

Sunday Gospel Background

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law, who immediately begins to serve everyone present. This family-centered story emphasizes the importance of bringing joy and happiness to others. *Seeds* focuses on family in this issue. The activities present opportunities to talk with your child about how the pandemic has affected your family, especially elderly family members.

Share Experiences

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

- Pray together** Jesus, you have given us this wonderful family to love. Thank you for neighbors and friends too. Help us learn how to be more loving to everyone. Amen.
- Story • A Party for Grandma.** Talk about the grandparents in your family. Then read the following story:

One day, Danny came to school feeling very sad. Miss Flynn, the teacher, noticed it at once. "What is wrong today, Danny?" she asked. "The ambulance came to Grandma's house and took her to the hospital," Danny said. "Grandma is very sick. Our whole family is sad and worried." Miss Flynn had the class say a special prayer for Danny's grandma.

Each day when Danny came to school, Miss Flynn and the children asked him about Grandma. They made get-well cards

and sent them home for Danny's mom to take to the hospital. One day, Danny came to school with good news. "Grandma came home from the hospital last night," he said.

The next Monday, Danny gave Miss Flynn a card that Grandma had written. "Thank you, Miss Flynn," the card said. "Thank you, Preschoolers. Your cards and prayers helped me get better. Love, Danny's grandma."

Discuss the story. **Ask:** Why did Danny and his family worry about Grandma? What did the class do to show they cared? How do you think Danny's family felt when Grandma got home? What did Grandma do to show her thankfulness to Danny's class?

Discover Gospel and Doctrine

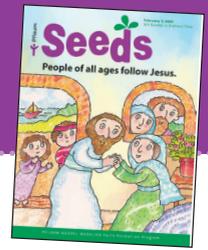
- Sunday Gospel • People of all ages follow Jesus. (page 1).** Review the story about Danny's sick grandma, emphasizing the love and care everyone showed. Tell your child this story about how Jesus cared for a sick grandma and brought her and her family joy and happiness:

One day, Jesus went with Peter and Andrew to their hometown of Capernaum. James and John went along too. When they got to Peter's house, Peter's wife was sad because her mother was sick in bed with a bad fever. So Jesus went to her bed, put his hand in hers, and she stood right up. Her fever was gone. She began to work to make Jesus and his friends comfortable.

When people heard about what happened, they said, "Let's take our sick friends and family over to Peter's house." So they

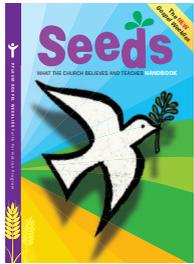
did. Jesus healed many people who were sick.

The next day, Jesus got up very early. He went out alone to a quiet spot to pray. When Peter got up, he wondered where Jesus was. He looked and looked and finally he found him. "Everyone wants you, Jesus," Peter said. Jesus said, "Come with me. We will go to other towns and tell them the Good News about God's love." Jesus' friends went with him. They walked all over Galilee, telling everyone about how much God loves us and healing many people who were sick.



Invite your child to examine the illustration on the cover of *Seeds*. **Ask:** What is Jesus doing? How does the grandma feel? Take turns being the sick grandma and Jesus, who heals her. She then follows Jesus, happy and skipping. Conclude by saying that Jesus wants people to be happy. Jesus loves and cares for all people.

- **Word of the Week • anoint (page 2)** Help your child find the Word of the Week on page 2. Share this definition: *To anoint means to bless a person with oil to show that he or she is special to God.* Explain that when priests say a prayer for healing, they anoint the person's forehead with oil.



- **Open** the *What the Church Believes and Teaches* handbook to page 18. Read the title and five lines on the top of the page. Talk about when, where, and how you like to pray and encourage your child to do the same. Explain that God likes all kinds of prayers. Made-up prayers are fine, and so are memorized prayers.

Look at the four pictures together. Read through the instructions and have your child complete each step. Finish by making the Sign of the Cross (a memorized prayer) and saying a made-up prayer, like this: "God, our Father in Heaven, we thank you for this time together. Help us to think of you often and stay close to you." Your child can respond, "Amen."

Once you have completed this section of the lesson, close the handbook and return to Seeds, pages 2–3.

Live the Gospel

- **Activity • We gather together. (pages 2–3)** Open *Seeds* to pages 2–3. Identify Grandma at her house. Invite your child to identify different routes family and friends can take to visit Grandma. *Bicycle path, footprints, highway, train tracks.* Explain that even if we are unable to visit older family and friends in person right now, we can imagine what it might be like. Have your child cut off the strip on the right side of page 3, cut apart the four boxes, and place them at the other houses. Then have your child trace the routes each one would take to Grandma's house. Talk about what family visits have been like in the past, what they are like now, and what we can look forward to in the future.
- **Activity • What do you like to do with older family and friends? (page 4)** Look at the five pictures on page 4 together. If you are comfortable, talk with your child about how the Coronavirus affects older people differently than children and how it is more likely to spread when people are together in the same place. By not seeing elderly friends and family, we protect them and ourselves. Invite your child to share feelings about this.
- **Closing Prayer** "Thank you, Jesus, for loving us and taking care of us. Help us love others as you love us. Amen."



Parent Resources

For weekly videos, assessments, and more, scan this code or go to pflaumweeklies.com/family
Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings to read this Sunday's Scripture