



“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”

- Joshua 24:15 -

+Making Christ the Lord of Your Home+

If a complete stranger came to your house and spent 15 minutes in the company of your family, could they tell right away that yours was a Catholic household? Can you look around at your home, in each room, each corner, wall, closet, picture and possession, and say that everything you own and do, glorifies your King?

As a family, brainstorm and pray together about one new thing that can be brought into your home or family life this year, that will serve as a constant reminder to you and to your guests that Jesus is the Lord of your household. This could take on a variety of different forms, whether adding something physical to each room, doing something or praying together in a new way...the possibilities are endless. Choose something that will challenge you to grow and witness to the Lord in a new way as individuals and as a family unit. Here are some suggestions to get you thinking:

- Hang a crucifix in each room of your home
- Create a sacred space together, with a Bible, crucifix, a candle or other props and put it in an area where it will be seen often throughout the day. You can switch out a picture or cloth table cover to correspond to different feast days and liturgical seasons.
- Make sure each member of the family receives a blessing from another member before they go to bed at night
- Go through your CD or movie collection and take an honest look at whether or not some of your old favorites are aiding you or becoming stumbling blocks in your pursuit of holiness
- Choose a new scripture verse each week for the family to memorize together. Write it or tape it up around the house, on mirrors, doorframes, desks, et. al.
- Choose a different saint with a feast day in each month to get to know and incorporate into your family prayer time
- Become involved for the year, as a family, in some sort of community outreach through your parish or a local organization, such as a food kitchen, abortion clinic prayer vigils, visiting a nursing home, considering a new liturgical ministry, et. al.