

OUR HOLY FAITH

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BOOK ONE

GOOD
SHEPHERD

TAN Books
Gastonia, North Carolina

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This TAN Books edition has been re-typeset and enhanced with additional content and revisions, including modernized language and updates to the practices of the Catholic Church. Catechism questions and answers have been replaced with the TAN edition of The Third Council of Baltimore: Baltimore Catechism 1–4.

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Publisher's Note

The original editions of the *Our Holy Faith* series textbooks were published between 1959 and 1964. They were compiled by many different authors over the course of several years. Consequently, the texts varied in their organization from year to year, with similar sections appearing with different names throughout the series and often in varying sequences.

For greater ease of use and consistency, we have reorganized each book so that the Catechism lessons, tests, and other exercises are placed at the end of each relevant chapter or lesson. We have also included answer keys for your convenience in the back of each book.

While the teachings in the original editions remain relevant due to the enduring truths of our Faith, it was necessary to update other aspects in order to more accurately reflect the Church today. These new editions have been revised to incorporate some of the changes to the practices of the Catholic Church.

To the extent possible, we have adapted the text to reflect both the ordinary and extraordinary forms of the Mass and liturgical calendars. In addition to these updates, we have inserted, where relevant to the text, traditional prayers and quotes from the Bible, the Catechism, and the saints.

This new *Our Holy Faith* series is faithful to the work of the original authors. It honors the fundamental and unchanging truths of the Catholic Church and is heavily influenced by tradition. We believe it is the catechesis you can trust with your children's faith.

To the Students

Dear Boys and Girls,

This is your first religion book. It will tell you many things about God and your Catholic Faith.

Your teacher will read the stories to you until you learn how to read. But you can study the pictures. Every picture tells you a wonderful story.

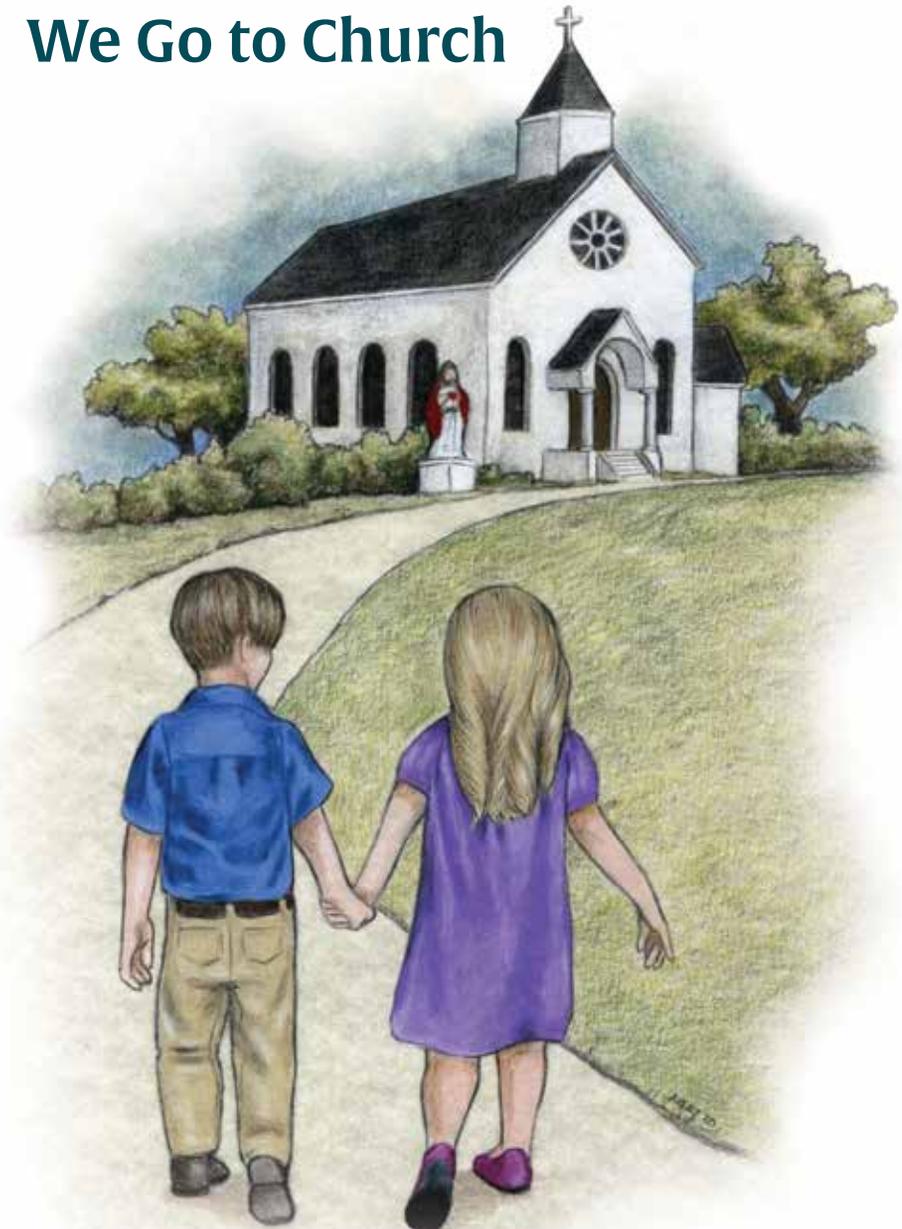
When you learn about God you will love Him more and more. Then, someday you will be happy with Him in heaven.

