

RAISING FAITH-FILLED KIDS

a parent page



Focus on Faith

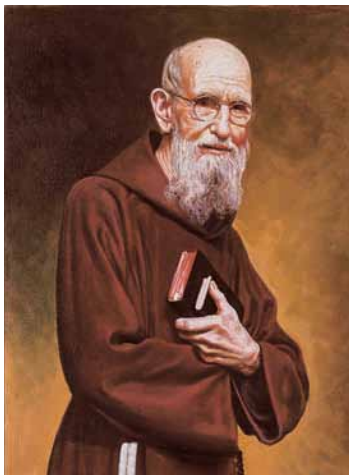
God Calls Us All

A young man was sharing with his parents his plans for school and for a profession. As he finished, his father said, “There are many ways to respond to God’s call, but have you ever considered serving Christ as a priest or brother?” The young man broke down and cried tears of joy. That had been his dream all along. A week later he joined a religious community. God calls each of us to a vocation in life. He calls many young men to serve as priests or religious brothers. He also calls young women to religious life. As parents, we can create an atmosphere of acceptance and love so that our children can hear God’s call and answer it with a loving heart.

Dinnertime Conversation Starter

Ask your child what he or she would like to do as an adult. Listen with an open heart and explore with your child directions to take to realize that dream.

Our Catholic Heritage



Solanus Casey (1870–1957) was an American priest who has been named venerable—the first step toward sainthood. He had trouble with academic work and had a difficult time preparing to be a priest, but his superiors reluctantly allowed him to be ordained in 1904.

He was not allowed, however, to preach or hear confessions. He was given the job of porter, or doorkeeper, for his Capuchin community. In this job he welcomed the sick, the poor, and the homeless people who came for help. He was understanding and cheerful, and people came to him with their problems. Over time he gained a reputation as a healer of bodies and souls.

Hints for at Home

The letter to Titus (Titus 1:7–9) contains a list of qualities for good Church leaders. With your child, read this list. Talk about what each quality means. Talk about ways you



and your child can demonstrate these qualities yourselves.

Focus on Prayer

Your child prayed a prayer to promote service to the community. Together pray silently in thanks for those who serve the Church community as priests and deacons. Ask that everyone answer God’s call to serve.