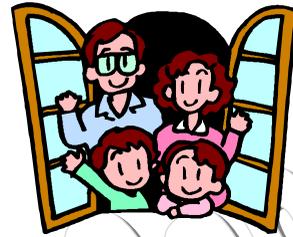


A New Day is Dawning!

You matter! Your family matters! How your family loves each other really does change the world — our actions flow from our homes into society! Children learn hospitality, or holy kindness, at home and bring it to their world!

Bless your children through family practices:

- ⇒ Pray together, seek peace and unity
- ⇒ Eat together as often as possible
- ⇒ Serve each other and guests
- ⇒ Have healthy fun together; no putdowns
- ⇒ Use Christian values at school and at work
- ⇒ Reach out to the poor and needy
- ⇒ Prayerfully vote in elections



The family is the Church outside of the church building! Cool, huh? We bring a new day to the world when we pass on holy hospitality to those around us!

Who was Blessed Pope John XXIII?

Your children will want to know:

- ◆ Pope John XXIII was a great and gentle man who loved God very much!
- ◆ He was an Italian pope and loved to laugh, hug people and especially loved Jesus.
- ◆ He knew God wanted us to have a greater relationship with God and all the people on the earth. So Pope John decided to have a huge meeting with bishops and lots of other holy people. This meeting was called the Second Vatican Council!
- ◆ In the end, God showed us that it is only through being truly loving to everyone, even people we don't like, that we can all be together and happy in heaven!



Savory Saying ...



“... with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Ephesians 4:2-3)

Come to the Table!

*Catholics & their friends
having conversations about faith*

Tidbits from the Table

Helping busy parents have sacred moments with their children

Vatican II for our Family

Begin your day with a little prayer ...

Oh, Jesus, please show our family:

- *Faith in You
- *Trust in each other
- *Love for all the world
- *Joy each day

Amen.



Tidbits to Share ...

- *We are all called by God to be holy! The Second Vatican Council made it clear so that everyone would know they had equal value in God's eyes.
- *Children look to their families to show them their value. We build our holy family with God!
- *The Church helps us to understand that we are the People of God, made holy in God's image.
- *We help our children to know that they are already holy through family prayer, attention to sacraments and lives lived for the good of others, including the poor.

Grow in Holiness ...

God asks for simple actions to grow in holiness! Help your child:

- ◇ Be friendly even if someone is not their BFF (best friend forever)
- ◇ Take turns and share even when they don't want to
- ◇ Forgive others and ask forgiveness when they have done something wrong
- ◇ Help each other when they need it
- ◇ Know God doesn't sleep; God sees all things. Even when it's hard, trust in Jesus
- ◇ Above all else, LOVE God, others and yourself ... with God everything is possible!



Angels Among Us!

Angels bring God's message of love to earth! Vatican II reminded us to bring this love to our world! Start out being an angel to your family!

- ♥ When your child hugs you — hug them back!
- ♥ Begin telling your child you love them while they are still in the crib — especially if it is hard for you to hear yourself say I LOVE YOU out loud.
- ♥ Look into your child's eyes when you talk to them. They will return the favor!
- ♥ Pray with your child each night for family and friends, even those you don't know yet!
- ♥ Your child is a messenger of God's LOVE, and so are YOU!



Give Me An H ...

We don't have to shout-out our HOLY-ness to the world.



How we live shows who we are!

Sail Away ... On the ocean that is God!

Use the image of sailboats to represent each member of your family. The Holy Spirit is the breath that guides each of you in life .

Ask your child to imagine, then discuss:

- ◆ If you were a sailboat and God's breath was a breeze, where would God lead you?
- ◆ How do you think you can stay afloat in a storm?
- ◆ What is your anchor?

Once you have talked this through, talk about real life issues:

- ◆ How are you and I like sailboats?
- ◆ What if we won't open ourselves to the Holy Spirit? Can we go anywhere?
- ◆ How can we be a holier family?



Remind your child that God wants us to know, love and serve Him on earth, and be happy with God in heaven! If we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit, and ask for guidance, we are surely on our way!

Grace Reigns ...



God's grace is the awesome power and majesty that God shares with us! Grace changes us and allows us to live in God's love!

Try This

So, the next time you and your child spot a rain puddle, don't be shy, jump into it!

Explain to your child that God's grace 'rains down' on us and puddles in our hearts so that we have enough love to share with others!

We Are the People of God!

Only God could figure a way to bring us all together. We find our way and become holy in Jesus through the sacraments!

Explain to your child:

- ◆ We are all different in many ways; looks, talents, abilities and wishes! But, we are united in Christ through Baptism and become part of the People of God!
- ◆ When we receive Holy Communion we share in the Body of Christ! In fact, we **become** the Body of Christ, accepting Jesus into our hearts and actions!
- ◆ When we meet someone who is different from us, we should remember that they are just as unique as we are! Remember, God made us and loves us!

