

# RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page

## Focus on Faith

### Mary's Decision and Ours

There are images of Mary in every Catholic culture. Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes, and Our Lady of Guadalupe are some of the more familiar. In her litany Mary is called Star of the Sea and Refuge of Sinners. We pray for her intercession in October, the month of the Rosary, and crown her with flowers in May. It is stunning to realize that all of these images are possible because of Mary's decision to say yes to God's request that she be the mother of Jesus. She could not have imagined at that moment all that would happen because of her generous response. Mary knows what it is like to give her heart to God and face an unclear future. With her help we can also learn to trust in and commit ourselves to God.

### Dinnertime Conversation Starter

Mary's yes had a profound impact on her life and ours. Sometimes a proper response to a decision is no. Explore with your child situations in school or the neighborhood when a choice requires a reply of no.



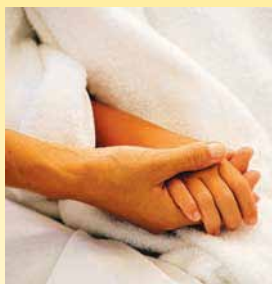
### Spirituality in Action

You might participate as a family in a local food drive or in another activity aimed at serving the needs of people who are poor.

### Focus on Prayer

Your child prayed the prayer Hail, Holy Queen. Pray the prayer together each evening this week. You can find the exact words to the prayer Hail, Holy Queen at [www.FindingGod.org](http://www.FindingGod.org).

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*The Madonna of the Annunciation, Katherine Osenga*

### Our Catholic Heritage

One of the world's greatest cathedrals, Notre Dame in Paris, France, is dedicated to Mary. In fact, the cathedral's name itself means "Our Lady." Built on the larger of two islands in the Seine River, Notre Dame was completed in the 13th century. It is a classic example of Gothic architecture.

