

Households of Faith

“Parents [or guardians] are, in fact, the first and foremost educators of their children within a household atmosphere animated with love providing a well-rounded formation.

The household can be called the first school of those social virtues which every society needs.

The Christian household is enriched by the grace of the sacraments and is the place where children are first taught to know and love GOD and to know and love their neighbor.

Here they come to understand human companionship, here they're introduced into civic life, and here initiated into the parish community.”

If a child learns his or lessons perfectly and can even recite them back verbatim, but.....

- has not had an encounter with Christ, or
- goes home to a house where the faith is not cherished, or
- is not a regular part of the Sunday assembly for Mass, or
- is not encouraged to live his or her faith on a daily basis at home, or
- the home is devoid of religious symbolism and language, or
- the child does not witness the faith of his or her own parents or guardians, then.....

the seed is *falling on rocky ground.* It will not take root and grow. Growth in faith will not be lifelong.