

## Getting Ready for Chapter 9

# Take Home



## Catholics Are “Open to All”

The saying, “A chain is only as strong as its weakest link” applies to the life of a church community because it is dependent on the strengths and weaknesses of its members. If it is open to all, it becomes a stronger and truer reflection of God’s love. Building a church that is healthy and alive in Christ involves the ability to welcome others who are different from us. We must walk in the footsteps of the Apostles and proclaim the Good News to all.

### ACTIVITY

**Paper Chain** Make a paper chain with links that represent the number of days to some major event or celebration. You can write reminders such as “Remember to visit Grandma today” on the inside of the links.

### WEEKLY PLANNER

#### On Sunday

Look around and pick someone it may be hard to relate to. Ask God for the grace to see Christ in that person.

#### 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 Katharine Drexel**  
(1858–1955)

Katharine was a wealthy woman from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She devoted her life to reducing the injustices suffered by African and Native Americans in our country. She used her wealth to open missions and schools in thirteen states.

**Feast Day:** March 3



#### A Prayer for the Week

Jesus, strengthen us to be more like Saint Katharine. Help us to see Christ in each person we meet. Help us to show, through our words and actions, that our Church is open to all and welcomes all. Amen.

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### Scripture Background

#### In the Time of Jesus

**Jacob's Well** As noted in the Bible, Jacob's Well stood in the Samaritan city of Sychar. Some scholars believe the site of the well was along the trade route near the ancient city of Shechem. The well is about forty miles north of Jerusalem. When Jesus stopped at this well on his way to Galilee, he had a view of Mt. Gerzim. Today the well is known as *Bir Ya'quab*, which means "the well of Jacob." It lies beneath an unfinished church.

In John 4:2–42, read of Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well and offering her "living water."

## OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Symbols

**Jubilee Year** In the year 2000, we celebrated a Holy Year, a Jubilee Year. Pope John Paul II asked us to work and pray for unity among ourselves as well as among the world's major religions. As a symbol to represent our efforts at unity, the Vatican commissioned a logo for the Jubilee Year.

It is a blue sphere that represents the world. Superimposed on a Greek cross are five doves that represent the world's five inhabited continents. A light emanates from the center of the cross. This symbolizes Christ's presence as the Light of the World. The Holy Father asked all Christians to participate in the Holy Year by spreading awareness of "the civilization of love, founded in the universal values of peace, solidarity, justice, and liberty, which find their full attainment in Christ."