

## Getting Ready for Chapter 13

# Take Home



## The Church Continues the Mission of the Apostles

After Christ's Ascension into heaven, the disciples faced the difficult task of teaching others his Gospel message. That work has since been passed on to the Church and it has been the primary task of the clergy as well as the faithful since the time of the Apostles.

### ACTIVITY

**Marks of the Family** The Church is known by four marks. What are four marks that characterize a family? Discuss with family members four characteristics of your family. Make a list and place on the refrigerator for all to see.

### WEEKLY PLANNER

#### On Sunday

If you were a disciple going out to preach about Jesus, what encouragement would you take with you from this week's liturgy or homily?

#### On the Web

[www.blestarewe.com](http://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 Joachina de Vedruna de Mas**  
(1783–1854)

Joachina married a Spanish nobleman and was the mother of nine children. As a widow, she was moved by God's spirit to continue the work of the Apostles. She started the Carmelite Sisters of Charity. They cared for the sick, the poor, and those who needed education.

**Feast Day:** May 19.



**A Prayer for the Week**

Oh Lord, we are your children and we want to serve you. Guide us, as you guided Saint Joachina, to see how we can best do your work. Amen.

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### Scripture Background

#### In the Early Church

**Spreading the Good News** The Apostles spread the Gospel by speaking to crowds gathered outside the Temple or to worshipers in the synagogues. Peter's first speech about the risen Lord took place at the Temple. Eventually, the Apostles traveled away from Jerusalem to as far away as Rome. They preached to Jews and Gentiles and healed others in Jesus' name. They also continued Jesus' mission through their writings. Paul, a later apostle, was noted for the letters he wrote to the newly established churches.

In Mark 16:14–18 Jesus prepares the Apostles for their mission.

## OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Basilicas

**Saint Peter** The burial site of Saint Peter's remains has long been a point of controversy. It is believed the Roman Emperor Nero ordered the crucifixion of Saint Peter on Vatican Hill in A.D. 64. More than 200 years later, Emperor Constantine built a basilica dedicated to St. Peter on the same Vatican Hill. In 1939, excavations underneath the present-day site of the basilica uncovered an ancient Roman cemetery and a small shrine located directly beneath the basilica's main altar. Although the cemetery and shrine do not definitively settle the controversy, it does lend credence to scholars' theory who believe that St. Peter's Basilica does indeed lie above Saint Peter's bones.