



Ignite the F.I.R.E.



Families Involved in Religious Education

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7-8 YEARS

If you think about it, that's how much time you have to begin teaching your children the faith after baptism before they either begin going to Catholic school or attending religious education classes. For each of those, it is instilled that no matter which avenue your child goes to learn about their faith outside of home, the parents are first and foremost the first teacher of their children. What are we doing to help our own faith grow so that we can teach our little ones? What better place for children to learn about God's special love for each and every one of us than in our own families?

After First Communion, children generally have around the same time span before they are confirmed. Should we only learn more about our faith during these years? Will our children grasp the faith if we ourselves only grow on years they receive Sacraments, or do we see those years in between as an opportunity to learn more about Christ and His Church, experience what the Church has to offer, take time for ourselves at retreats that grow our knowledge of the faith we promised to pass on to our children when we baptized them? As parents and godparents, our roles to share and teach the values and customs of our Church are a responsibility we should take very seriously so we don't fail in our vows that we take at baptism to raise them in the Catholic faith and teach them about it.

On Feb. 2nd, the Church celebrates the Presentation of the Lord, and in the early Church, the Purification of Mary. Mary and Joseph were ever obedient to the teachings and rituals of their Jewish faith. The Catechism also states this about the life of Jesus:

During the greater part of his life Jesus shared the condition of the vast majority of human beings: a daily life spent without evident greatness, a life of manual labor. His religious life was that of a Jew obedient to the law of God, in a life of community. (CCC 531)

When we understand that Jesus, who was God, followed the traditions and teachings passed down for generations, we can take His example into our own lives to trust the traditions and teachings that He gave to the apostles that were passed down to teach us how to love God in the way we were created to.

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS *More Saint information can also be found on www.catholic.org.*

- Jan 31 - St. John Bosco, Priest (VIDEO https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=63)
- Feb 5 - St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr
- Feb 6 - St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
- Feb 14 - Sts. Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop

F.I.R.E. is a desire to involve more families in the investment of teaching our children to live and love the Catholic faith, through education, family events and opportunities to build up our relationship with Christ and His Church.

“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire!” ~ St. Catherine of Siena

