

from the Office of the Diocesan Resource Worker

for Pastoral Renewal & Adult Faith Development
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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Parents, guardians, grandparents and the whole family are really important in helping our children to grow in faith. What do we mean by faith? Faith is a belief in God which shapes who we are and how we live. Your family is where faith begins and where faith grows strong. It is important for us as a diocese to listen to your experience and to learn from it so that we can support parents and families growing in faith.

As parents you made a decision to have your child baptised into the Catholic Church. When our children are baptised we use a candle to symbolise the light of Christ and the light of faith. We are reminded that it is our responsibility as parents to keep that flame of faith alive in our children's lives. We are asking you to fill in a questionnaire so that we can know better how to help and support you in your role.

We understand that different people feel differently about faith. For some it is very important, for others less so. Some people feel very at home with prayer, parish and sacraments. Others feel unsure, awkward or lost. We understand too that family life is busy and full of challenges.

Please take some time to think about and answer these questions as openly and honestly as you can. You do not need to put your name on the questionnaire or to identify yourself in any way. This is not about judging anyone or putting people under the spotlight. That is why we are very happy for responses to come in without names or addresses which would identify your family. We simply want to get a picture of what faith means to families in this diocese and how we can support families and help that faith to grow. Thank you for taking time to help us by answering these questions. Please get your reply back to us before Friday 19^{th} June.

With thanks and best wishes,

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Bairbre Cahill

Diocesan Resource Worker

"Together building Faith, Parish and Community"