

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE RCIA

CATECHUMENATE SESSION: THE FAMILY

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph • Year B • December 31, 2023

**Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
you are the Holy Family.**

We honor you today.

**Help our families grow in
holiness through acts of
kindness and words of love.**

Amen.



Sunday Word

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

Psalms 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Luke 2:22-40

The above readings are available at
usccb.org/bible/readings.

To Help You Remember



1. Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. In many Catholic parishes, families will receive a special blessing on this day.
2. Abraham and his family had great faith in the Lord. They trusted that he would lead and guide them, even when they did not understand.
3. Jesus chose to be born into a human family. Through the love of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph for each other, God shows us how to love our own families.

Key Teachings



The Family and the Trinity

The members of a Christian family become an image of the Holy Trinity as they reflect God the Father's work of creation, mirror the prayer and sacrifice of Christ the Son, and answer the Holy Spirit's promptings to reach out to the poor and needy.

The Domestic Church

Daily prayer, reading God's Word together, participating in the worship and in the life of the parish community, and sharing in acts of Christian witness and service strengthen the family, the domestic Church.

Faith Words



domestic Church

The Christian family is called the domestic Church, or the Church of the home.



Holy Family

The Holy Family is the family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

With My Family



We Listen

Abraham's family and the Holy Family both put their trust in the Lord. God asks challenging things of them, but he also blesses them in great ways. In what way do they show their faith in God? What can they teach us about our own families?

We Believe

The Christian family is a sign of God's love. The Christian family is also the place where children first learn to know God. The family is the first school of faith.

We Live As Disciples

Read the words of Pope Francis on your handout and do as he suggests. Ask each member of your family to recall a happy time when your family was together for a meal or a trip, or discuss one of the other family times that Pope Francis names. What was special about this time?

We Pray

At the end of a family meal, pray together the prayer that honors the Trinity, the Glory Be: "Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."

In the Words of Pope Francis



In a letter to families dated February 2, 2014, the pope stated that it is Jesus who brings together the generations and Jesus who is the family's source of love and joy. He encouraged family members to reflect on the beautiful moments shared together in meals, rest, leisure, housework, prayer, trips, and mutual support.