

# RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

*a parent page*

## Focus on Faith

### Jesus Is With Us

**M**any of us wonder what it would have been like to meet Jesus in person. We would have liked to hear him speak and to experience his healing touch. The writers of the Gospels felt the same way. When the Gospels were written, two or three generations had passed since Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. People were feeling more removed from Jesus. Luke dealt with the issue by telling the story of the Roman officer who had asked Jesus to heal his servant from a distance. He trusted that Jesus' healing power would overcome any limitations. In response, Jesus healed the servant and praised the officer for his faith. Luke's Gospel is telling us that Jesus is alive. Through his resurrection and ascension Jesus lives with his Father and shares his continuing presence with us in the sacraments.

### Dinnertime Conversation Starter

**I**t is easy to forget that we meet Jesus in one another. Ask your child what person he or she encountered today who made Jesus more present. Share your own experience as well.

### Spirituality in Action

Help your child to understand that Jesus reaches out across time and space to all people through us. We help Jesus care for others. Encourage your child to help his or her peers, regardless of differences. Suggest that he or she try to make a new friend of a different background at school or in your neighborhood.



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### Hints for at Home

Make the reception of the sacraments a very special celebration in your home. When there is a wedding in your family, remind your child that this



is the Sacrament of Matrimony.

If an elderly person is sick, talk about the Anointing of the Sick. Encourage appreciation of the Sacrament of the Eucharist by doing something

special after Sunday Mass, like going out for breakfast or having a special snack at home.

### Focus on Prayer

**Your child has reflected on the great faith of the Roman officer whose servant Jesus healed from a distance (Luke 7:1–10). You may want to read this story together. Point out that we, too, tell Jesus that we are not worthy to receive him when we receive Holy Communion. We say, "Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed."**

