a card only for a card featuring the same Apostle so they maintain a complete set of all twelve Apostles.

## Meeting Individual Needs

### English Language Learners

Children whose second language is English may benefit during this lesson from additional graphics and visual aids. When speaking of Saint Peter or the Apostles, hold up or point to a picture. Do the same when referring to the pope or other Church leaders. The visual association with the English words and titles will aid comprehension.

## We Believe Resources

- Grade 3 *Review & Resource Book*, pages 19–21
- Grade 3 *Family Book*, pages 24–26
- Grade 3 *Assessment Book*, pages 15–16
- Grade 3 CD-ROM *Test Generator and Resource*: Use Chapter 8 Test or customize your own.
- [www.webelieveweb.com](http://www.webelieveweb.com)



# Enrichment Ideas

## Chapter Story

Marcus was helping his oldest brother, James, pack his suitcase. "James, James, I got it to close! I sat on that old suitcase and turned the lock. We're done!" Marcus said, so pleased he had helped his brother that he almost forgot that in only forty-eight hours, James would be far, far away from home.

James was the oldest of five brothers, and Marcus was the youngest. James had just finished college. Even though James was busy with his part-time job, his friends, and sports, he always found time for his youngest brother. Sometimes James would show up unexpectedly at Marcus's baseball games. He had even helped coach the third-grade basketball team.

James was going to Guatemala, a country that was very far away, and Marcus would miss him very much. In Guatemala, James would work with a missionary group that helped families learn about Jesus. The mission group planned to help the people build houses, too. One evening, James had explained to his family the ways that the group hoped to make a difference. Marcus understood. He even told his family, "Maybe some day, I'll go to Guatemala, too!"

Marcus was proud of James. He liked to listen to James practice speaking Spanish, and he admired James for wanting to help people. James had promised that he would write to his youngest brother every week. Marcus knew that the letters would come just as James said. James always kept his promises, whether he was in Guatemala or in their own hometown. James was just that kind of brother.

► *Describe what James is like.*

## FAITH and MEDIA

- Invite the pastor to your parish room for a visit. Encourage children to ask questions about his work in the parish. Photograph the visit, and post a brief story along with photos on your parish Web page.
- Bring several copies of the diocesan paper to show to the children. Point out photos of your bishop and any letters or columns written by him as chief teacher of the diocese.
- Some dioceses have Web sites. If yours does, visit it. Help the children to find their own parish and its leaders listed on this Web site.

## CHAPTER

## PROJECT: GETTING TO KNOW OUR HOLY FATHER

Help the children learn more about our Holy Father by researching his life and his contributions to the Church. Consult the Vatican Web site. The children can also find information about the pope in library books (such as biographies written for children) and encyclopedias. Have the children work in small groups and assign each group a specific part of the

pope's background to research (for example, family background, early life, schooling, call to the priesthood, special talents, and contributions as pope.) Ask the children to organize their research into a presentation. If possible, record the children's presentations so that you can use it as a teaching tool for other groups.

# The Church Has Four Marks

8

Chapter 8 • Page 75

## PREPARING TO PRAY

The children will pray by using the words from Saint John. Together they will respond to each question.

- Select four children to place the four items representing the marks of the Church in the prayer space.
- Tell the children that you will take the leader's part. Choose a child to be the reader. Allow the reader time to rehearse his or her part. Practice the group response.

## The Prayer Space

- Gather items representing the marks of the Church: a candle (for oneness), holy water (for holiness), a globe (for catholicity) and a picture of the pope and bishops (for apostolicity). Make a label for each item identifying the particular mark of the Church.

### WE GATHER

✦ **Leader:** Jesus spoke to the crowds that followed him. He speaks to each of us, too. Let us listen to his words.

**Reader:** "I am the light of the world."  
(John 8:12)

Will you follow me?

**All:** Yes, Jesus, we will follow you.

**Reader:** "I am the bread of life." (John 6:35)  
Will you receive me?

**All:** Yes, Jesus, we will receive you.

**Reader:** "I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25)

Do you believe in me?

**All:** Yes, Jesus, we believe in you.  
Amen.

- ✦ Think about the school teams or clubs that you can join. Who are the leaders of these groups? What do they do?

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## Lesson Plan

### WE GATHER

#### ✦ Pray

- Call the children to the prayer space.
- Name each of the four marks of the Church, and signal the children to place their items on the table.
- Have the children open their books to the prayer on page 75.
- Pray the leader's part, and invite the reader and the children to follow.

minutes



### Focus on Life

- Invite the children to name school teams or clubs that they can join. Discuss the leaders of these groups and what they do as leaders.
- Share the *Chapter Story* on guide page 75E.



### This Week's Liturgy

Visit [www.webelieveweb.com](http://www.webelieveweb.com) for this week's liturgical readings and other seasonal material.