God Bless You,
The Publisher

CHAPTER 1

The Church—God's House

We Go to Church



What We Do In Church



We dip our fingers in holy water.
We bless ourselves.



We genuflect.
We adore Jesus.



We pray.

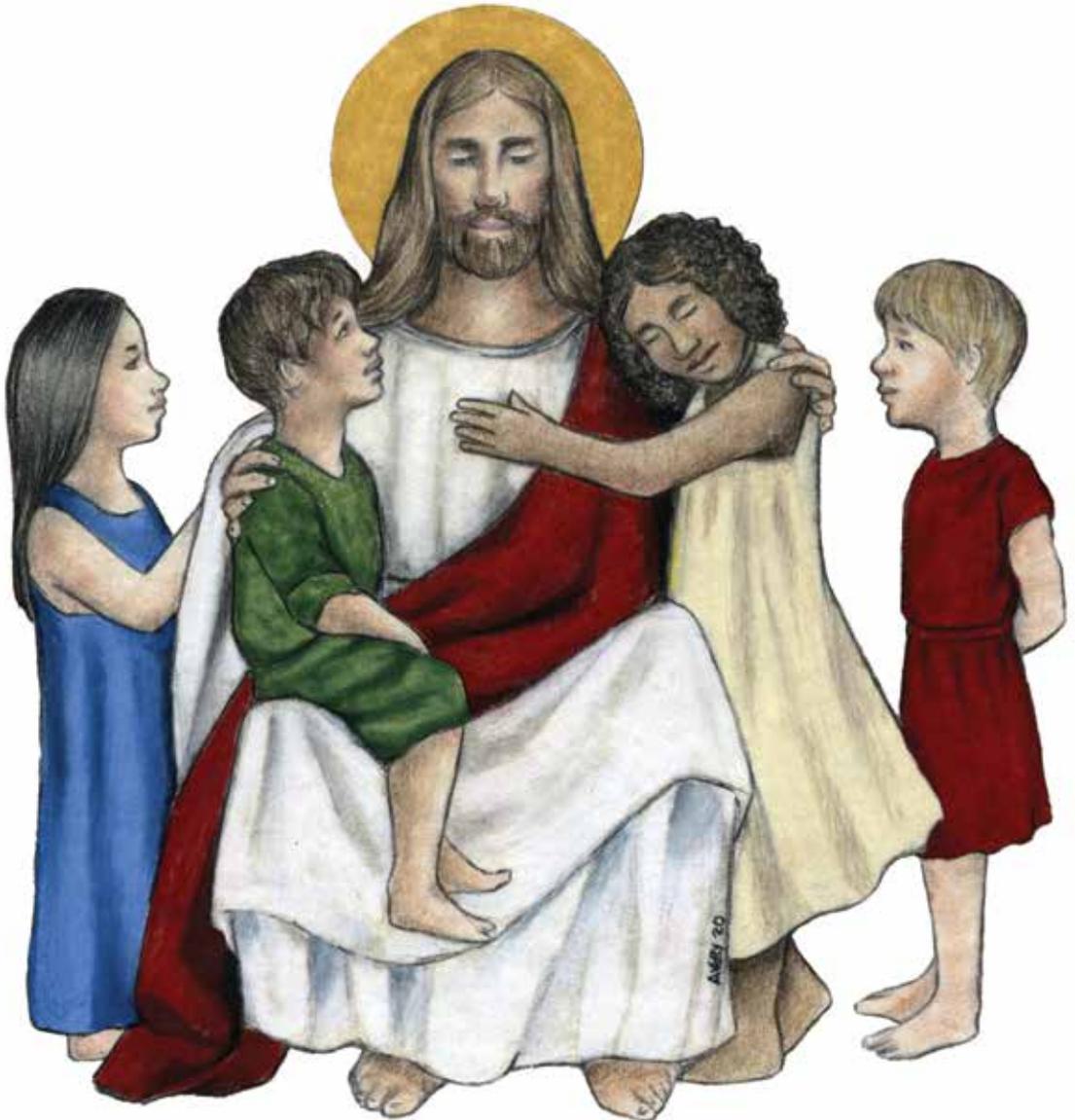


We walk out quietly.

Why do we do this in church?

Jesus and the Little Children

Long, long ago Jesus said,
“Let the little children come to me.”
Jesus blesses the children.
Jesus loves the children.
Children love Jesus, too.



