

Overview

In Chapter 2 the children learned about the Three Persons of the Blessed Trinity. In this chapter the children will learn how Jesus grew up as part of a family.

Doctrinal Content

For Adult Reading and Reflection
Catechism of the Catholic Church

The children will learn:	Paragraph
• God chose Mary to be the Mother of his Son.	484
• Jesus was born in Bethlehem.	525
• Jesus lived in Nazareth with Mary and Joseph.	532
• The Holy Family obeyed God the Father and prayed to him.	531

Key Words

Christmas (p. 37)
Holy Family (p. 38)

Catechist Background

What childhood memories do you have of experiencing God's presence in your family?

Artists throughout the centuries have been fascinated by the Annunciation. Their depictions of the angel Gabriel's appearance to the Virgin Mary have helped us to appreciate her willing cooperation with God's plan. She had been chosen by God to give birth to his only Son. Mary said yes to God's request. She gave birth to Jesus in Bethlehem, the city of David, because her husband Joseph belonged to the messianic lineage of King David.

After fleeing to Egypt because of a threat from King Herod, Mary and Joseph returned and settled in Nazareth. Within this loving Jewish family, Jesus "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom" (Luke 2:40). The Holy Family lived as devout

Go to www.webelieveweb.com, Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter's correlation to:

- Six Tasks of Catechesis
- Catholic Social Teaching.

Jews, praying daily and worshiping in the local synagogue as well as in the Temple in Jerusalem.

The Holy Family prayed to God and showed love for God and one another. They obeyed the laws of their country. We can act in the same way within our own families. Many of the children may live in different types of families. Your challenge as a catechist is to make room for all their families when you talk of loving God and one another within families.

How can you promote the virtues of the Holy Family within all families?

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Steps

Presentation

Materials

1 WE GATHER

page 35



Prayer



Focus on Life

- Pray for families.
- Discuss what is special about families.


For the prayer space: a small table covered with a cloth, figures of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph from a Christmas crèche


- drawing paper; crayons or colored pencils (option)

2 WE BELIEVE

page 36

God chose Mary to be the Mother of his Son.


 *Luke 1:26–35, 37*

- Read the Scripture story and the text about Mary being chosen by God.
-  Complete the activity about saying Yes to God.

page 37


Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

 *Luke 2:1–7*

- Present the text and read the Scripture story about the birth of Jesus.
-  Talk about what the children would tell others about the birth of Jesus.

page 38

Jesus lived in Nazareth with Mary and Joseph.

- Read and discuss the text about the Holy Family.
- Discuss ways the Holy Family helped one another.
-  Identify ways the Holy Family shared their love.

- a globe or world map
- crayons or colored pencils

page 39

The Holy Family obeyed God the Father and prayed to him.

- Present the text about the Holy Family's obeying and praying to God.

3 WE RESPOND

page 39

- Reflect about family prayer.
- Pray a prayer before meals.

- copies of Reproducible Master 3, guide page 35C
- scissors

pages 40–41
Project Disciple

- Complete the **Project Disciple** activities.
- Explain the *Take Home* activity.
- Discuss/send home **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master for this chapter.

- pencils, crayons or colored pencils
- copies of **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master, Chapter 3 (back of book)

page 42
Chapter 3 Test

- Complete **Chapter 3 Test**.
- Work on *Alternative Assessment* activity.

- optional: copies of Scripture reproducible master, *What's the Word?*, Chapter 3 (back of book)