Page 41 – Read with Child

For Discussion: When has company visited your family?

Families work together to welcome guests into their home.

What does your family do to prepare for guests who are coming to visit?

Page 42 and 43 - Read

When you help to prepare your home for guests, you are giving the gifts of your time and help to your family and to your guests.

Parent and child Discussion Questions:
How does your gift help your family?
How does your gift help your guests?

We help and serve others when we are willing to share. In today’s Scripture story, a young boy offers to share his food with others. Jesus does an amazing thing with this boy’s gift.

1. Why were the people hungry?
2. What did Jesus want to do?
3. What did the disciples say when Jesus wanted to feed the people?
4. What did the young boy do?
5. How much food did the boy have?
6. Was this enough to feed the large crowd?
7. What did Jesus do with the boy’s food?
8. What happened each time the disciples reached into the basket?
9. How much food was left after all the people had been fed?
Jesus fed thousands with the boy’s gift of five loaves of bread and two fish. Then he made the people a promise: he promised them that he would give himself to them as food. The food that Jesus promised is the Eucharist. It helps us to live holy lives.

Page 44 - Read

The money we give in the collection represents our work and our service to others. During this time, we prepare these gifts and ourselves. Then the priest will give all of our gifts to God during the Eucharistic prayers.

1. What gifts are brought to the altar at Mass?
2. What other gifts do we prepare as gifts to God?

Page 45 - Read

The bread and wine represent all that God has given to us. We give ourselves together with the bread and wine. We give these gifts to God in thanksgiving. When the priest prays the blessing over the bread and wine, he is also blessing us and all that we give to God.

We gladly give our gifts to God because he has given us everything that is good.

1. What do the gifts of bread and wine represent?
2. Why do we give these gifts to God?

Page 46 - Read

Think about a gift you’ve given someone. It may have been a birthday present or a Mother’s Day present. How did you choose what to give?

When we give a gift, we give something of ourselves - the time we spend choosing the gift, the effort of getting that gift, the money we use to pay for the gift.
At Mass, our bringing of the bread and the wine to the altar represents all the gifts that we have to bring to God.

God welcomes our gifts of bread and wine, just as Jesus welcomed the boy gift of food. God welcomes all that these gifts represent: the love we will offer through words and actions.

**Page 47 - Read**

When we show our care and love for others, we are giving them gifts.

When the collection is taken at Mass, you can remember what you did this week and present it as your special gift to God. Jesus’ offering of himself in the Eucharist is a totally free gift, which we cannot earn. What we offer in Thanksgiving, Christ prefects.

1. What gifts can we give to God besides bread and wine?

2. After we present the bread and wine, what is the great gift that God gives to us?