

# All the World Says, “God Is Great!”

## Allelu!

Growing and Celebrating with Jesus

### Lesson 2, ages 3-4

#### Lesson 2 Goal

- Your child will express understanding that God made the world and everything God made shows us that he is great.

#### Key Points

- God made the world.
- The things God made tell us that God is great.



#### Parent Reflection

The beauty and complexity of God’s creation declares, in a multisensory way, that God exists, and that he is great. Saint Paul writes that “ever since the creation of the world [God’s] eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made” (Romans 1:20). The psalmist summons all of creation to praise God—the sun, moon and stars, sea creatures and storms, mountains and trees, and animals and people (see Psalm 148). The *Catechism* tells us that God reveals himself in the things he has made. We can learn about him by studying and reflecting on his creation (CCC, 32, 46, 50).

#### Reflection Question

How have I experienced God in his creation? What does God’s creation tell me about him?

## Lesson Preparation

Before inviting your child to sit with you for lesson time, prepare all materials.

### Materials

- Family Activity Sheet
  - crayons or colored pencils
  - construction paper
  - stapler with staples
  - Lesson 2 Activity Master – Saint Page (included with this lesson)
- (Keep the saint page from each lesson to gather together a Communion of Saints Book created by your child.)

## Gathering

Create a prayerful space. You might place a candle on the table, or set a cross in front of you. Invite your child to join you in quietly preparing for prayer.

### Begin in prayer:

Make the Sign of the Cross together or bless your child by tracing a cross on his or her forehead: “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

Pray together: *“God, we praise you for giving us life. We praise you for everything you created. You are a great God! Amen.”*

## Discovering

**Everything Praises God!** Turn to the first page of the Activity Sheet and read “Everything Praises God!”

Ask, “How do you like to praise God?”

Turn to the second page of the Activity Sheet. Ask your child the “Ask Me!” questions and review the answers.

## Exploring

Use the following activities to enrich your child’s understanding of the lesson and of our Catholic faith.

**1. Praise God.** Turn to the drawing in the main activity of the Activity Sheet (center pages) and

invite your child to describe what he or she sees. Give your child crayons or colored pencils. Explain the activity to your child and have him or her complete it.

**2. Megaphone.** Invite your child to decorate a piece of paper. Write *God Is Great!* on the piece of paper and then staple it into a cone-shaped form to make a megaphone. If possible, take him or her on a walk outside or organize a family parade inside your home and spread the message that *God Is Great!*

**3. The Communion of Saints: Saint Basil the Great.** Show your child the picture of Saint Basil on the Family Activity page and read about this saint. Then read more about Saint Basil the Great to your child (see page 3).

Ask your child: “What are some ways that our family could work together to help people who do not have enough food?”

Have your child draw about Saint Basil using the Lesson 2 Activity Master.

## Sending

**Pray with your child.** Begin by making the Sign of the Cross together, or bless your child by tracing a cross on his or her forehead. Pray aloud with your child:

*“Thank you, God, for your creation. We praise and thank you for your greatness. Amen.”*

## Saint Basil the Great

### Sharing from Your Plenty

Basil handed chunks of bread and a few pieces of vegetables to a man to share with his family. "They look so hungry," Basil thought to himself. He remembered how much food he had at home. "I need to share what I have."

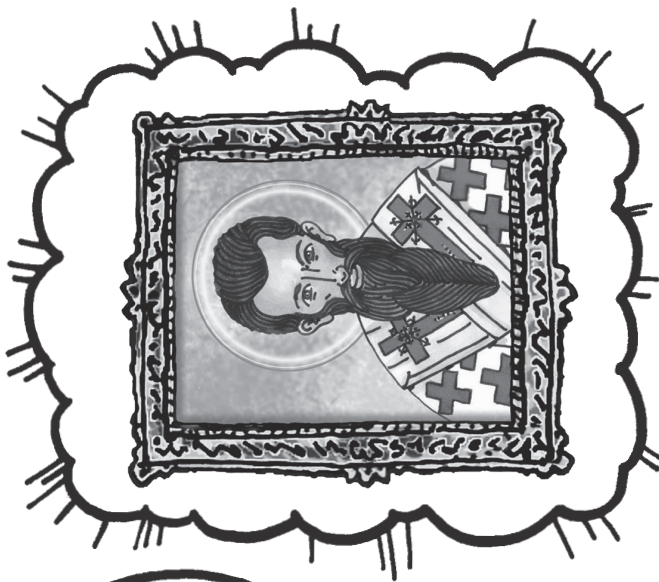
Basil lived in Asia Minor, which is now a country called Turkey. He lived just a few hundred years after Jesus Christ was on earth. Basil came from a noble family, which meant that his parents had lots of money. They also had the power to make decisions for other people. At that time, many, many people could not find or buy food. Basil's family decided that they should try to help.

Basil asked other people to share their food and clothing, too. He told them that if they had

even one extra pair of shoes or piece of clothing, that they should give it to someone who had nothing. He even prepared food in the family kitchen!

When Basil grew older, he traveled around his country. He wanted to share his idea with as many people as he could. He also wanted to be a good role model, and to show people a good way to live. So he sold everything he had and became a monk. A monk is a man who promises to love God first and who works hard to help other people understand God's love. He knew that there were other men in the world who felt the same way. So Basil opened monasteries, where monks could learn about God and commit their lives to him.

**DRAW**



**Saint  
Basil the Great,  
pray for us!**