

# RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

*a parent page*

## Focus on Faith

### Jesus Came to Heal

When serious illness strikes one individual in the family, the whole family is in need of Jesus' healing touch. Through the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church brings Jesus' healing—spiritual, emotional, and sometimes even physical—to those who are seriously ill and to their families. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick assures the family of the continued care, concern, and prayers of the Church.

A priest who came to celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick with a family in his parish described the reaction of one of the children, who said, "Father, my grandmother is sick. First she had a doctor, then she had a nurse, and now she needs a priest." The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, once referred to as Extreme Unction and thought of as a sacrament for the dying, is a prayer of healing and may be celebrated individually and communally.

### Our Catholic Heritage

Two miracles performed through the intercession of a person are required before that person can become a saint. A miracle is defined as an extraordinary happening showing divine intervention in human affairs. A healing cure is one example. This must be a complete cure—occurring without medical intervention. Medical specialists are asked to give testimony about the occurrence of a miracle.

### Spirituality in Action

With your child, visit a person in a nursing home. You might play cards with this person or participate in a craft activity with him or her. Try to do this on a regular basis if it is possible.



### Focus on Prayer

Your child has reflected on how Jesus might view suffering, grieving, disappointed, lonely, and excluded people and on how a person might try to look at them with Jesus' eyes. Mention this and then spend time together thinking about how Jesus saves and heals and welcomes all and about the response that calls from us.



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