



Passing on the Faith...

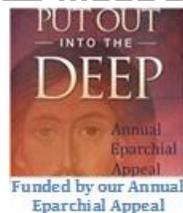
A great challenge...a great responsibility...

When facing this question of passing on the faith, many parents feel powerless. Ukrainian Catholic parents are well aware of the great challenge we face today, in this regard. The purpose of this initiative is to give the parents of the Eparchy hope—to empower and encourage—that parents can make a difference in the lives of their children. Parents Matter!

My Family Home: A Place to Encounter the Living Christ

Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth. An Initiative of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon

Strong, faith-filled families are the foundation of our parishes, our Church and society. The Eparchy of Saskatoon is committed to helping parents and grandparents pass on the faith to our children and youth. This is a lifelong process. It is a great responsibility, but an even greater joy. If there is any way we can help you in putting your plans into action please contact us. Scan the QR Code below or go to www.skeparchy.org/familyandlife/



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Some bad news and some good news...

Much research has been done on the question of family faith. The bad news of this research is that Catholics in North America today are ranked 5th in passing on the faith to their children... and are at the bottom of the list of Christian denominations. The good news is that the current generation (often referred to as Millennials) differ from previous generations and generally are generally receptive to wisdom received from their parents. According to Reginald Bibby, sociologist and leading researcher on youth trends in Canada:

89% of teens maintain that their moms have a high level of influence on their lives, while 82% say the same thing about their dads – up 10 percentage points since the 1980s.

Everything we say and everything we do, as a parent is significant!



Why plan how you will pass on faith to your children?

Winston Churchill said, "Plans are of little importance, but planning is essential." In planning we engage in a process of reflection about where we are and where we want to be. It is true that we may not follow through with our plans exactly as we would like but the process is always useful. The following series of pamphlets offers you a planning tool that can be revisited as often as necessary and will enable you to track changes as well as be encouraged as you reach your goals. This is not about perfection. It is about doing the best we can as parents to give the greatest gift we can give our children: The Gift of Faith.

We all have high hopes for our kids. We want them to be happy. We want them to be healthy—body, soul and spirit. We want them to make a positive contribution in the world and to find truth and contentment. If we were to distill these goals into one essential we want our kids to find God and follow Him with all their hearts.

By completing these self-evaluations you take the "drivers-seat" in the education and formation of your children. You still may cooperate with others such as Catholic School or your parish—these relationships are very good—but ultimately you are taking primary responsibility for your kids. This is also right and good.

Is this going to mean adding more to our already overloaded family schedule? Possibly, but hopefully with the help of Eparchial resources and working with your local Pastor and other families in your Parish, you will be able to achieve a healthy balance in your "Domestic Church". By learning and integrating faith into every day life, and making it a priority, you will hopefully accomplish this very important goal of inspiring, educating and forming your children to be the disciples of Christ, parishioners, faithful Ukrainian Catholics and Christian citizens they are called to be.