

# RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page



## Focus on Faith

### A Saint for Our Time

**T**hérèse of Lisieux (1873–1897) was the youngest of nine children in a devout Catholic family. She received permission to enter the Carmelite community in 1888. Thérèse wanted to die as a missionary. She discovered instead that God had called her to make small sacrifices each day and to live in constant awareness of his presence. Her older sister Pauline, her superior in the community, recognized that Thérèse had special gifts from God and directed her to write her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*. After years of physical and spiritual suffering, Thérèse died from tuberculosis in 1897. She was canonized in 1925 and declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope John Paul II in 1997.



### Hints for at Home



Help your family remember the importance of faith, hope, and charity by displaying these virtues in a family art project. One night this week, have each person

in your family write a sentence that states how he or she will live out each virtue. Group the statements by virtue and then copy them on one side of three pieces of sturdy paper so that the statements about faith are on one piece, hope on another piece, and charity on the final piece. On the other side of each piece of paper, make a collage of magazine clippings that represent the virtue. Display the finished artwork in your home.

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### Dinnertime Conversation Starter

**I**magine that your child was writing an autobiography. What special gifts from God would he or she include? Help your child discern those qualities and talents that make him or her unique.

### In Our Parish



Find out what your parish is doing this month to show God's love to others. Your parish may be in charge of a food pantry, collecting toys and clothing, taking up special collections, or visiting elderly members or those who are sick. Often these activities are listed in your church bulletin. You can also ask your pastor or other staff member what charitable activities are currently going on. Participate as a family.

### Focus on Prayer

**Your child has been learning about the virtues of faith, hope, and charity. Write a prayer with your child that helps both of you to remember to live according to these virtues.**