## Family Connection Update

Invite volunteers to share the saints they learned about with their families when they visited *Lives of the Saints*.

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## Catechist Goal

- To present the four marks of the Church—one, holy, catholic, and apostolic

## Our Faith Response

- To recognize ways in which our parishes show the Catholic Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic

**Key Words** bishops dioceses  
 pope  
 marks of the Church

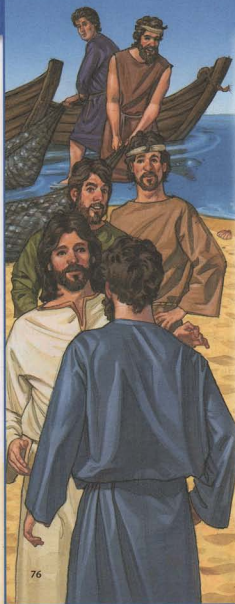
## Lesson Materials

- medium-sized rock
- large ring cut from cardboard
- scissors, glue, and construction paper
- copies of Reproducible Master 8
- Scripture and Family reproducible masters (back of book)

## As Catholics...

### The Pope

Tell the children that the pope heads the Church and guides us to live in the way that God wants us to live. Discuss with children his important contributions.



## WE BELIEVE


Jesus chose the Apostles to lead the Church.

One of Jesus' Apostles was named Simon. Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter, which means "rock." Jesus chose Peter to be the leader of the Apostles. He told Peter, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church." (Matthew 16:18)

The Apostles are Peter, Andrew, James and John (sons of Zebedee), Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James (the son of Alphaeus), Thaddeus, Simon, and Judas Iscariot. Later Matthias took the place of Judas.

After Jesus' Ascension the Apostles told the people all that Jesus had said and done. They traveled from place to place teaching what Jesus had taught them.

In every location the Apostles gathered the baptized into communities. The Church grew, and the first members of the Church looked to Peter and the Apostles as their leaders.

 Look at the picture on page 77. In the space, write something you think the Apostle told people about Jesus.

What will you tell people you know about Jesus?

## Lesson Plan


## WE BELIEVE

\_\_\_\_\_ minutes

**Have** a volunteer read aloud the *We Believe* statement. Read aloud the first two paragraphs. Show the children a medium-sized rock. Ask: *In what ways was Peter like a rock?* Try to elicit reasons why Jesus changed his Apostle's name from Simon to Peter. Stress that the name *Peter* means "rock" and that Jesus wanted to build his Church on a strong foundation like a rock. Have volunteers read aloud the next two paragraphs.

**Invite** the children to imagine what the work of an Apostle must have been like. Write on the board the title *The Work of an Apostle* and make two columns (label the first column with a minus sign, and the second column with a plus sign). Write the children's responses for both columns (**negative**: encountering danger, traveling great distances, and so on) and

(**positive**: serving Jesus, helping to form the early Church, and so on).

 **Invite** the children to look at the picture on page 77. Encourage them to write a message that the Apostle may have used to tell others about Jesus. Say: *Think of ways that you can be like the Apostles and help the Church to grow.*

**Ask** for volunteers to read aloud the second *We Believe* statement and the four paragraphs that follow. Emphasize the following points:

- The pope is the bishop of the diocese of Rome, Italy.
- The pope is the successor of Saint Peter.
- Bishops continue to lead the Church today just as the Apostles did. They lead local areas known as *dioceses*.


### The pope and bishops are the successors of the Apostles.

Like Jesus, the Apostles chose leaders to succeed them. A successor is one who succeeds, or takes the place of, another. These new leaders would take the place of the Apostles and continue their work.

The Apostles gave these leaders the same authority that Jesus had given to them. Strengthened by the Holy Spirit, these leaders became the successors of the Apostles.

As time passed each of these leaders was given the title of bishop. **Bishops** are the successors of the Apostles. The bishops continue to lead the Church. They lead local areas of the Church called **dioceses**.

The **pope** is the bishop of the diocese of Rome in Italy. He continues the leadership of Peter. Together with all the bishops, he leads and guides the whole Catholic Church.

 Talk about what you know about your bishop, your diocese, and the pope.

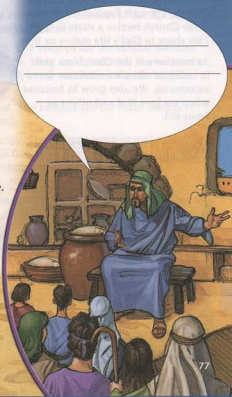
Find out more about the pope and Vatican City. Check the Vatican Web site at [www.vatican.net](http://www.vatican.net).



**bishops** (p. 250)  
**dioceses** (p. 251)  
**pope** (p. 253)

### As Catholics...

The pope lives in Vatican City, in Rome, Italy. He is the leader of the whole Catholic Church. So in a way the whole world is his parish. He goes to places around the world to teach the Good News of Jesus Christ and to seek peace. He encourages people to treat one another with respect. He also asks for help for those who are in need.



