

## Learning the Way

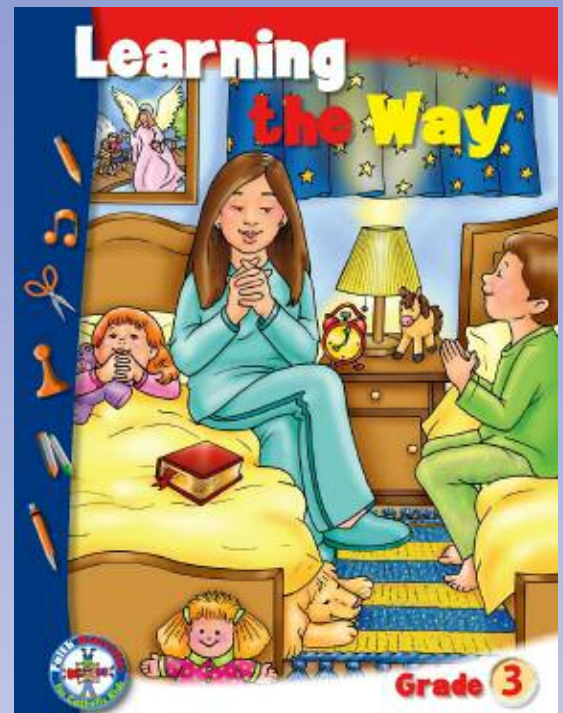
### Faith Activities Grade 3

The *primary focus* of this grade is the Holy Spirit and the Church. The children also learn about the Good News and the way the community lives the Gospel, common worship, how to live as a follower of Jesus Christ in daily life, the Lord's Prayer, and other forms of private and communal prayer.

Because it follows the four pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, this kid-friendly book –in full color throughout – parallels the basic curriculum themes for third grade and so can be used to supplement any Catholic religion program.

#### **Sections are color-coded to connect easily to the four areas:**

- Profession of Faith (blue)
- Celebration of the Christian Mystery (red)
- Life in Christ (green)
- Christian Prayer (bronze)



32 pages, 8 1/2" x 11" #2803

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### **In this Product Preview you'll find these sample pages . . .**

- Table of Contents
- "We Honor Mary" activity (page 16)
- "A Humble Heart" activity (page 26)

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## We Honor Mary

Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the greatest of all the saints. She was chosen by God to be the mother of his Son. Mary is the Mother of the Church, too. She shows every member of the Church how to follow her Son. When we celebrate Mary, we are celebrating Jesus. We remember Mary with special feasts. We honor her by asking her to join her prayers with ours.



Choose words from the Word Bank to fill in the words of the Hail Mary.

Hail Mary, full of \_\_\_\_\_, the Lord is with you.  
\_\_\_\_\_ are you among women,  
and blessed is the \_\_\_\_\_ of your womb, \_\_\_\_\_.  
Holy Mary, \_\_\_\_\_ of God, pray for us \_\_\_\_\_  
now and at the \_\_\_\_\_ of our death. Amen.

### Word Bank

Blessed  
hour  
Jesus  
Mother  
grace  
sinners  
fruit

### Scenes from Mary's Life



Church art—paintings, statues, stained glass windows—often honors Mary. One ancient form of art is called a *trptych*, a painting made up of three scenes. Each scene fills one panel, and the panels fold up like a screen.

Make your own triptych honoring Mary.

1. With the long side of the paper facing you, fold the two short sides of the paper so that they meet in the center.
2. Open these “doors” up. You will have a triptych made up of one large center panel and two smaller side panels.
3. In each panel of your triptych, draw a time from Mary's life.

#### Some important scenes to choose from:

- The Angel Gabriel tells Mary that God wants her to be Jesus' mother
- Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem
- Jesus is born in a stable in Bethlehem
- Jesus crowns Mary as the Queen of Heaven

#### You'll need:

a rectangular sheet of drawing paper or construction paper, crayons, markers, or paints



## A Humble Heart

Jesus told a story about two men who went to the Temple to pray. One was a religious leader and the other was a tax collector. The religious leader boasted to God about all the good work he was doing. He told God he was thankful that he was not a sinner like everybody else. When the tax collector prayed, he did not even raise his eyes to heaven. He simply repeated, "God, have mercy on me, for I am a sinner." Jesus said that it was the humble tax collector, not the proud religious leader, who was honored in God's eyes.



### Prayer

You know that prayer is talking to God. But did you know that prayer is also listening to God? In Jesus' story about the two men, the religious leader talked God's ear off, boasting about his own goodness. He didn't leave room for God to speak to his heart. The tax collector asked God's forgiveness and waited in humble silence.

You can talk and listen to God in many ways. Memorized prayers, the words of Scripture, your own words, even singing—all are ways of talking to God. You can listen to God in the silence of your heart, in the teachings of the Church, and in the words of people who love you. You can pray out loud or silently, alone or with others, in words or in music, dancing, and loving actions. Just remember to listen to God.



Write your own short prayer here and decorate it like a prayer card. Share your prayer with others.



A pretzel is a prayer you can eat! Long ago, monks twisted bread into the form of arms crossed in prayer. They wanted to remind people to pray during Lent. The word *pretzel* comes from a Latin word that means "little arms." Next time you eat a pretzel, cross your arms and pray a prayer of thanks for God's gift of good food.