

Getting Ready for Chapter 3

Take Home



The Commandments and God's Covenant

Jesus shows us how to live in a way that pleases God. The A covenant binds together two or more people for their entire life. The people of Israel used the word *covenant* to describe the relationship God established with them. In the Bible a covenant is more serious than a contract and is entered into more out of love and commitment than out of obligation.

ACTIVITY

Rainbows The first covenant mentioned in the Bible is the story about Noah's Ark. God told Noah that the rainbow was the symbol of his promise never again to destroy all the living with a flood. Look in your house for things that can cause a rainbow such as a soap bubble, or a prism. How many can you find?

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

How will you bring home the sense of holiness that you experience at church and share it with others?

On the Web

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 Justa
(first century)

Saint Justa was a potter. She was also the sister of Saint Ruffina. Someone offered to purchase a significant amount of her pottery at a high price. When the sisters discovered that the pottery was to be used in pagan rituals, they smashed them all.

Patron Saint of: potters, Seville, Spain
Feast Day: July 19



A Prayer for the Week

You have given us the greatest gift, Lord, by inviting us into a covenant with you. Like Saint Justa, help us to learn to live faithfully with you and with others. Amen.

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Scripture Background

Before the Time of Jesus

Signs of God's Presence In the Old Testament, God sometimes appeared to others through forces of nature such as fire, lightning, or storms. Moses experienced God's presence through the burning bush and later as a pillar of fire leading the Israelites through the wilderness. These dramatic sights signaled God's presence and revealed his power and authority. They are most common in Genesis and Exodus, the first two books of the Bible.

Read Exodus 19:16–25 to find out how God made his presence known to Moses and the Israelites on Mount Sinai.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Film

Bible Movies Many movies have been based on events in the Bible. Two of the most famous are *The Ten Commandments* and *Jesus of Nazareth*. These movies portrayed larger-than-life Bible characters and brought to the movies the story of salvation. You may want to rent them and watch them with your family. You can then contrast *The Ten Commandments* with the more recent animated movie, *The Prince of Egypt*.