



# OUR CATHOLIC *Heritage*

Dear Parent,

Welcome to *Our Catholic Heritage*! This program has been uniquely designed to develop and deepen the faith of your child. Through experiences based upon Scripture stories, the doctrine of the Church, and liturgical celebrations, your child will be introduced to the faith of the Catholic Church.

You are the most important teacher your child will ever have. Through you, your child has already learned much about the Christian way of life. Your family's love, trust, and sharing are part of the foundation upon which *Our Catholic Heritage* builds and nurtures.

You have now decided that you want your child to learn more about the Catholic faith. This is an important step for you and your youngster. In the coming weeks, we want to help you nurture the gift of faith within your child. We want to help you share the rich heritage of the Catholic Church with your child so that he or she can say with confidence, "This is my faith too."

In "The Life of Jesus," the first section of the text, your child will meet Jesus through Gospel stories and learn how Jesus lived, died, and rose from the dead. Your child will learn about the mission Jesus shares with us. Through the Word of God, Jesus will invite your child to believe in him. He is saying, "Be my disciple."

Here are a few ideas you can do now as a family to enrich your child's journey of faith.

- If you have not done so already, purchase a family Bible and keep it in an easily accessible and visible place in your home. If it includes a Family Record section, complete it together. If not, have each family member sign his or her name with full birth date on an inside cover page.
- Take time to read together the Gospel stories your child will read in class. Discuss what Scripture teaches us about Jesus and his love for us.
- After each lesson in The Life of Jesus section, work with your child to complete the related activities. Read each Family Page and implement the ideas to help your child better understand the Gospel story. Finally, pray together the prayer on the Family Page.

Sincerely,