

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explores the importance of prayer, the many ways we pray, and how we use sacramentals—sacred objects, actions, and words.

God's Word



Read **Luke 11:1–4** to learn what Jesus taught us about prayer and the words he used to pray.

Catholics Believe

- Prayer is being with God in your mind and heart. We pray in many ways, for many reasons.
- Jesus taught his followers the Lord's Prayer.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #2692–2696 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child met Saint Alphonsus Liguori. He loved to pray to the Blessed Mother.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Prayer Children may view prayer as “prayers:” memorized, recited words we say to God. These prayers can be important because they allow us to pray together with one voice, but prayer is a conversation with God, in our hearts, minds, and with words. If they haven't already, children at this age are old enough now to begin speaking to God in their own words. Your child can do this with some prompting and structure. A sacred space in the home can also provide a place for listening to God in quiet reflection.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

Do you remember seeing sacred pictures and objects in the home where you were raised?

We are transformed by images. Whether it is a piece of great art or a picture of a suffering child we see on the news, images can change our minds and hearts. Faith-filled people can come to know the grace that flows from Christ through the use of sacramentals (blessings, objects, and actions that remind you of God and are made sacred through the prayers of the Church). “We use these signs and symbols to help us experience God's invisible presence” (*USCCA, p. 171*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Invite your child to share one thing Jesus teaches us about prayer.
- Talk about some ways your family prays together and why.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Mary, I kneel here before you with my family and choose you for my Mother (Saint Alphonsus' family prayer of dedication).



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