

RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page



Focus on Faith

Gospel of Life

In 1995 Pope John Paul II issued the encyclical “The Gospel of Life.” This document seeks to address the positive contribution of Catholic teaching regarding life in all of its forms. John Paul II notes that we have a specific responsibility toward the environment in which we live and toward the whole of creation that God has put at our service. Our dominion of the earth must be based on God’s dominion. This requires discerning ways to serve the needs of the world rather than seek ways to exploit it. Decisions that we make today not only will influence us but also will affect our children in all the years to come.

Spirituality in Action



Make a list of five environmental issues that are most meaningful to your family. Search for information about the environmental groups that are working to make a difference in some of the issues that your family listed. Decide as a family how you can contribute most effectively to one or two of those groups. Try to find a group

that is doing work locally. Your family may be able to volunteer to help for a few days every month.

Dinnertime Conversation Starters

What steps can you take as individuals and as a family to assume responsibility for the environment?



Our Catholic Heritage

Some of the first people to study the environment were Jesuit priests. Jesuit botanists stationed all over the world discovered and named hundreds of plants and herbs, and Jesuit astronomers helped to invent more-accurate calendars. They understood that it is a joy and a responsibility to honor and understand our planet and to use its resources for the benefit of everyone.



Focus on Prayer

Your child has reflected on the Act of Love and how that relates to our care for God’s creation. This prayer can be found at www.FindingGod.org. Sometime this week, with your child write or look for another prayer that expresses your love for God and all of his creation.

www.findinggod.com