

# Bring the Good News

## Preparation for the Session

**Turn to Page 285,**  
the Family + Faith page.  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 571

In this chapter you will cover the following objectives:

- Learn how Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini embraced the Church's mission to bring the Good News to all people
- Discern that Jesus, through his words and actions, showed how the prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled in him
- Understand what evangelization is and recognize that we are called to be disciples and missionaries
- Connect the celebration of the Sacraments with the grace to become more like Christ
- Recognize the value of the Corporal Works of Mercy and Spiritual Works of Mercy

**Read** the **Consider This** feature. What thoughts or reactions do you have to the opening question?

**Parents, Consider This:** *You may hear the phrase, "I'm on a mission," in the midst of everyday conversation. It is probably not a secret service agent divulging his next assignment. It is usually something more similar to a mother on the hunt for a hard to find Christmas present. To be missioned is to be sent. The mission of the Church is to do as Jesus did, to be Jesus for the human family until he himself returns in glory at the end of time. Jesus sends us on a mission to share the Gospel with all humanity. We must be signs of the Kingdom of God by relieving suffering and promoting human dignity, justice, and peace. That is why the doorway of the Church is so important. We intentionally step in to receive the nourishment we will need. We intentionally step out as we are sent on our mission. With your child, take a giant step in and out of the Church to remind you both of your call to evangelize and serve.*

**Read** these other sections on the Family + Faith Page.

- *Your Child Learned.* This highlights some of the content of Sacred Scripture and Tradition in the chapter.
- *Children At This Age.* This will help you to understand how your child processes and learns at this developmental level.



**Let's Sing:** These songs connect the session topics and can be downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

- Holy Spirit
- Take the Word of God with You

## INVITE: Encountering God in His Word

After gathering the supplies that you will need, find a quiet place to be with your child. This is a sacred time—a time when you will be present to each other and to the Lord. You may want to light a candle as you begin.



**Let Us Pray** Invite your child to make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the Psalm verse from the book. Help your child to respond.

**Turn to Page 277,**  
Bring the Good News  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 555

**Say:** We trust in the promises of Jesus, in the love of God our Father, and in the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We believe that God's Kingdom is among us, and we promise to work together with God for its completion. The promise, love, and guidance of the Kingdom all give us reason to rejoice.



**Guide** your child through the Preparing for God's Word Ritual you learned in the Introduction Session or play Track 1 of the *Songs of Scripture* CD.

- Proclaim God's Word in the Parchment Paper box on the page.
- Maintain several moments of silence.
- Ask: What did you hear God say to you today?

**Invite** your child to respond and also share what you heard.

Now, look at the *What Do You Wonder?* box.

**Say:** All who are baptized are called to participate in the mission of the Church. We have the responsibility to be Jesus' hands and heart on Earth.

**Invite** your child to respond to the questions. Ask what else they might wonder about spreading the Good News.

## DISCOVER: Learning God's Truth

**Turn to Page 278,**  
Missionaries  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 557

**Tell** your child that this is a story about a woman who was a gifted missionary.

**Explain** that Saint Frances, or Mother Cabrini, was an influential missionary in the United States.

**Read** aloud the text, alternating paragraphs.

**Point** out that Mother Cabrini did not follow her own wishes, but took the direction of the Pope.



**Complete** the gold-star activity.

**Turn to Page 279,**  
Move Toward the Kingdom  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 559

**Have** your child silently read the two paragraphs. Review the definitions for **missionaries** and **Gifts of the Holy Spirit** in the Catholic Faith Words box. Have your child retell you the definitions in his/her own words.

**Ask:** Who and what empowers us to live the Christian life and proclaim the message of Jesus? (*the Holy Spirit and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit*)



**Have** your child take the part of narrator and you take the part of Jesus. Proclaim the Scripture passage together. This would have been a very dramatic event, so read with great feeling.

**Ask:** What did Jesus mean when he said that the Scripture passage had been fulfilled? (Jesus would do all these things because God the Father had sent him and anointed him to be our Savior.)

**Say:** Through the power of the Holy Spirit, you can continue Jesus' work here on Earth.

## Activity

**On** a separate sheet of paper, write the word "courage" vertically. Have your child use the letters as the beginning of a word or phrase to list ways that they can open their heart to the Holy Spirit and grow stronger in their faith.

**Parents, Consider This:** *The Church cautions us that there is no room for self-centeredness among members of the Church. Parents need to guide their children's gaze away from themselves and their family to look out at the world. The Second Vatican Council insisted that by contributing to the progress and well being of the earthly society to which we belong, Catholics work together with God as he builds his Kingdom on Earth. The council emphasized that the call to mission belongs to every believer. In our daily experiences, we must act courageously in the power of the Holy Spirit to bring about justice and peace.*

**Read** the text to your child.

**Tell** your child to circle the sentence that describes how someone like her/him can evangelize. (share the good news by word and example and invite others...)

**Ask:** What is the relationship between the Eucharist and the work of evangelization? (When we celebrate the Eucharist, we are given grace to become more like Christ. When we are nourished in Christ, we are called to be disciples and to share the Good News of Jesus.)

**Tell** your child to read the definitions of **evangelization**, **Corporal Works of Mercy**, and **Spiritual Works of Mercy** in the Catholic Faith Words box.

**Ask:** How do the Corporal Works of Mercy and the Spiritual Works of Mercy differ? (One meets the physical needs of people and the other meets the needs of the heart, mind, and soul.)

**Turn to Page 280,**  
In Word and Action  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 561

**Turn to Page 281,**  
Celebration of God's Reign  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 563

**Ask** your child if she/he has any questions about evangelization.

**Have** your child list the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy that they can remember on a separate sheet of paper in two columns. Give them clues to help them remember the ones they are missing. (Note: Refer to the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy found on page 317 of the Our Catholic Tradition reference section of your child's book if you also need help remembering all of them.)

**Read** the text aloud, alternating paragraphs.

**Have** your child circle the sentences about justice and charity. Then discuss the differences between the two with your child. Make up some examples of situations and ask your child if the response would be justice or charity. (i.e. giving money to a missionary who is speaking in your Church would be charity, going to a meeting to make sure the city does not cut bus transportation in the lower income areas of the city would be justice)

### LIVE: Living Our Faith

**Turn to Page 282,**  
Our Catholic Life  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 565

**Tell** your child that, in this part of the lesson, you will be discussing how we can all contribute to social justice.

**Read** aloud the first paragraph.



**Tell** your child to fill in the blanks with words from the Word List. Once completed, read aloud one of the items in the chart.

**After** each description is read, invite your child to give examples of how he/she can follow it. Encourage your child to respond concretely. Give an example of what you could do, as an adult, to stand for justice.

**Ask:** Which principle do you see reflected in the photo on this page? Which of these principles do you feel called to help with?

**Turn to Page 283,**  
People of Faith  
*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 567

**Read** the paragraph about Saint Vincent De Paul.

- Share your reactions to the information.
- Which of the Corporal Works of Mercy will your family choose to focus on in the month ahead?

**Turn to Page 285,**  
Family + Faith Page and  
conclude with the Let's Pray  
prayer on this page.

*Vivos en Cristo*, Page 571

**Parents, Consider This:** *It's important to form our children in the common language of prayer. We encourage you to pray the Morning Prayer (see Page 323), during your morning prayer this week.*



To access and send an eAssessment to your child, go to the Student and Family section of [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).