Week Two, Unit Two: October 20
Celebrating God’s Family

Please Share With Your Family

- Our lessons can be found at: http://stjohns-ed.org/

Opening Prayer

The Lord is my strength and my shield;
In him my heart trusts;
So I am helped, and my heart exults,
And with my song I give thanks to him. Amen.

The Sacraments: Baptism

- “Sacraments are outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace” (Book of Common Prayer, p. 857).
- “Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ’s Body, the Church” (Book of Common Prayer, p. 298).
- Baptism unites us with Christ--we share Christ’s death and resurrection.
- Infants, children, or adults may be baptized. When we are baptize, we become full members of the Church.
- Baptism gives us new birth--we are reborn as new people (Titus 3:5)
- Baptism cleanses our sins (“one baptism for the forgiveness of sins”--Nicene Creed)
- Baptism brings the Holy Spirit into our lives--it brings us into our relationship with God and allows become part of the household of God. We become God’s forever.
- Baptism connects us to past generations of God’s people and enables us to welcome future generations into Christ’s community.
- Baptism is one of the two principle sacraments of the Church; the color for baptism is the color white of Easter, which is the resurrection color for the Church.
- Baptisms may be performed at any time, but there are certain times when it is especially appropriate: the first Sunday after Epiphany (the Feast of Baptism of our Lord), Easter (of the Great Vigil of Easter), Day of Pentecost, and All Saints’ Sunday.
- The Rite of Holy Baptism can be found on pp. 297-308 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:11-16)

11 "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”
13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. 14 But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”
15 Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.
16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

Activity
Continue working on St. John’s scavenger hunt. Develop two versions: one for children from first to fifth grade; one for teenagers and adults. Select items for each group and develop clues/questions for each. Make sure that the items and questions are age appropriate. One member of the group should record the clues.

**For Next Sunday**  
For Next Sunday, write a paragraph about your earliest memory of St. John’s.