

Getting Ready for Chapter 11

Take Home



We Serve Others

Jesus Christ entrusted to his Apostles a mission to continue his work and spread the Good News. As members of Christ's Church, we inherit the Apostles' mission. Our faithfulness to Christ depends on our willingness to go out and serve everyone in need. Through our own practice of faith, hope, and love, we become sure signs of God's goodness to others. God's grace fosters our fidelity in service to him and to each other.

ACTIVITY

Faith to Move Mountains Sketch a mountain on a piece of paper. Ask family members to write signs of faith that occur among them, such as, "Faith keeps us focused on the things that matter." Include similar items that do not have a religious focus, such as, "My family's faith in me helps me in school." Your mountain will be a sign of your family's strength.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

Develop a plan to implement a portion of the Gospel message.

On the Web

www.blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of the Week



Saint Vincent Ferrer
(1357–1419)

Vincent, born in Spain, was a priest and a gifted preacher. He was the most famous missionary of his time. He preached all over Spain, in France, Italy, Germany, Flanders, England, Scotland and Ireland.

Patron Saint of: builders
Feast Day: April 5



Dear Lord, help us to be faithful, as Saint Vincent was, to the mission of the Apostles. Help us to recognize our responsibility to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others. Amen.

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Scripture Background

In the Time of the Early Church

Ethiopia Today, we know Ethiopia as a country in eastern Africa but in New Testament times, it was referred to as the land south of Egypt. The name is based on the Greek word *Aithiopia*, which refers to the dark skin of the people who live there. Perhaps the best-known Ethiopian in the Bible is the unnamed man who was reading the book of Isaiah after worshipping in Jerusalem. On his way home, he met a missionary, Philip, who helped him convert to Christianity. According to tradition, the Ethiopian is considered the first black African Christian.

Read about the Ethiopian's conversion in Acts 8:26–39.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Giving and Caring

Peter's Pence The custom of giving material support to those who preach the Gospel so they can devote themselves completely to their mission and to caring for those in need is as old as Christianity itself. Peter's Pence is an ancient annual tradition of Catholics giving monies to the Pope. The Holy Father uses the money to help those most in need in our world today, The Acts of the Apostles records donations to Saint Peter.

Peter's Pence began in the eighth century when every household in England sent a yearly tax of a penny to the Holy Father. The annual Peter's Pence collection is collected in Catholic churches usually on the Sunday closest to June 29, the feast day of Saints Peter and Paul.