

Chapter 6 Family Life

Above all, let your love for one another be intense. *1 Peter 4:8*

To the Parents:

In chapter 6, your child learned the following:

- The family is responsible for meeting the emotional, spiritual, and physical needs of its members.
- By teaching children about love and prayer, the family prepares them for life in the Church and the world beyond.
- The bonds of love unite members of a family.

Families model the teachings and examples of Jesus, knowing that true fulfillment and joy are found in his life, death, and resurrection. While members of a family imitate Jesus in selfless care for others, they also know how to laugh, celebrate, and to rejoice in the goodness of family life.

Families consist of single parents, children, married couples, single adults, the elderly, and many combinations of the above. All types of families are called to live out Christian values. Within a loving family, however it is defined, people can learn to be generous, honest, responsible, respectful, and forgiving. This becomes possible when families become part of the Church: they reveal God's love to one another and to the world when they pray together, share their faith, and serve other people with care and generosity.

With Your Child:

1. In the early days of the Church, it was common for whole families to be baptized together. Plan an activity for your whole family to do together that will bring you all closer together and to God.
2. Think of stories or television programs that depict family life and talk about the admirable qualities found in them. Also talk about the show's failure to show admirable qualities.
3. Pray the rosary together, reflecting on the love and unity of the Holy Family.
4. Together read about Venerable Pierre Toussaint on the Review and Explore page.