



Looking for an approach to grow your family's faith that balances faith formation, service, and summer fun without making activities feel like extra schoolwork? Try implementing these faith-filled summer activities that can help your families grow in your Catholic faith while enjoying the season together:

Prayer & Spiritual Growth

- Create a family prayer corner with a crucifix, Bible, candles, and images of favorite saints.
- Pray a decade of the Rosary together during evening walks.
- Read the upcoming Sunday's Gospel and answer the Gospel Reflection Questions that are in the bulletin each week which you can access on our website: www.stthomasbillings.org.
- Keep a family gratitude journal and write down blessings from each day.
- Learn about a different saint each week, especially summer feast-day saints such as St. Benedict, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, and St. Ignatius of Loyola.
- Attend a weekday Mass occasionally as a family.

Service & Charity

- Assemble care packages for a local shelter.
- Visit elderly relatives or residents at a nursing home.
- Clean out your closets, book shelves, and toy boxes and donate what you no longer use.
- Perform a "hidden act of kindness" challenge each week.

Outdoor Activities with Faith Connections

- Take a nature hike and discuss God's creation.
- Organize a family scavenger hunt based on Bible themes (dove, fish, mustard seed, etc.).
- Pray the Rosary while walking through a park.
- Have a picnic and read stories from the lives of saints.
- Create a "creation journal" where children draw or write about things that reveal God's beauty.

Family Fun with a Catholic Twist

- Host a saints-and-ice-cream night where everyone shares a saint story.
- Have a Bible-themed movie night featuring films about Jesus or the saints.
- Create a summer "virtue challenge" focusing on patience, kindness, generosity, or courage.
- Make a summer bucket list that includes spiritual, service, and recreational goals.

Simple Summer Faith Challenge

Try this weekly rhythm:

1. **Pray together** every day.
2. **Attend Mass** on Sunday and one weekday if possible.
3. **Serve someone** in a concrete way.
4. **Learn** about one saint or Bible story.
5. **Enjoy family time** outdoors while thanking God for His gifts.

