

THE CHURCH >>>

Over the next few weeks, your children will be learning about the Catholic Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. As they grow in their understanding of her teachings, you, too, will be invited to deepen your faith and strengthen the Catholic identity of your family. Reflect on the following statements this month:

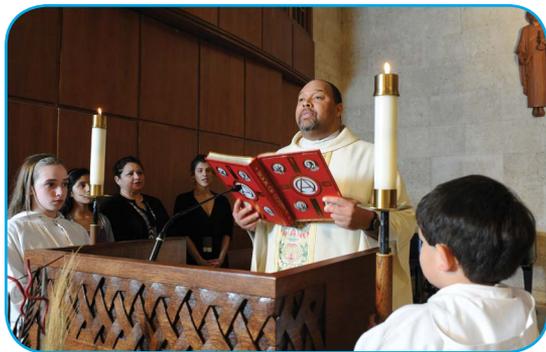
The Church has the responsibility to continue the mission of Jesus Christ.

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help and guide us.

Scripture



Add a reading from **Ephesians 2:19-21** to your family prayer at mealtime or in the evening. Share your thoughts on how your family is part of the “dwelling place of God.”



LET'S TALK >>>

- Talk about the teacher who first taught you about God.
- Give an example of a time in your life when you said “yes” to God.
- Ask your child to share a time when he or she was guided or helped.
- Share with your child a time when the Holy Spirit guided you or helped you pray.
- Talk about your favorite Saints. Who were they and what did they do?
- Ask your child to think of some ways he or she can live a holy life.
- Take turns sharing what you think would be most interesting about being the Pope.
- Talk about all of the people in your family who are part of the Communion of Saints.
- Ask your child to explain ways the Church teaches us.
- Talk about why the Church is called the Body of Christ.



For a multimedia glossary of Catholic Faith Words, Sunday readings, seasonal and Saint resources, and chapter activities go to aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Catholics Believe

- God invites everyone into his Kingdom.
- The Church is a community of baptized people who believe in God and follow Jesus.
- God the Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Trinity.
- Mary and the Saints are models of holiness and show us how to live holy lives.
- People in the Church are called to live holy lives.
- Sacraments celebrate our friendship with God and the Church.
- The Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.
- The Apostles proclaimed Christ’s Good News

and spread the Reign of God as Jesus commanded.

- The Pope and the bishops continue the mission of the Apostles through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- The Pope is the successor of Peter, the bishop of Rome, and the head of the entire Church.
- The Holy Spirit directs the Church in teaching and guiding the People of God.
- The Communion of Saints includes all the members of the Church, both living and dead, and form one Body in Christ.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #85-86, 775, 804-813, 857-858, 960-962 at usccb.org.

PRAY THE ROSARY >>>

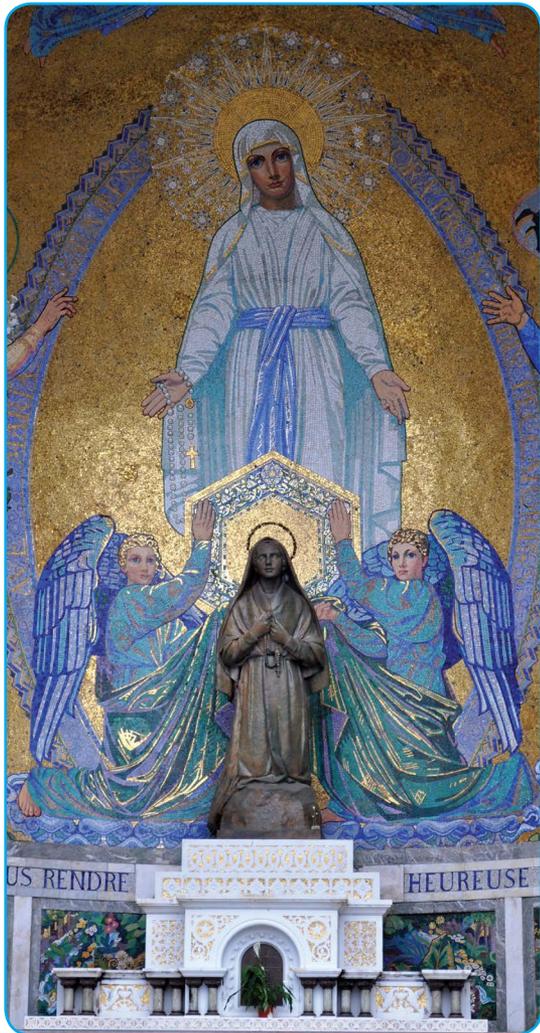
At the end of this Family + Faith Session, families prayed a Hail Mary in preparation for saying the Rosary this month at home.

Commit to praying the Rosary together once a week. Each week, chose a different set of mysteries, so that after four weeks you will have prayed all four mysteries: Joyful, Sorrowful, Luminous, and Glorious.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Dear God, Mary said "yes" to you. Help us to say "yes" to you, too, always and in all ways. Amen.



PEOPLE OF FAITH >>>

Pope Saint John Paul II

1920-2005

October 22



Pope Saint John Paul II was the leader of the Catholic Church for 27 years. He was the second-longest-serving Pope in history and the first non-Italian since 1523. Pope Saint John Paul II was born Karol Wojtyla in Poland in 1920. He was an athlete who, as a young man, loved to play soccer and was active in the theater. But after his father's death, he felt called to vocation and began studying for the priesthood in 1942.

He visited 129 countries during his papacy and wrote extensively, particularly about morality. He loved young people and instituted World Youth Day in 1986. Pope Saint John Paul II was a peacemaker who attempted to build bridges with other faiths and religious leaders around the world.

Discuss How can you be a peacemaker in your family? In your community?

Aa



Learn more about Pope Saint John Paul II at aliveinchrist.osv.com.

IN THE HOME AND IN THE COMMUNITY >>>

When Pope Saint John XXIII was asked about the most important day of his life, he caught listeners by surprise when he answered, "The day I was baptized!" This marked the radical nature of this Sacrament! Baptism not only removes Original Sin, it plunges us into the life of the Church, into the life of Christ.

Author and researcher Dr. Christian Smith tells parents and educators, "We get what we are." As a community and as a family, "we get what we are." If parents practice their faith in their everyday lives, so will their children. If communities provide vibrant faith formation opportunities, the members of that community will live that faith out loud!

Make faith events a part of your life; give your whole family opportunities to experience your community by living their faith out loud. Whether these events are prayerful in nature or social in nature, the important thing is that we gather together to acknowledge that we are united as the Body of Christ.

"We get what we are."

—Dr. Christian Smith, author of Soul Searching and Souls in Transition, and lead researcher of the National Study on Youth and Religion



Use this customizable form to type in (or write) important parish information: Mass times, prayers, stewardship and service opportunities, and ministry events. This is a great tool for encouraging families to get involved in parish life.

PROFESSION OF FAITH >>>

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS >>>

LIFE IN CHRIST >>>

PRAYER >>>