## Activity Bank

### Curriculum Connection


#### Art

**Activity Materials:** shoe boxes, construction paper, clay, contact or shelf paper, medium-sized rocks

Jesus compared Peter to a rock. He chose Peter to lead the early Church because of these characteristics. Gather medium-sized rocks. Ask the children to put together shoebox dioramas that illustrate the calling of Peter by Jesus. Encourage them to add construction paper or clay figures of Jesus and Peter to the scene. Suggest two or three Scripture verses for them to use. For example: Mark 1:17; Matthew 16:18; John 21:15. Write the verse on paper and attach it to the diorama. Remind the children that we can imitate the rock-like faith of Peter in our own lives.

**Explain** to the children that the word *dioceses* is a term that they may not have heard before. Pronounce the term slowly and define it: local areas of the Church led by bishops. Then identify the diocese to which the parish belongs.

**Divide** the children into smaller groups. Have them review the duties of the pope and bishops. Remind them that parishioners also carry out the work of the Church. Have each group act out a brief skit in which it imagines the bishop is going to visit a parish that is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Have each group perform its skit.

 **Discuss** with children what they know about their bishop, their diocese, and the pope. If possible, visit the Vatican Web site.

### Quick Check

- ✓ Name an important way that the Apostles helped the early Church. (They taught people about Jesus; they baptized people and gathered them into communities.)
- ✓ Who are the successors of the Apostles? (the pope and bishops)

## Teaching Note

## A Cheer for the Church

Children enjoy chanting and clapping, and the words in this chapter lend themselves to this activity. Try these. Stress each syllable.

Ask: *What are the marks of the Church?*

*one* (1 clap)

*holy* (2 claps)

*catholic* (3 claps)

*and apostolic* (4 claps).

(Repeat three times. At the end add: **CHURCH!**)

## The Church is one and holy.


The Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. We call these characteristics the **marks of the Church**.

The Church is *one*, a community called together by God. Through the Church, God strengthens us to live and worship together.

All members of the Church are united by Baptism. We gather to celebrate the sacraments. We share with one another and serve together.

The Church is *holy*. God is all good and holy. God shares his holiness with the Church. Through Baptism all members of the Church receive a share in God's life. This share in God's life makes us holy.

As members of the Church we grow in holiness when we celebrate the sacraments. We also grow in holiness when we love God and others as Jesus did.

 What is one way the Church is a community?

**Key Word**  
marks of the Church (p. 252)

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## Lesson Plan

## WE BELIEVE (continued)

**Have** a child read aloud the *We Believe* statement. Ask volunteers to read the five paragraphs. Emphasize the following important points:

- The Church is one faith community that is united by Baptism.
- All Catholics receive a share in God's life through their Baptism.
- Celebrating the sacraments and loving God and others helps us grow in holiness.

**Have** the children work in pairs. Ask them to trace each other's hands on construction paper, cut out the outlines, and write their names on them. Point out that their hands are of different sizes and shapes, but they will become part of a larger whole when they are connected together to make a wreath of hands. Glue the hands to a large cardboard ring. Stress that this activity shows that they are all different, but they are all united and part of the one Church.

**Gather** the children in the prayer space to identify the objects on the table that symbolize the oneness of the Church (**candle**) and its holiness (**holy water**). Invite them to say a silent prayer of thanks for their Church community.



**The Church is catholic and apostolic.**

The Church is *catholic*. The word *catholic* means “universal.” The Church is open to all people. It is universal.

Jesus sent his Apostles out to every part of the world. They spread the Gospel to everyone, and the Church continued to grow. Even today people everywhere are invited and welcomed to become members of the Church. There are Catholics on every continent and in every country.

The Church is *apostolic*. The word *apostolic* comes from the word *apostle*. Jesus chose the Apostles to be the first leaders of the Church. Their mission was to teach the Good News and to baptize believers. By Baptism all members of the Church share in the work of spreading the Good News of Christ.

The bishops continue the mission of the Apostles in three very important ways.

- **They teach.** The bishops are the official teachers of the Church. They make sure that the members of the Church know and believe the teachings of Jesus.
- **They lead.** The bishops are the main leaders of the Church.
- **They sanctify.** The bishops work to make the People of God holy. They do this through prayer, preaching, and the celebration of the sacraments.

**WE RESPOND**

✎ Draw a picture to show one of the four marks of the Church.

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**ACTIVITY BANK****Liturgy****Christian Unity Octave**

An *octave* means eight. (An octave in a musical scale means eight notes.) Every year, for eight days in January, the Church prays for unity among all Christians. With the children, you may want to plan eight days of prayer for unity right now! The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement (Graymoor, New York) post information about these days of prayer, with a suggested intention for each day, on their Web site. This octave was first prayed and preached by the founder of this community. The Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement also share this special mission of prayer and action for unity.

