

GRADE Three  
CHAPTER Two  
The Church Community

### Objectives

- To understand that the church is God's people
- To learn how God wants us to live and serve him
- To understand that the church is a special community with members who have important work to do

### Step One: Invite: Name your personal experience

- Pretend you are a reporter. Take a notebook and interview each member of your family, asking them these questions:
  - o What does church mean to you? Are you happy being a member?
  - o Did you ever read the Bible? What is your favorite story?
  - o What is the group you most enjoy belonging to? Does it feel like a community? Describe what a community is.
  - o Talk about one thing the church teaches you that helps you in life?
  - o Can you name at least one good thing that our parish does for others?
- Gather with your family to share the information you learned in your interviews.

### Step Two: Explore: Understand the meaning of God's Word and Teaching

- Read p. 52, 53 and 56 and answer these questions:
  - o Why is the church a community?
  - o Who did Jesus send to guide the church?
  - o What makes the church different from other communities?
  - o List three or more important works you have to do as a member of the church.
  - o Complete the activity described on p. 56 and then talk about it together.

### Step Three: Celebrate: Offer prayers of praise and thanksgiving

- Draw a picture of your church
- Pray the prayer to St. Francis on p. 56

### Faith Activities: Tips

- Throughout each chapter, there will be sections marked "Activity."
- Feel free to choose as many activities as you wish to share with your family. At a minimum, choose one activity above and beyond what might be mentioned in Steps 1-3.
- Follow the directions for the activity, share popcorn or a treat, relax and enjoy it.
- Post any artwork until the next lesson and then use the next chapter's activity to take its place.