

FAITH SHARING AT HOME

1. If possible, enthrone the Bible in a special place of honor in your home. In this way, it will be a continual reminder that God's word speaks to us in the day to day joys and challenges of life. Remember that every Catholic home is considered a "domestic, or little, church." Family life, in any configuration, is the most important community in a child's life. It is the fertile soil where faith takes root.
2. Once everyone is present, or you are ready to cover the lesson with your child, choose a quiet time and place, then set the environment. Light a special candle, and place a crucifix out. Next, remove the Bible from its place of honor (if you have this) and lay it on the table on a special cloth.
3. Proclaim (read) the Sunday gospel again. Then ask:
 - "what words or phrases did you hear?"
 - "why do you think you heard that word or phrase?"
 - "what do you think God may be telling you?"
- A. Another way to reflect more deeply is by asking your child: "What touched your heart in this gospel?" or ask "What do you think Jesus is teaching you in this gospel?" When using either method, allow time for your child to hear the Word and reflect – do not rush it.
4. Turn to the "question of the week" which will be emailed to you. Again, allow time for reflection and sharing with your child. When the faith sharing session is complete, close with a spontaneous prayer that you or your child composes, or pray the Lord's Prayer together.
5. Now, turn to your child's lesson. This may replace the opening prayer found in your child's textbook.