

of dough into pretzels before baking, explain that the shape reminds us of arms crossed in prayer and that prayer is an important part of preparing for Easter.

- Visit a religious goods store and help your child select an illustrated children's Bible with simply-told stories. At bedtime or other quiet times, read a Bible story together and help your child begin to understand the meaning of the story.

- Display signs of faith prominently in your home. A family Bible, a crucifix, pictures/icons (Christ, the Holy Family, Saints) and photographs of family religious events (Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, Marriage) placed throughout the house will captivate your child's interest about their faith and help them build a sense of Catholic identity.

Remember that you are the most important teacher in your child's life. Be lavish in showing love for your child. Forgive your child whole-heartedly when they express sorrow for misbehavior and affirm your child's efforts to share with and show care for others. In these ways, your child will come to know God and God's love as they continue to grow in faith.

