



Dear Family,

RCL Benziger *Family Life* reflects and reinforces a major priority in the Church today: the preservation of the fundamental importance and sacredness of the family. Through this program, your child will have an opportunity to develop and practice the healthy attitudes, moral values and virtues of Christian family life.

Family Life presents Catholic doctrine and tradition and family attitudes in clear, simple language. Each year's study builds on the previous level. In this way your child will learn the concepts and practices of Catholic moral living in age-appropriate ways—all in the context of family life.

The material of the ***Family Life*** program is organized according to these five themes:

- 1. God's Gift of Family.** The core of the program is Christian family living. It is our goal to help young people respect the family and its mission of teaching and transmitting values. The curriculum helps you and your children develop more fully within the relationship of love, trust, responsibility, and forgiveness that the family provides.
- 2. God's Gift of Self.** It is our goal to guide young people in their spiritual, moral, physical, mental and emotional growth. An appreciation for God's gift of self and for one's strengths and weaknesses are fundamental to achieve this.
- 3. God's Gift of Life.** An essential aspect of growth and maturity is learning to respect and honor all people. This unit helps children to mature in their appreciation of the sacredness of life through developing habits based on general wellness and nutrition guidelines. It is our goal to give young people an appreciation of the sacredness of life and their personal potential for love and service.
- 4. God's Gift of Love.** Young people need to develop a gradual and wholesome understanding of the gift of human sexuality as part of their calling to live a chaste life directed toward authentic love. ***Family Life*** helps them, according to their age and capabilities, to understand that sexuality is intimately bound up with love, service, compassion and discipline.
- 5. God's Gift of Community.** Healthy family living involves understanding our relationships as brothers and sisters in the whole human family. Your child will practice the skills needed for healthy interpersonal relationships and responsible living, and those needed to follow the Gospel in all aspects of society.

We encourage you to take an active interest in what your child is learning throughout this program. Stay informed by reading the family letters that will be sent home during the program and discuss with your child what has been learned in the sessions. Use the Family Time pages that will be sent home to integrate into your normal family routines what the children are learning. The ***Parent Connection*** magazine offers you special helps for understanding Catholic teaching related to the five themes, and practical tips for improving parent-child communication.

I look forward to working with you and your child as we explore together this important topic.

Sincerely,

