

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

October 2011

St. Thomas the Apostle School

Mrs. Deanne Roy, Principal



Thoughtful Moments

Too busy?

On your deathbed you are not going to lie there thinking, "Boy, I wish I had worked more." You are going to long for more time with your spouse, your children, or your family. A child needs the undivided attention of his or her parent for a little while each day. Don't be so busy that you miss even one special moment with yours.

St. Francis

One of the most cherished of all saints is St. Francis of Assisi, the founder of the Friars Minor. On his feast day, Oct. 4, many parishes offer a blessing of the animals during which you can bring your pet for a special blessing in his honor. St. Francis rejoiced in all of God's creation.



Parent love

When we give love to our children, they learn to give love to others. When we give them unconditional love, we give them the courage to overcome their natural self-absorption and become sacrificial in their love – just as Jesus intends.



Help your child live a good Catholic life

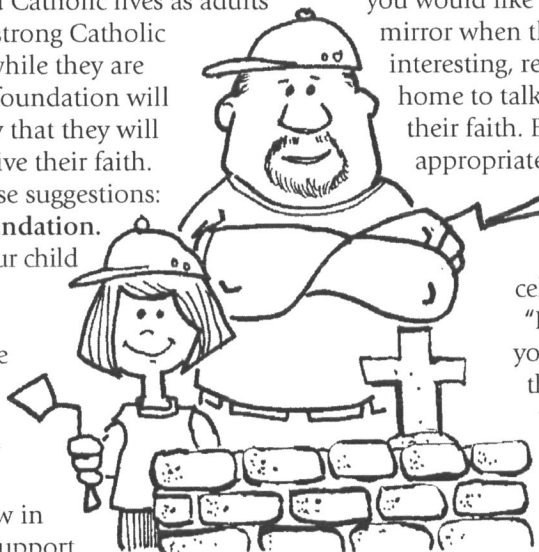
The best way to ensure our children will live good Catholic lives as adults is to build a strong Catholic foundation while they are young. That foundation will make it likely that they will continue to live their faith. Consider these suggestions:

Lay the foundation.

Make sure your child is getting the Catholic education she deserves so she has all the necessary resources on which to draw in adulthood. Support her religious education, whether she attends Catholic school or the parish school of religion, by supervising homework and helping her master the prayers and doctrine required.

Present positive influences.

Present positive influences to youngsters grown-ups whose lives you would like your children's to mirror when they are adults. Invite interesting, religious adults to your home to talk about how they live their faith. Bonus: Offering appropriate role models gives



children substitutes for the less-desirable celebrities of today. "Do as I do." Don't kid yourself into thinking that you can live by the world's rules yourself but expect your children to follow God's rules.

Abraham's nephew, Lot, made that mistake and lost most of his family during an emergency. They didn't respect him because his words and deeds didn't match (Genesis 19). To raise faithful Catholics, we have to be faithful Catholics ourselves – and that begins with going to Mass every week.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why is the Mass going to change next Month?

Actually, the Mass isn't going to change but some prayers we say will sound different when the Third Edition of the Roman Missal is implemented on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27th.

The Missal is the guide to the prayers and instruction of the



Catholic Mass. The update will include newly canonized Saints as well as additional prayers and Masses.

Although the Mass is the same, the new translation will make it a more meaningful and authentic interpretation of the original Latin.