

10 Ways to Nurture Baptismal Faith at Home



Children are drawn to the baptismal waters. The joy that the water invites, the ritual that surrounds the font, and the unique character of the day all speak to children from their earliest days. Help your child begin to understand the sacrament of baptism by using these words:

In baptism God says:
You are mine.
I love you.
You are washed and made new.

In baptism the family of God says:
We welcome you.
Let us serve together.



While many of these suggestions apply to children of all ages, they are ordered to provide ideas from the child's infancy through young adulthood.

1. The first place that your child experiences the tangible love of God is in your own arms. Give voice to that love as a gift from God.

I love you so much. I'm grateful that God has given us this gift of love to share with each other.

2. Point your child to signs of new life all around, like budding spring flowers, new friendships, and new opportunities. Help your child identify these signs of life as a gift from God.



What a beautiful tulip! Isn't God's creation wonderful?

You are starting kindergarten. I am so proud of how you are growing up. I am grateful for the new beginnings that God gives us.

Look at those two people helping each other. Isn't it great how God gives us opportunities to work together?

3. Ask your child for forgiveness when you make a mistake, and be gracious in your forgiveness toward your child. Give voice to the fact that forgiveness comes from God. You might trace the sign of the cross on your child's head as you say, "I forgive you."

I'm sorry I yelled at you. Will you forgive me? Thank you for helping me know that even when I make a mistake you still love me. I am so grateful that our God forgives us.

