

Chapter 20

Journey to the Cross

Everything written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled.

Luke 18:31

For the Parents:

In chapter 20 your child learned to:

- Identify ways that Jesus' passion shows self-giving love
- Explain the meaning of liturgical celebrations of Jesus' passion and death, as well as the children's own part in them
- Choose words and actions that demonstrate self-sacrificing love

If any of us had to choose the manner in which the redemption of the human race would be accomplished, we surely would not have chosen the painful and humiliating death of God's only Son on the cross. Yet the death of Jesus Christ on the cross, freely accepted by him for our sake, is indeed the event that saves us. It is the great proof of God's love and compassion, and it teaches us that the way to blessedness is found not by avoiding suffering, but by embracing suffering out of love for God and one another. By journeying with Christ on that path, we discover the power and wisdom of God. The faithful must regard the cross always in light of the resurrection. The cross is not only a sign of suffering and death, but also a source of joy and glory.

With Your Child:

1. The Way of the Cross is a wonderful reminder of the story of Jesus' arrest, trial, crucifixion, and death. Take your family to your parish church where the Way of the Cross is displayed. Walk the Way of the Cross together and pray as you go.
2. Talk about how you can help one another be closer to Jesus.
3. Read about Mother Teresa on the Review and Explore page.