

Jesus Invites Us

FOCUS: In this chapter, you will be helping your child to understand that at Mass, God's family gathers to worship and give thanks.

The Eucharist is Christ's gift to his Church. Christ calls us together, and it is his saving mystery that is made present in every eucharistic celebration. Christ calls us as a community that gives praise and thanks to the Father at Mass and in the words and deeds of each day.

The Introductory Rites of the Mass prepare us to offer ourselves along with Jesus' sacrifice to the Father. The Entrance Chant of the Introductory Rites of the Mass and the dialogue between the celebrant and the congregation help us form a unified community. As his people, we come together before God and humbly recall our sinfulness. We ask for forgiveness and receive it if we are truly sorry. The Penitential Act ends on a note of praise to the Lord for his saving, merciful love. On festive days, the ancient hymn of praise, the *Gloria*, is sung by all.

Scripture in This Chapter

Luke 22:14–20 The Last Supper

Psalm 100:2 Serve the Lord.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

1348

In this chapter, help your child to

- ✦ identify the roles of the community and the different ministries at Mass.
- ✦ describe the importance of participating in the communal prayers, listening, and singing at Mass.
- ✦ recite the response to the priest's greeting.
- ✦ describe the Penitential Act.
- ✦ describe the Glory to God as a special prayer of praise.
- ✦ explain that the Collect Prayer petitions God on behalf of all people.

Word Your Child Should Know

- ✦ altar

Key Terms for Your Information

- ✦ deacon—an ordained man who reads the Gospel, gives the Homily, or helps in another way at Mass
- ✦ *Lectionary*—book of readings for the Mass
- ✦ *Roman Missal*—book that contains prayers and directives for the Mass