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### How Does Your Family Keep Its Catholic Faith in Action?

My family, like many families, went through CCD and made our First Communion and Confirmation. We've also been to confession and we come to Mass on all the special holidays and Days of Obligation. What makes my family different is what we do after and outside of those events that strengthen our Catholic faith.

My family makes it a point to come to Mass every weekend. We have a very busy life with all of our sports, work, and activities. Still, we make sure that attending Mass is a part of this schedule. This could mean coming to Mass at night or even splitting up and going at different times. There have been many times where my sister and I would go to Mass at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, when the rest of our family had already gone at 11:00 that morning. To us, it is important to make sure that Mass is on our schedule.

We also pray many times daily. We make sure to pray before every meal, even when we are eating out. We also pray the Guardian Angel prayer every night as a family. It is a tradition for us and even as older teenagers we get together before we go to bed and say this prayer. It has become one of my favorite moments with my family. We also make sure to pray for those in need and for our family members that are suffering from sickness and ailments. We pray for all of God's people and that He will do what is best for us.

My siblings and I also participate within the church. My siblings are altar servers and have been since they were in 3rd grade. They have stuck with it, and I think it has helped them understand Mass and the importance of the proceedings of church. I also sing in the High School Choir. I started in the Kid's Choir, but have since moved my way up. I love to sing and being able to sing at Mass is amazing. I love cantoring and singing to Jesus and having a purpose for what I am singing is amazing. It combines the two things I love and I couldn't be happier doing it. It brings me closer to my faith and for me, it helps explain some of the things said in Mass.

My father is also a Knight. He joined the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and enjoys working with the other men, such as at the breakfast and street collecting for charity. It helps bring him closer to his faith, which was so important for his family growing up and is now important to our family. It also helped him connect with his father, who was also a Knight. My mother also volunteers with our sports and as Treasurer with my brother's Boy Scout Troop. She is very busy with work and our activities, but she is still able to help with the community service acts of the Boy Scouts.

My family takes our religion very seriously and we love to participate in the church. With these activities and actions that we partake in, we are brought even closer to Jesus and our Catholic religion. All these activities are how we keep our Catholic faith in action.