

RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page

Focus on Faith

Welcoming Jesus Into Our Lives

The young boy could not help but notice that his friend was not available to play on Sunday mornings. When he asked, he discovered that the family went to Sunday Mass. Intrigued, the boy asked his parents' permission to attend Mass with his friend's family. His parents agreed, and he attended Mass with the family regularly. The young boy was attracted to the faith through the hospitality of his friend's family. The story of the two disciples walking with Jesus after the Resurrection is also a story of hospitality. At the end of the walk, the disciples asked Jesus to dine with them, welcoming him into their lives.

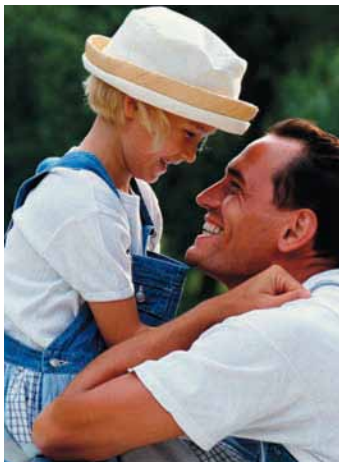
(Luke 24:13–35)

Dinnertime Conversation Starter

Discuss ways in which your family can welcome people into your lives.

Hints for at Home

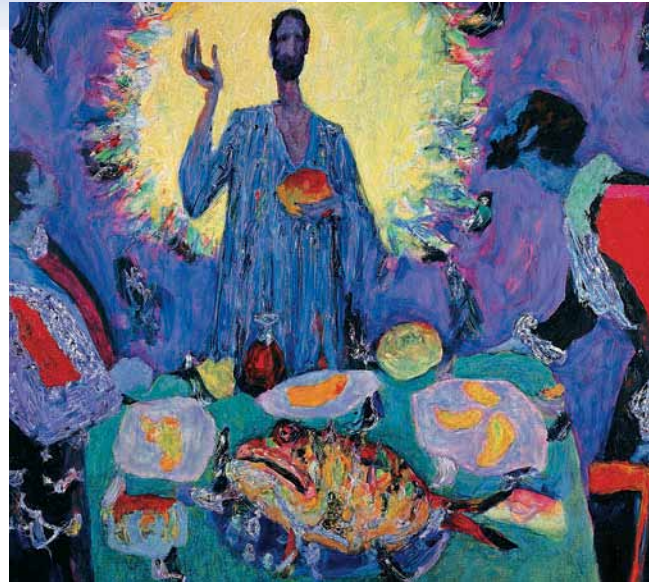
Development of children's sacramental living starts at home, and a parent's blessing each day can play a big part in fostering this development. For example, you can express yourself in a loving manner when greeting your child or saying goodbye. You can also teach your



children to greet others in a Christian manner. With your child bake a loaf of bread, using a favorite recipe. At a family meal ask your child to serve as a minister of hospitality and help your family members to their seats. Then cut a piece of bread for each member of the family. Invite each person to say a blessing and pass a

piece to the person seated at his or her right. Conclude by praying as a group, "Let us remember Jesus, the bread of life."

www.findinggod.com



Supper at Emmaus, Ivo Dulcic

Our Catholic Heritage

Vatican II gave us the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA, which describes how the Church



helps those who are searching for God. With God's help many adults enter the way of faith and conversion as the Holy Spirit opens their hearts.

Every Holy Saturday thousands of men and women celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. They become new members of the Catholic Church through these sacraments.

Focus on Prayer

Your child has reflected on the story of two of Jesus' disciples



who recognized him during the course of a meal. Also, your child has learned the Prayer Before Meals. Use this simple mealtime prayer. You may wish to expand on it by asking the members of your family to add a word of personal thanks. The words to this prayer can be found at www.FindingGod.org.