


VISION WITH
CELEBRATE
 HOME



INTENTIONAL FAMILY LIFE

Welcome to **CELEBRATE at Home!** This resource is compiled to encourage and support you and your family. We think that this is an opportunity to draw close to Jesus, and also build community together online. This edition focuses on the power of intentional family life.



Create Some Space

Why not set up a prayer focus in your home for daily family prayer? It doesn't have to be big, just somewhere to focus attention as a reminder of faith. You could use items such as a candle*, bible, icon or holy picture.

A focal point not only helps you establish the physical space you want to create for prayer, but it also draws you in and sets the tone and mood for the whole home.

**Be careful with open flames*

WAYS TO CONNECT

Everything in this pack is designed to help you connect with God, your family and others. We have suggested ways to engage with the activities but it's completely up to you to use them however works best for you. **All the accompanying links to online resources are found on our website.**

Sometimes we have suggested resources that may be more or less appropriate for different age groups. Look out for the **depthometer** to get a gauge on how suitable the activity will be for the members of your family.

You will notice that we have ideas that you can do as individuals, or with your whole family. You could also connect with other Celebrators and families online, using zoom, to discuss the theme, or something you have watched or read.



Variety is the Spice of Life

It can be important to try different kinds of prayer with your family in order to help everyone find what they enjoy. Don't be afraid to try new ways of praying, mixing formal prayers with informal prayers and even creative ways of praying together.

Encouraging Informal Prayers

TSP is an informal prayer based around **Thank you, Sorry and Please**. This is a helpful practice to encourage gratitude to God and for each other, and to not let a day go by without reconciliation. Each person takes it in turns to say what they're thankful for and what they're sorry for from the day and what they need from God for the day to come.

Teaching Traditional Formal Prayers

It is a great habit to recite traditional prayers with each other as you never know when they will come to mind later in life. The Our Father, the Rosary, the Divine Mercy chaplet, the Holy Michael prayer and grace at meals are just a few examples.

Worship & Prophecy

If you haven't worshipped together at home before, listen to your favourite worship songs together. Worship together using just your voices or even the gift of tongues. Pray with and over one another when you are sick or have a worry, and when you have some great news, give thanks to God for the small and big things. You could even spend time listening to God for words or images for one another with older children.



REFLECT

Influences in the Home

Consider what you want to bring into your home that will edify and, by contrast, what might not be helpful. What virtues do you want to instil in your family?

All resource links can be found on the **CELEBRATE website** in the download page for this pack.

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.”
Philippians 4:8

Consider the following...

Books

What books are on your bookshelf? What books do you read to your family?

You can use books to talk about themes like love, compassion, reconciliation and sacrifice. Picture-books, fiction, non-fiction and poetry are all full of themes. You could also look at books on the saints and their lives which can be really inspiring. For little ones, **Dogger** is a picture book by Shirley Hughes in which a sister shows love for her brother. For older readers **Lord of the Rings** is an epic adventure where a hobbit offers to go on a journey to try and save others from a powerful evil presence.

All links and resources can be found on the CELEBRATE website

Films

What films do you have on your shelf? What certificate are they? Do you know the content of the films and TV shows that your children watch?

You could have a family movie night and chat afterwards about what you have seen, which characters showed virtues of courage, compassion etc.

Music*

Consider the types of music you have in the home. How about finding some worship music that you can listen to together, have it in the background when you are washing up or during bath time!

**With all music, check the singer/band and their lyrics and that you are happy with your children listening to it.*

Technology

Concerned about the influence of technology on your children? How do you have conversations about what a healthy relationship with technology looks like?

Focusonthefamily.com has a helpful section to support parents and families in the digital world.*

The Tech-Wise Family is also a helpful guide for Christian families to put technology in its proper place.

Why not look for fun Christian Apps and games? **Guardians of Ancora*** is a great one for children.

**Please be aware that we do not agree with all the content on these websites*

“The Catholic family is called to live in such a way that its life would not make sense if God did not exist.” - The Family's Mission to Love, Kahn & Issac 2008

Consider Ways to Value each Member of the Family...

- Celebrate with a treat on their baptism day or saints day.
- Try to find time for talk - research shows deeper conversations do not start until 7 minutes in, and this can be especially difficult for teenagers. Some of the best conversations are on the way to and from places in the car, when the focus is not completely on them. Listening to what they are saying without jumping in straight away with solutions can be hard, but our teens need to feel heard.
- A way to encourage working as a team can be through using a 'Marble jar'. Children earn a marble for a kind or sacrificial act. All the marbles go in the same pot and when the pot is full, the family gets a treat!



You might also consider how your family can be an outward facing family, sharing the love of Christ with others through hospitality, works of charity, or acts of kindness. How do you share the love of your family with others without seeking anything in return?

FAMILY TIME

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WHAT IS CELEBRATE?



CELEBRATE runs Catholic Charismatic, faith-filled, fun events for all ages, combining good Christian teaching, inspirational speakers and celebration of the liturgy, all in the power of the Holy Spirit. Young and old alike join together in a vibrant atmosphere to celebrate the love of God.

You can find more information and resources like this on our website **www.celebrateconference.org**

We'd love to hear from you! Join the CELEBRATE community on our **Facebook**, or get in touch via email: **info@celebrateconference.org**