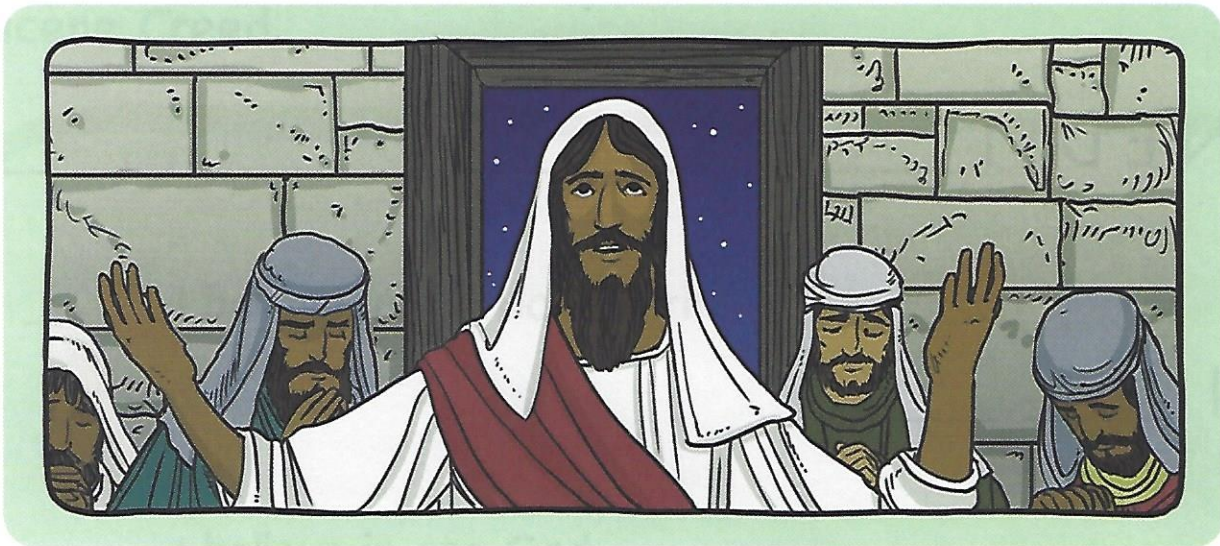


We Are United in Faith



Prayer

Jesus, you prayed to God that your followers may be one. Help us be patient and kind with one another and celebrate the faith we share. Amen.



Unscramble the letters to spell words. Then put the words together to see what Jesus wants Christians to be.

U N E D I T _____

N I _____

H F A T I _____



Read the Nicene Creed on page 4 of *The Order of the Mass* booklet. Then read the faith statements below. Number the statements in the order they appear in the Nicene Creed.

_____ I believe in the Holy Spirit.

_____ I believe in one God.

_____ I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

_____ I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ.

Family Page

Background Focus

It can become easy for prayers that we recite by heart on a consistent basis to become words we repeat almost as if on autopilot. We pray them correctly and with good intention, but we can lose touch with the deeper meaning of the words or the significance of praying them with others.

The Profession of Faith at Mass is one of those instances. Our statement of faith represents such a beautiful and significant moment in the Mass, but perhaps can benefit from renewed attention. If we look around the church as we focus on the meaning of the words we are saying, we will surely be awed by the significance of the unity of faith we are proclaiming.

This chapter teaches the importance of Christian unity and how the Profession of Faith helps us declare and celebrate that unity. As the children continue to learn this proclamation of faith, make sure to celebrate it as a time when they now proclaim for themselves a faith that was proclaimed for them by others at Baptism.

Family Strategies

Family unity does not come about by working to make sure everyone in the family is a copy of everyone else. Unity comes from shared beliefs, shared goals, and shared history. Celebrating the wonderful diversity shown through individual family members while also celebrating the bond that is shared by the family as a whole is a key to promoting family unity. It is also a mirror of the larger Church.

Family Activities

- Invite your child to help you create a list of things your family believes, such as “All people deserve respect,” “Everyone is special,” or “Always be kind.” Talk about how this could be seen as your family creed, and celebrate the uniqueness of your family.
- View the following YouTube video together: “Team Work – The Smart Way” (1:23). Talk about how these clips can reflect the importance of both family and Church.
- Read together the Featured Story on page 1696 in *The Catholic Children’s Bible* (John 17:20–21,23). Invite your child to tell you what he or she remembers about the meaning of this Scripture passage.

Pray It!

Pray this prayer together as a family, beginning and ending with the Sign of the Cross.

Dear Lord, help us remember that we are an important part of the Church. Our presence at Mass and our shared belief show unity and help others come to faith. Amen.

