

## Getting Ready for Chapter 5

# Take Home



## Slavery and Deliverance

The story of Moses and the Exodus is a key part of the salvation story of God's people. God spoke to Moses in a burning bush and asked Moses to lead the Israelites out of slavery to their own land. Through escaping slavery in Egypt, the Israelites learned new lessons about themselves as God's special people. We can learn from their story and from our own family journeys.

### ACTIVITY

**Family Hieroglyphics** The ancient Egyptian alphabet, called hieroglyphics, consisted of symbols that represented letters. Create an alphabet of symbols that mean something to your family. For instance, a stick figure of a girl could represent the letter *H* if there is a girl in the family named Hannah.

## WEEKLY PLANNER

### On Sunday

Listen to the second reading at Mass for themes of slavery and freedom.

### 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 Martin de Porres**  
(1579–1639)

Martin de Porres, a Dominican friar, lived near Lima, Peru, during the time of the slave trade. His days were filled with nursing the sick and caring for slaves and the poor of the city. His love for all people, regardless of their color, race, or status, set an example for others of his time.

**Patron Saint of:** racial harmony  
**Feast Day:** November 3



**A Prayer  
for the  
Week**

Thank you, God, for our freedom to be your followers. Give us the courage to stand firm in our beliefs. Amen.

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### Scripture Background

#### Before the Time of Jesus

**Egypt and the Israelites** The Egyptian civilization developed in the fertile land along the Nile River. From its origins as a distinct state around 3000 B.C. through Roman times, Egypt prospered. The story of the Israelites is often set in Egypt. When famine struck Canaan, Abraham escaped to Egypt (Genesis 12:10). Later, Abraham's great-grandson Joseph rescued his father and brothers and helped them settle in Egypt (Genesis 47:1–12). The book of Exodus recounts the Israelites' enslavement in Egypt and their escape to the promised land under Moses' leadership.

## OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in History

**Saint Peter Claver** Saint Peter Claver, a Spanish Jesuit missionary, was sent to Cartagena (part of modern Colombia) in 1610. Cartagena was a port of entry for slave trading ships. Peter soon found himself busy with all the sick and demoralized slaves who had survived the inhumane treatment on the ships. He went into the holds of the ships and gave the slaves food and water. He told them about Jesus and that they were precious in God's eyes. Slave owners believed that slaves only had worth as property, so Saint Peter Claver's message was a subversive one. He called himself "a slave to the Negroes forever." His feast day is September 9.