



Pope Francis also teaches that the most beautiful image of church is: the Church as mother. First of all a mother gives life, she carries her child in the womb for nine months and then introduces the child to life. She generates the child. The Church does likewise; she generates us in faith, by the Holy Spirit. The Church gives us life in Baptism; that is the moment she enables us to be born as children of God. It is the moment she gives us life in God. Our baptismal date is the date of our birth into the Church.

1 Questions to consider

- 1) Why are you special to your family?
- 2) How do you know that you are special?
- 3) What do you love and enjoy about belonging to your family?
- 4) Who would you go to if you felt worried or needed help?
- 5) How does God show love to you and your family?

2 Possible activities

- 1) Who lives in your family?
Draw and name each person.
- 2) How does your family show that you are very special to them and in what ways do they keep you safe?
Choose how to display all the ways that your family show you that you are special and, keep you safe e.g. artwork, modelling materials, collage etc.
- 3) What makes you happy in your family? What makes you smile? (List some responses).
- 4) Draw and talk about/label all the people you can go to if you are worried or need help.
- 5) God loves you and your family with a special love. List the ways that we can thank Him e.g. through prayer, by the way we treat others.

3 Pause and reflect

Gathering music

At Baptism, we were called by name, signed with the cross and became members of God's Family. With thanksgiving for such a great gift we make the Sign of the Cross.

"In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen"

Light a candle to remind us that Jesus is with us and loves us.

We hold hands and pray:

Loving Father, thank you for joy of being a special person in my family.
Bless all who love and care for me.

Thought from St Teresa of Kolkata:

*"Let us always meet each other
with a smile,
for the smile is the beginning of love."*

4 Sing

'If you're happy and you know it.'

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