**Invite** a volunteer to read aloud the second *We Believe* statement on the top of page 79. Have the children work in pairs and read and highlight important words in the first three paragraphs. Ask: *What does the word catholic mean? (universal; all people are welcomed to become members of the Church). What does the word apostolic mean? (comes from the Apostles; to be sent to teach the Good News and baptize new members).* Read aloud the last paragraph with its bulleted items. Write on the board the words *teach, lead, and sanctify*. Stress that these are the responsibilities of the bishops as chief teachers in their dioceses.

**Distribute** copies of the Reproducible Master 8, (guide page 75C), to reinforce the children's recognition of the four marks of the Church.

**WE RESPOND**

— minutes

✎ **Have** the children think about the *We Respond* direction. Invite the children to draw a picture to illustrate one of the four marks of the Church. Encourage the children to tell the group why they chose to draw what they did.

## Catechist Goal

- To review the chapter ideas that are key to growing as disciples of Jesus Christ

## Our Faith Response

- To decide on ways to grow as disciples by living out what we have learned

## Show What you Know

Help the children complete the crossword puzzle. When they are finished, check their answers. Clarify any misconceptions.

## Picture This

Brainstorm ways the Church welcomes all people. Then allow time for the children to decorate the pennant. Invite volunteers to share their pennants with the class.

## Make it Happen

Read aloud the paragraph on Pope John XXIII. Then have the children complete the *Disciple Challenge*. Invite volunteers to share their responses.

## Take Home

Read and discuss the activity. Be aware of the family backgrounds of the children. Encourage the children to do the activity with their families.

Discuss and send home copies of *Sharing Faith with My Family* reproducible master for this chapter (back of book).



## Grade 3 Chapter 8

## PROJECT

## Show What you Know

Read the clues. Write the answers in the crossword puzzle.



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## DISCIPLE

## Picture This

The Church is universal. This means it is open to all people. Design a pennant that shows that the Church welcomes people from all over the world.

Affirm the children in their designs.

Now, pass it on!

## Make it Happen

At 76 years of age, Pope John XXIII gathered the bishops from all over the world for the Second Vatican Council (1962). Together they worked to strengthen the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.



**DISCIPLE CHALLENGE** Decide on a way to live out one mark of the Church.

Possible response: one—to help parishioners who are in need; holy—to pray for those who are sick; catholic—invite someone to celebrate Mass with your family; apostolic—share today's lesson with a friend.

## Take Home

The Church has four marks or special characteristics. What makes your family special? Write your family characteristics.

The \_\_\_\_\_ Family

Encourage the children to engage their families in the Take Home activity.

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Fill in the circle beside each correct answer.

- Jesus chose \_\_\_\_\_ to be the leader of the Apostles.  
☐ Matthias      ☒ Peter      ☐ Judas
- Local areas of the Church are called \_\_\_\_\_.  
☐ bishops      ☐ successors      ☒ dioceses
- The word \_\_\_\_\_ means "universal."  
☒ catholic      ☐ apostolic      ☐ sanctify
- The pope and bishops are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Apostles.  
☐ relatives      ☐ dioceses      ☒ successors

Complete the sentences by writing the correct mark of the Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.

- The Church is one. All members of the Church are united by Baptism.
- The Church is catholic. It is open to all people.
- The Church is holy. Through Baptism we receive a share in God's life.
- The Church is apostolic. All members of the Church share in the mission Jesus gave the Apostles.

Answer the following.

- 9–10. Write two ways the pope and bishops carry on the work of the Apostles.

Possible responses: They teach us. They guide us. They help us to be holy.

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## CHAPTER TEST

Provide ten to fifteen minutes for the children to complete the test. After all have finished, check the answers. Clarify any misconceptions.

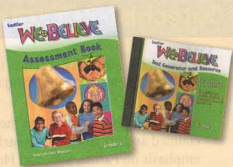
### Alternative Assessment

You may want the children to complete the following alternative-assessment activity.

*Explain in your own words the marks of the Church. Make a design or logo showing that the Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.*

### Additional Testing

- Chapter 8 Test in *Assessment Book*, pages 15–16
- CD-ROM *Test Generator and Resource*: Use Chapter 8 Test or customize your own.



## Review



Review the definitions as they are presented in the chapter and/or Glossary:

- bishops
- dioceses
- pope
- marks of the Church.

### We Believe Statements

Review the four statements.

- Jesus chose the Apostles to lead the Church.
- The pope and bishops are the successors of the Apostles.
- The church is one and holy.
- The Church is catholic and apostolic.

To use the Chapter 8 Study Guide, visit

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