

Practical Ideas to Bring Your Faith Into your Home

****Don't try all of this at once, add items gradually over time****

Love your spouse, let your children know you do

Love your children unconditionally, each one for himself/herself

Pray, pray, pray for your spouse and children

Eat dinner together as often as possible

Strive to be holy: be the best witness you can be to your children & others

Keep Jesus and the Faith central in your home

Know your goal: you're raising saints

Know you are engaged in spiritual warfare, plan accordingly with crucifixes, art, or statues in every room

Celebrate the liturgical year cycle, feel the highs and lows of life

During advent have an advent wreath and prayer basket

Have a Jesse Tree with biblical ornaments

At Christmas bless your tree & nativity scene

Have a Crown of Thorns our during Lent

Create a sacred space or prayer space in your house

Before Sunday Mass read the scriptures

Bless your children at bedtime and when they leave the house

Pray throughout the day with your family

Practice the prayers they are learning in religious education

Before breakfast or bedtime spend 5 minutes with God, gradually increasing the time

Do a nightly examination of conscience, start simple

Celebrate family members' saint name days and baptism anniversaries

Talk to each child daily, quality or quantity

Every night thank Jesus for something nice that happened that day.

Integrate the faith into daily situations "Our faith tells us...."

Pray together before going on a trip

Pray the rosary (even a decade) in the car

Have family fun nights

Do service projects together as a family

Teach your children to make simple sacrifices

Take care of your marriage (Date night!)

Ask children, "What have you done for our family today?"

Have family faith traditions

Make the sign of the cross when passing a Church

Give smaller children priest and nun dress-up outfits

Encourage your kids to ask questions and look up the answer (don't guess!)

Talk with your child's religion teacher

Work to continually grow in your own faith

Go over your child's religious education papers and do the at home activities on them

Read bible stories together

Share your faith and your faith journey with your family

Entrust your family into the care of Our Mother Mary

Invite your priest over for dinner.

Ask Shawna for resources, encouragement, and ideas.