We Visit Jesus in Church

Now, too, Jesus says,

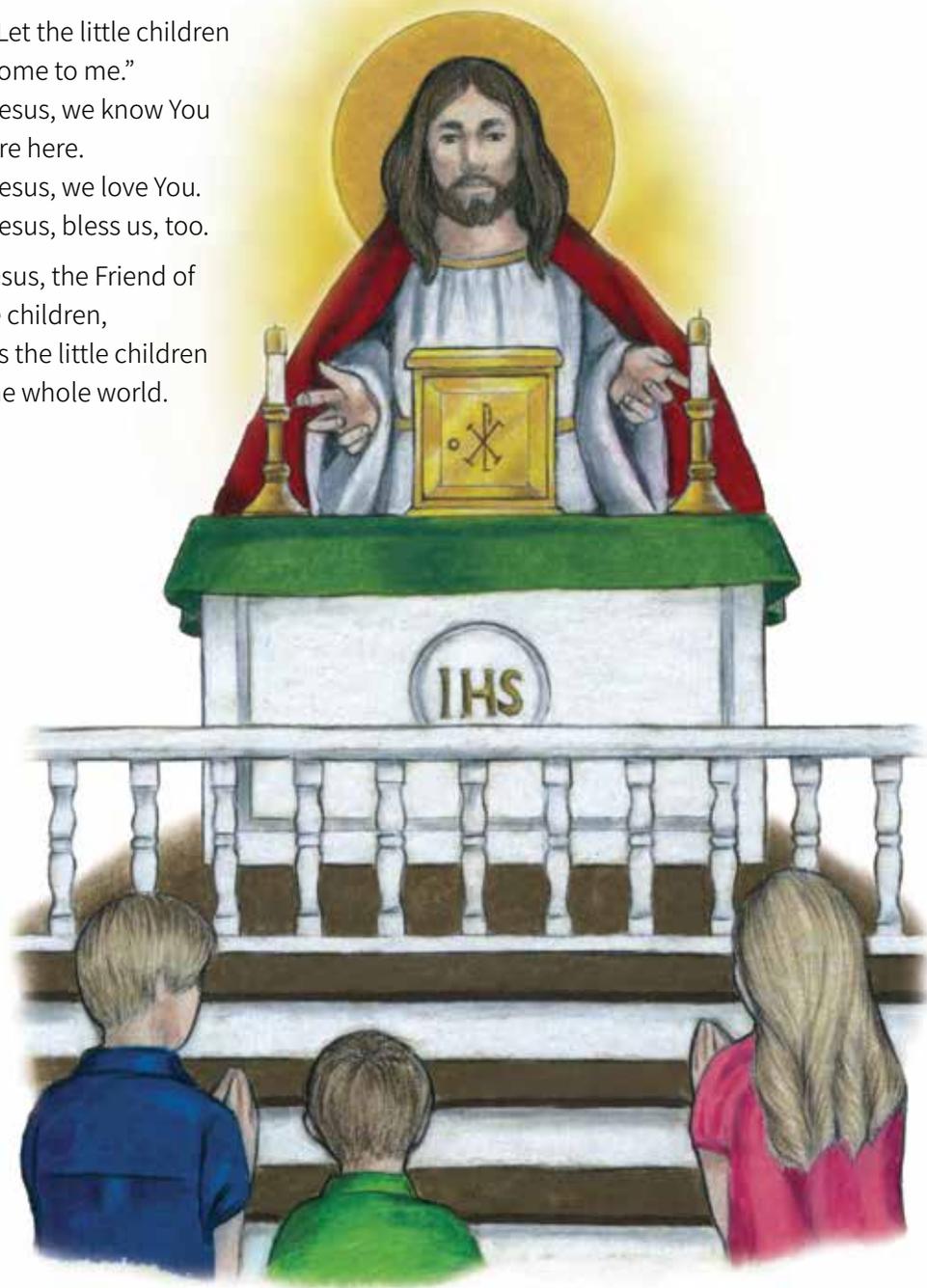
“Let the little children
come to me.”

Jesus, we know You
are here.

Jesus, we love You.

Jesus, bless us, too.

O Jesus, the Friend of
little children,
bless the little children
of the whole world.

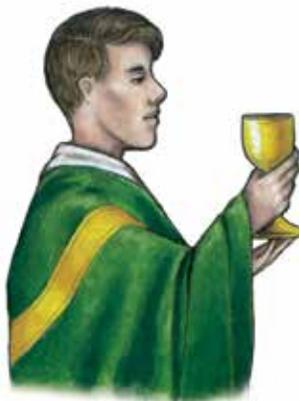


Jesus Comes at Mass

Offertory



The priest offers bread.
Soon it will be the Body
of Jesus.



He offers wine.
Soon it will be the Blood
of Jesus.

Consecration

“This is My Body.”
Jesus, You are here.
“This is My Blood.”
Jesus, You are here.

Holy Communion

Jesus loves us.
Jesus comes to us.



The Priest—God's Special Helper



The priest helps us to love God.

He helps us on the way to heaven.

Can you tell other ways the priest helps us?

Do you know your parish priests?



Things We Can See in the Church



Altar



Crucifix



Tabernacle



Sanctuary Light



Candles



Statue



Missal



Communion Rail

Can you name all these objects? Can you find them in the picture?

The Sign of the Cross

I belong to God.
 I make God's special sign.
 I make the Sign of the Cross.
 Can you tell when?



In the
 name of
 the Father



and of the
 Son



and of the
 Holy



Spirit.



Amen.