

Catholic Parent – 6 – Handing on the Faith

In this episode, we explore the call for parents to be “first heralds of the Gospel” and the importance of embracing this mission even when we feel inadequate. [VIDEOS HERE](#)

NOTES:

Questions for group discussion or personal reflection

- What in this episode resonated with you as a Catholic parent?
- How did your parents teach you the faith?
- How capable do you feel to teach your children the faith?
- What makes you feel inadequate as a teacher?
- Have you tried to teach your children some part of the faith?
 - How did it go?
- What tools do you use in your home to teach the faith?
- What did you find most inspiring or encouraging in these six episodes that you’ll carry with you as you raise your kids in the faith?

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Take to Prayer

- The Church calls the family “‘the domestic church,’ a community of grace and prayer, a school of human virtues and of Christian charity.” (CCC 1666)
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: “The first end I propose in our daily work is to do the will of God; secondly, to do it in the manner He wills it; and thirdly to do it because it is His will.”
- “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

Ideas for living it in your home

For every family

- You need support as you lead and teach your children.
 - The best support will come in the form of other parents also engaged in raising Catholic kids.
 - Do you have friends who are also Catholic parents with whom you can share these struggles?
 - If not, make a plan for meeting other Catholic parents at your parish.

For families with young children

- The best (and easiest) way to teach your young children the faith is through stories.
- Invest in a book of saint stories and
 - read the stories aloud to your children so they can be inspired to holiness and to build a relationship with Jesus Christ, just like the saints.

For families with older children

- The best (& easiest) way to teach your older children the faith is to learn with them.
 - Select a Bible study or specific topic or question about the faith and journey through it with your child.
 - Your child will love your willingness to sit beside them as a student, and together you will grow in your faith.