

RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page

Focus on Faith

A Moment of Grace

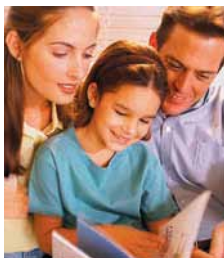
Sitting at a picnic table in a state park, a father and his daughter had time to talk alone. The father was moved to share with his daughter his sorrow for some things he had said to her that had been hurtful and harsh. The daughter listened with a forgiveness too deep for words. Their lives changed in that moment. The father recognized his responsibility. The daughter recognized her father's sincerity and forgave him. This was a moment of grace. This was a moment in which the new life given to us by Jesus and celebrated in the sacraments was realized.

Dinnertime Conversation Starter

Discuss with your children what it is like to ask for forgiveness from someone you have hurt in some way. Talk with family members about the importance of being sincere when apologizing and accepting apologies.

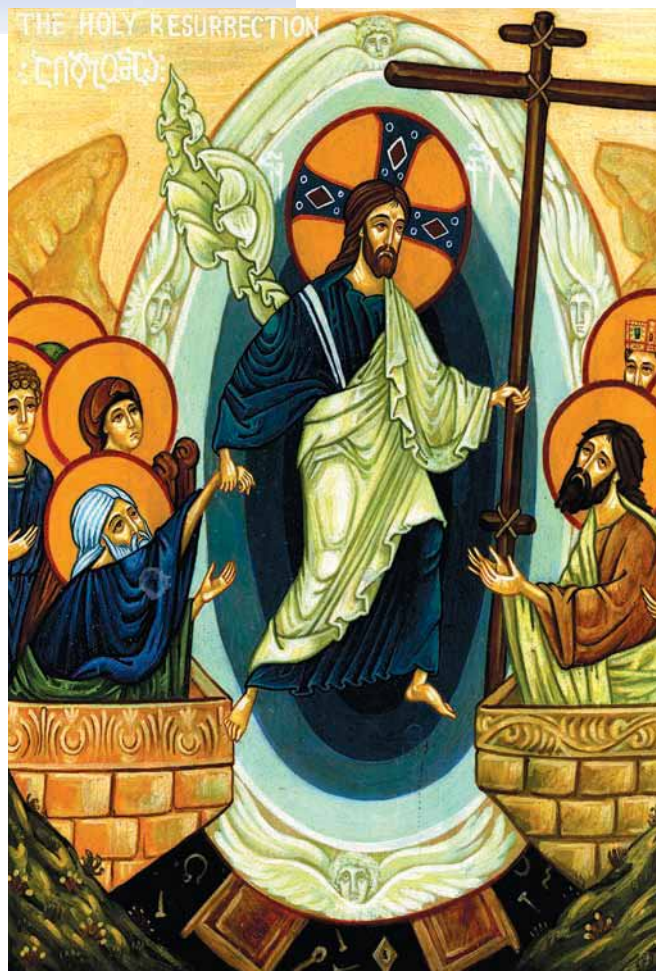
In Your Parish

This is a good opportunity to discuss the Stations of the Cross with your child. You might use a children's version of the stations to read and reflect on together or refer to the back of your child's book. Point out that many people have visited Jerusalem and followed Jesus' footsteps along the way of the cross. Show your child the Stations of the Cross in your church.



Focus on Prayer

Your child has learned more of the **Apostles' Creed**. Pray this prayer with your child. Point out how the part that he or she has just studied, the fourth through eighth sentences, summarizes our Catholic beliefs about Jesus' death and resurrection.



The Holy Resurrection, Nana Quparadze

Hints for at Home

If we live lives of service to others, we will be ready to face Jesus when he judges the living and the dead at the end of time. Trace your child's foot on a piece of construction paper. Help your child identify ways to follow Jesus' example. Write these on the foot. Cut out the outline and attach it to the refrigerator with a magnet as a reminder of ways to follow in Jesus' footsteps.

