



## Scripture Background

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus brings happiness and healing to Peter's mother-in-law and to the many sick people who crowd around her door. Jesus heals many people in Capernaum and then moves on to teach and heal in other towns. *Good News* connects the Gospel reading to the sacraments this week. Jesus gave the Church seven sacraments. They are celebrations of Jesus' love. They give us grace, which is the gift of God's life and love. The sacraments use signs we can see, hear, smell, taste, and touch. These signs make Jesus' loving, healing, and forgiveness real in our lives today.

## Share Experiences

Check off the boxes as you complete each part of the lesson.

- Pray together** Invite your child to share the name of someone who is sick and **pray**: "Loving God, you are our healer and hope in times of suffering. We ask for your healing touch and comfort for *(Name)*." Lead your child in responding: "Be with him (her), Jesus." Finish with the Sign of the Cross.
- Cover Activity • Sacraments Scramble (page 1)** Read the heading aloud with your child: Sacraments Celebrate God's Love. Invite your child to look at the pictures of stained glass windows. Explain that these windows contain symbols of the Seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church. Have your child complete the word scramble to name the sacraments and complete the missing word at the bottom of the page. **Answer:** *Grace*. When your child has finished, explain that grace is the gift of God's life and love. The sacraments bring us closer to God. Share your own personal experiences with the sacraments and invite your child to do the same.
- Saint Story • A Holy Man of Peru (page 2)** A well-known African and Hispanic American is Saint Martin de Porres. Invite your child to study the pictures to predict what the story is about and what Martin was like. You can read the story aloud or have your child read it silently.
- Discuss the *Know* questions related to the story.** Stress that the Church calls Martin a saint because he loved and served others as Jesus did.

## Discover Gospel and Doctrine

- Sunday Gospel • Jesus Heals (page 3)** Note that one of the things that made Saint Martin de Porres special is his care for people who were sick. Explain that in today's Gospel, Jesus shows his care for a sick woman. Proclaim the Gospel together by taking turns reading the parts.
- Discuss the *Know* questions related to the Gospel.** *1. They want to be healed or have Jesus heal someone. 2. Jesus came for everyone, so he needed to move on to other towns to share God's love with them.* Remind your child that last week, you learned that healing miracles are signs of the power of God.
- Connecting Gospel and Doctrine (page 3)** Read "Signs of God's Grace." **Ask:** What is grace? *The gift of God's life and love.*
- Catholic Faith Word • sacraments (page 3)** Read aloud the definition on page 3. Invite your child to try to name all seven of the sacraments. Write them down as your child says them.



□ **Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 21. Have your child read aloud the second paragraph under “The Sacraments.” Review with your child what Jesus does for us in each of the Sacraments:

- Baptism—gives us new life in him, cleanses us of Original Sin, makes us children of God and members of the Church
- Confirmation—strengthens the gifts of the Holy Spirit within us, strengthens us to share the Good News with others
- Eucharist—comes to us in his Body and Blood
- Penance and Reconciliation—forgives our sins
- Anointing of the Sick—brings us healing (spiritual and sometimes physical)
- Matrimony—unites us with a spouse so that together our love is a sign of God’s love to the world
- Holy Orders—gives a priest, deacon, or bishop the grace and authority to serve the Church

Invite your child to draw a picture of a sacrament your family has celebrated or one that your child has witnessed or learned about. Then print the words *We Celebrate the Love of Jesus* across the top of the drawing and display it in your home.

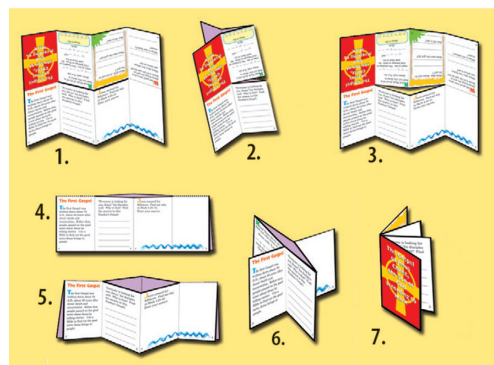
*Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to Good News, page 4.*

## Live the Gospel

□ **Activity • Gospel of Mark Booklet (page 4)** Every sacrament comes from the life and teachings of Jesus. For the past three Sundays, we have heard readings from Chapter 1 of Mark’s Gospel, readings in which Jesus calls followers, teaches, and heals in one town of Galilee after another. He often leaves people wondering, “Who is this?” The Gospel booklet will help your child answer that question. Have your child separate pages 1–2 of *Good News* from pages 3–4. Then follow the steps in the diagram to construct the booklet.

If you have a Bible, help your child find the Bible passages in the booklet activities. **Answers for page 7:** children, arms, blessed, Messiah.

□ **Closing Prayer** “Loving God, we ask you to bless friends, family members, neighbors, and members of our parish who are sick or suffering. Please help them to trust that you are with them and that you will always love them. Amen.”



## Parent Resources

For weekly videos, assessments, and more, scan this code or go to [pflaumweeklies.com/family](https://pflaumweeklies.com/family)  
Visit [www.usccb.org/bible/readings](https://www.usccb.org/bible/readings) to read this Sunday’s Scripture