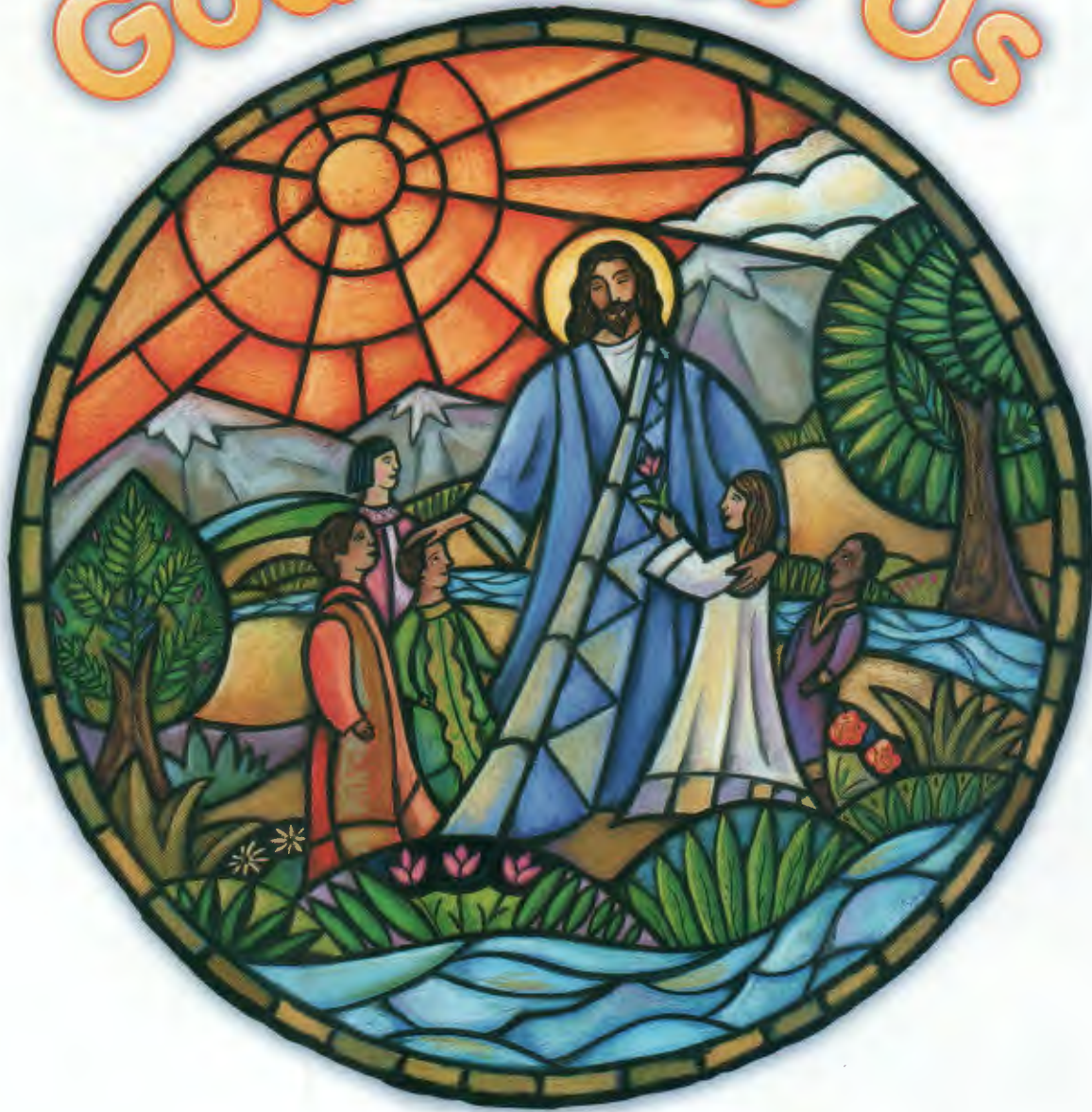


KINDERGARTEN

God Loves Us



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Families Are Good

God made us to belong to families.
Family members love and care
for one another.

Jesus lived with Mary and Joseph.
They are called the Holy Family.





In God, we are brothers and sisters to people all over the world.

When we were baptized we became part of God's special family, the Church.

The pope in Rome is the leader of the Church.

