

 **Points to Ponder** 

The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute. It is therefore the duty of parents to create a family atmosphere inspired by love and devotion to God and humanity which will promote an integrated, personal, and social education of their children. The family is therefore the principal school of the social virtues which are necessary to every society.

Declaration on Christian Education, 3

1. Parents have the most significant influence on a child's faith development.

- I strongly agree.
- I somewhat agree.
- I strongly disagree.

2. Sending children to a Catholic school or to a religious education program isn't enough to pass along the faith to children. Children have to see their parents living out their faith and talking about their faith in their everyday lives.

- I strongly agree.
- I somewhat agree.
- I strongly disagree.

3. Think about people who have played a significant role in your own development of faith. In what ways did they share their faith with you?

4. What things have others taught you that you want to pass along to your children?

5. What is your family already doing that will help strengthen your child's faith and help prepare him or her for the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist?

For example . . .

We pray before meals.

We go to Mass on Sundays.

We read stories about Jesus.

We participate in the parish.

We spend time together.

My children know how to say, "I forgive you."

6. What would you hope to improve or change about your family life this year to make you and your family more aware of God's presence in your lives?

7. What kinds of support do you hope the parish will offer during this time of sacramental formation?