



# OUR CATHOLIC *Heritage*

Dear Parent,

Thus far in *Our Catholic Heritage*, your child has met Jesus through Gospel stories that told about his life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension, and mission. The focus then shifted to learning about the teachings of the Church. Learning about the teachings or doctrine of the Church helped your child to understand what the Church believes and how we are called to live these teachings in our daily lives.

In the third section of *Our Catholic Heritage*, *We Celebrate Our Faith*, your child will learn how the Church celebrates the three Sacraments of Christian Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist, as well as the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Your child will study the rites for each sacrament and learn the meaning of the words, signs, symbols, and gestures used in each of the rites. In the coming weeks, your child might celebrate one or more of these sacraments. Studying the corresponding rites will help your youngster prepare to participate meaningfully in these joyful liturgies.

Following the study of the rites, your child will learn about the major liturgical seasons of the Church year—Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. In these lessons, your child will learn that through the Liturgical Year, the Church celebrates the Paschal Mystery—the saving events of the Passion, Death, Resurrection, and glorious Ascension of Jesus Christ.

As your child prepares to learn about and celebrate in the life of the Church, you too can participate and share in these opportunities so that your entire family can grow in faith. Make this a time of joyful rebirth for you and your family. And give thanks to God for his grace and love!

Sincerely,