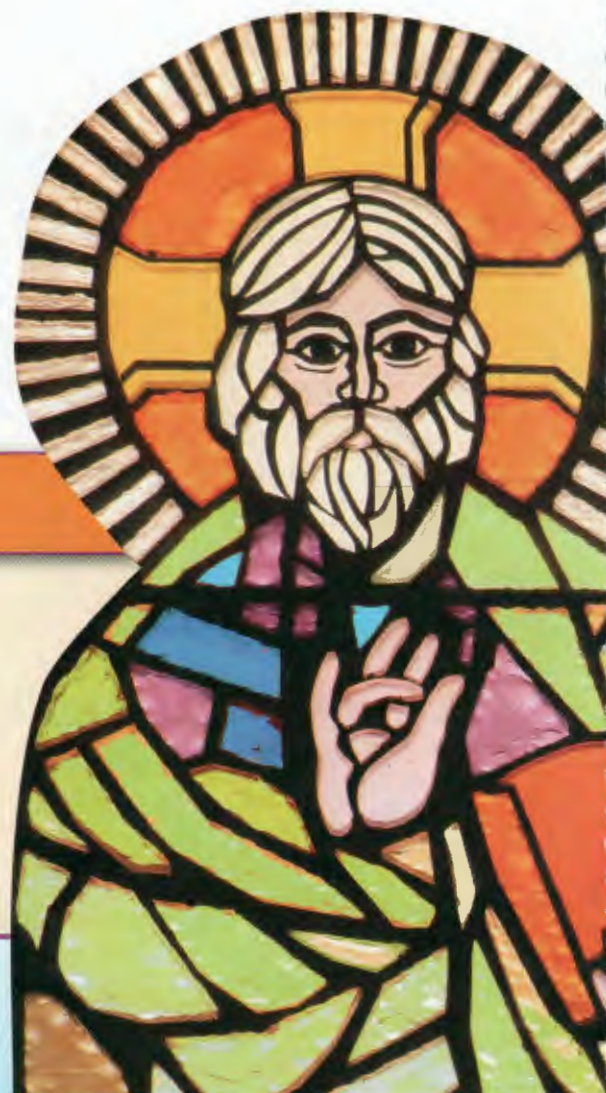
God is our Father.
He loves us and watches over us. We pray,



Scripture

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name."

Based on Matthew 6:9



We belong to God's family.

We are his children. **God is our Father.**



Try This



1. Draw lines to show to which family each one belongs.



2. Pray for people all over the world.

They are your brothers and sisters.



Lord, even before I was born, I was in your care.

Based on Psalm 22:11

God's Love in Families

The Lesson Your Child Learned

Jesus reveals that God is the Father of us all and that we are to be as brothers and sisters in his family. The children learned that all members contribute to making a happy family. They learned that in God, they are brothers and sisters to people all over the world. Through their Baptism, they are members of God's family, the Church, and call God "Father." They were introduced to the first two lines of the Our Father. Place the Our Father prayer card your child brought home in a special place of honor.



Living the Lesson

My most vivid image of family is when a dozen of my cousins and I crammed into a side bedroom at my grandparents' house on Thanksgiving. There wasn't enough room for all us kids at the big dining room table and so we had our own private dining room, where we laughed and told stories and got to know one another, even the cousins who lived far away.

Now whenever we gather, whether it's joyously at a wedding or solemnly at a funeral, we share memories of Thanksgiving dinners tucked away in one of Grandma's extra bedrooms. That's where we learned some fundamental life lessons we'll never forget: everyone belongs at the table; we'll always be family; we are loved; and it is gratitude that brings us together. Whether yours is a large, raucous family or just a few who gather around your table, families are meant to be gifts. When a family is healthy, loving, nurturing, and forgiving, it reflects the loving community of the Trinity.

—Tom McGrath, author of *Raising Faith-Filled Kids* (Loyola Press)



Bringing the Lesson Home

- Read with your child the pages that were sent home.
- Children grow physically, psychologically, and spiritually when they know that they are loved. The signs of affection that you share with your child and with other family members help to strengthen each one's sense of well-being. These also help to strengthen the bonds between all family members.
- Show your child pictures of his or her Baptism.
- Declare and celebrate a special Family Week. Select a different member to honor at the family meal each day. Take turns telling the honored member about what makes him or her special and about how important he or she is to your family.
- Pray the Our Father together each day as a family.