

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

April 2021

Our Lady of the Snows Church
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Thoughtful Moments

Start small

Concepts such as the Holy Trinity are difficult for anyone to understand, let alone children. That's why they are called, "mysteries." That doesn't mean you shouldn't introduce them, even when your children are young. As their cognitive abilities grow, they will understand more, but you can plant seeds even as they are young.



God trusts you

Do you ever feel overwhelmed by the responsibility of parenting? Sometimes it can feel as if we aren't up to the task of doing the job right and if we had to do it alone, we might not be. Fortunately, God never intended to leave us on our own. When he gives us a child, he stays with us and guides us. If he didn't trust us, he wouldn't have chosen us in the first place.

Experience counts

"The glory of the young is their strength, and the dignity of the old is gray hair" (Proverbs 20:29).



Easter returns each Sunday

Easter morning comes after six weeks of darkness and sacrifice. In fact, the joy of Easter is meant to last throughout the year. "Sunday recalls the day of Christ's Resurrection. It is Easter which returns week by week, celebrating Christ's victory over sin and death" (*Dies Domini*, Pope John Paul II). Try these ideas to celebrate Easter each week:

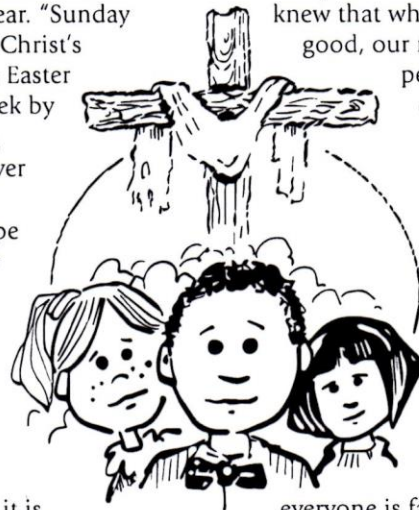
Make ready for Sunday. Acknowledging sin isn't

comfortable, but it is essential in order to experience the joy of Easter. Turn Fridays into penitential days in your home during which you work to eliminate whatever keeps you from being best friends with God. Share meatless meals, fast from

television or video games, spend quiet time together.

Rejoice in reconciliation. Jesus knew that while our intentions may be good, our resolve isn't always perfect. That's why he created the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Take your family to Confession regularly. Your children will learn that God is always ready to forgive.

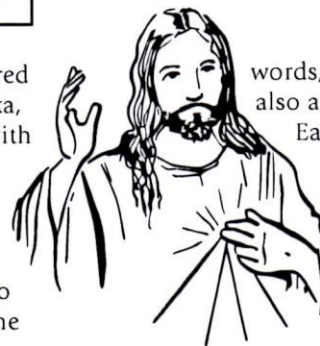
Rejoice in the Resurrection. Before you participate in Sunday Mass, read the gospel selection out loud so that that everyone is familiar with it. Talk about what the priest will do, the hymns you like to sing, or ask which prayers your children like best. This helps all of you to experience Mass, not just witness it. Easter returns every Sunday. Don't miss it.



Why Do Catholics Do That ?

Why do Catholics celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday?

In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina Kowalska, a simple Polish nun, with his hand raised in blessing and two rays of light radiating from his heart – a red and a pale one. He told her to paint the vision with the



words, "Jesus, I trust in you." He also asked that the Sunday after Easter become the "Feast of Mercy," and promised that anyone who approaches him as the King of Mercy would receive special graces and great mercy.