



FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES

A FAMILY-FOCUSED APPROACH TO FAITH FORMATION

GOD'S SAVING LOVE FOR US: LITURGY AND THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS

TOPIC: MARY, OUR MOTHER AND OUR QUEEN!

GOAL(S):

- Families will reflect on their relationship with Mary, Our Mother.
- Families will review the *Families Forming Disciples* year.
- Families will honor Mary with a May Crowning ceremony.
- Families will celebrate another year together in *Families Forming Disciples*!

MATERIALS

- Rosaries, Rosary for Children Pamphlet, One flower per person, Large vase(s)
- Statue of Mary, Music, Altar
- Crown for Mary
- Treats with plates, napkins, utensils
- Ice cream is optional but preferred!

OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,
We entrust our family to You and ask for Your blessing and protection. We love You Lord Jesus with all our hearts and we ask that You help our family become more like the Holy Family. Help us to be kind, loving, and patient with one another. Give us all the grace we need to become saints and Your faithful disciples. Amen.



ICE BREAKER

Who Am I?

1. Each family member chooses a favorite bible character or saint but does not reveal who it is.
2. The other family members ask 5 questions and then based on the information, guess who the favorite person is.
3. Lastly, the person explains why the bible character or saint is his/her favorite.

Adapted from
youthgroupgames.com/au



MAIN CONCEPT

Main Concept: Mary is Our Mother and Our Queen

Hook: Watch: Struggling to View Mary as Your Mother? Ascension Presents



FAMILY CONVERSATION

Have you ever asked Mary to pray for you?
Was there ever a time in your life when you knew Mary had helped you?
Do you think of Mary as a mother who cares for you?

CONTENT

OPEN MIC!

Explain: Now that *Families Forming Disciples* is coming to a close this year (though we know our mission as families never ends but continues even when we are not meeting!), give each family the opportunity to share their experience with everyone.

Ask: How did learning about the Seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church impact your relationship with God, one another and your church community? (Give families time to share with everyone.)



MAY CROWNING

Explain: As we end our *Families Forming Disciples* year, we thank God for bringing us together and we invite the Holy Spirit into our lives as Mary did. Mary is the Spouse of the Holy Spirit, and during the month of May we honor Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth. Her Son, Jesus, is our King, so therefore His Mother is our Queen!

A May Crowning is a special way we honor Our Lady during the Month of May.

May Crowning Directions:

- Decorate an outside altar (weather permitting, otherwise inside) where you have placed a statue of Mary.
- Make a crown of flowers that will fit the statue. Let the smallest child carry the crown.
- Give everyone else a flower to be placed in a vase on the altar.
- Tell the children that the flower is a symbol of their love for their heavenly Mother.
- Line up in a procession and sing a Marian song, like “Immaculate Mary,” as each family processes to the altar and places their flowers in the vase(s).

Pray: After the crowning, gather around the altar and pray the Fifth Glorious Mystery of the Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Celebration to conclude the *Families Forming Disciples* Year:

Since we have learned about God’s gift of the Seven Sacraments and His love for us, we conclude the *Families Forming Disciples* year by thanking God for the gift of His Son Jesus, who made the sacraments possible through His sacrifice on the Cross, and by celebrating another wonderful year together. (Time for food and fellowship!)

(Note for catechists: Encourage families to continue commitments during the summer months to family prayer, conversations about the faith, and ways that families can grow in playing, praying, talking, and working together—see, for example, the [Peyton Institute for Domestic Church Life](#) and [CatholicHOM](#) for more information. PCLs: Consider checking in with your families during the summer.)

See you at Mass!