

THE CHURCH AS THE FAMILY OF GOD'S CHILDREN

On small separate pieces of paper, the children can draw their closest family members. Then we can talk to the child about our family. Pay attention to the mutual ties of closeness and the joy of being together. We can use the following questions: What people are in your family? Who belongs to your family? When do you meet together? Who of you likes to be with all your family? Why do you like being together? Everyone wants a good and wonderful family in which there is a father, a loving mother and everyone who is close to each other. Sometimes it is different in some families, but then every [1]one dreams of a loving family. Today I am going to tell you about the family which is the greatest and most wonderful.

Everyone on earth can belong to it - even those who do not have a loving family. Here in the sanctuary, we have a figure of Christ and pictures of parishioners attached to Christ's garment, they remind us that we are members of His Body, we are one family. The Church is a family to which many people in the world belong. We too belong to this family, our parents and all the baptized. To this family are people of all colors of skin. The members of this family are people who often do not even know each other, do not know each other's languages, and yet are close to each other. In this family there is the greatest Daddy in the world who loves all his children very much. The daddy in this family is a loving God, and the baptized are His big family -we call ourselves the Church, or God's family from the moment of Baptism. We are God's children. The Lord Jesus has joined us together and made us God's children. All of God's children - that is, all people who have believed in Jesus Christ and are baptized form a family. What family did we meet today? Who is God's Family? Who is the Father of this Family? Since when have we been part of God's Family? Who unites all God's children? Look at the people you drew. They belong to the Family of God. As in every family, also in the Family of God's Children, all children want to be close to their Father, they want to meet Him and be together with each other. God the Father invites them to meet with himself every Sunday. The children of God gather together at Mass to meet God. At Mass, Christ, who is God, and our Brother, gathers us. At the Holy Mass, all those gathered say to God: OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN.