



# Family Faith Formation

FAMILY CATECHESIS • SACRAMENT PREPARATION • YOUTH MINISTRY

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## Tools for Building a Domestic Church

*“The Christian family ... can and should be called ‘the domestic Church’”*

*(Familiaris Consortio, John Paul II, 1981)*

**Pray as a family** – at meals, in the morning or before bed. Find a time that works for your family.

Have a **crucifix** in a prominent place in the home and in every bedroom.

Attend **Mass** as a family.

Start **family traditions** based on the liturgical calendar. Seasons such as Advent, Lent, feast day, all lend themselves to special traditions.

Go to **Mass** even when you are on vacation.

Teach **charity** to your children through your example.

Participate in **social justice** activities as a family. Collect food, help in a soup kitchen, etc.

Demonstrate your **love** for your spouse, your children, your neighbors and your world.

Remind your children that they are **loved by God** and have been given **gifts** to serve others.

**Talk** freely about God in the joys and in the sorrows of your life.

**Welcome** and support priests, brothers, sister and lay ministers in the church.

**Volunteer** at church.

Allow your children to **witness you** in private prayer.

Encourage your kids to **pray daily** on their own, to listen for God’s call, and if heard, to responds.

Create a **prayer area** or altar in your house.

**Bless** your children as they leave the house each day.

Have your **house** blessed.



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