Focus on Faith

Jesus Calls the Church to Mission

The vocation of the Church is to pass on the faith it has received. This is also our vocation as parents. We can do this daily by praying before meals and by praying with and blessing our children in the evening. We can nurture a forgiving family. When there is a beautiful sunset or a rainbow, we can remind our children that it is a gift from God. When we worship at church, we can do so with reverence. We can create that same sense of reverence at home when relating to our children. We give our children their first impressions of what it means to live in relationship with God.

Dinnertime Conversation Starter

What wonder of God’s creation have you noticed for the first time today or appreciated in a new way? Share your stories.

Hints for at Home

Check out from the library a book or a video on Judaism or Islam. Read or watch it together and discuss the similarities and differences between those religions and the Catholic faith.

Focus on Prayer

Your child has reflected on a deeper meaning of the verses in the Lord’s Prayer. Pray the Lord’s Prayer with your child and then ask your child to comment on some of the verses.

Our Catholic Heritage

By the end of the fourth century, the Christian Church had spread across the known world and had centers in five major cities of the Roman Empire. The cities were Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, Jerusalem, and Rome. The bishops of the first four cities, all in the Eastern half of the Empire where most of the people lived, were called patriarchs. The bishop of Rome, the largest city in the Western Empire, came to be called the pope.