

# CATHOLIC ONLINE RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

"The catechesis given by parents with the family 'precedes, accompanies and enriches all other forms of catechesis.' When children are baptized, parents accept the responsibility to bring up their children in the practice of faith and to see to it that the divine life that God gives them is kept safe from the poison of sin, to grow always stronger in their hearts."

-National Directory for Catechesis, pages 234-235

We highly recommend that you check out these websites! They contain valuable information and are well worth your time.

[www.catholicparents.org](http://www.catholicparents.org) Catholic parents online has as its mission to "build a network of faithful, dynamic, and informed parents, students, and alumni, committed to working with Catholic schools and other programs of education to ensure authentic teaching and protection of the Catholic Faith." They are truly devoted to the Magisterium and recognize the parents' role as the primary educators of their children.

[www.dads.org](http://www.dads.org) This is an online resource ministry of St. Joseph's Covenant Keepers (SJCK), an informal international network of Christian men, under the patronage of St. Joseph, dedicated to strengthening the family. The primary focus of St. Joseph's Covenant Keepers is men who are fathers of children still living at home. The site is well designed and filled with solid information and great resources for dads.

[www.catholicmom.com](http://www.catholicmom.com) This is a website for sharing and learning about parenting and faith issues. You can stop by their new Catholic Mom Blog and share your comments and ideas. Check out their new Catholic Moments Podcast for news and chats with different authors, columnists, and musicians. Other highlights of the Catholic Moms web site include: recipes, traditions, holy day and holiday ideas, home management, kids activities, and motivational tips pages; you can submit your ideas or find out new tips.

[www.e5men.org](http://www.e5men.org) E5Men is a site for men to help men and women live the truth of Ephesians 5: "Husbands love your wives, wives love your husbands."

[www.catholicparenting.com](http://www.catholicparenting.com) Catholic parenting is an online meeting place for Catholic parents looking to exchange ideas and experiences about their wonderful, but challenging vocation of being a Catholic parent. The site features a bulletin board, resources, articles, and crafts.

[www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) Mass times is a free ministry to traveling Catholics, funded by PaulineBooks and Media, in partnership with the Catholic Communication Campaign to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Mass Times Trust. No matter where you are traveling in the world, you can find out where and when the nearest Catholic Masses are available.

[www.zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org) ZENIT's "mission is to provide objective coverage of events, documents, and issues emanating from or concerning the Catholic Church. "Where to go to get the latest news about everything, from the viewpoint of the Roman Catholic Church."

[www.catholic.com](http://www.catholic.com) Catholic Answers is mostly an apologetics site put together by folks who work with Karl Keating, author of Fundamentalism and Catholicism, and other great books about knowing, defending, and sharing Faith of the Roman Catholic Church.

[www.newadvent.org](http://www.newadvent.org) New Advent is a Catholic Encyclopedia online, plus much more.

[www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org) Catholic online is a huge resource center, with news, 10,000+ links, forums, articles, devotions, shopping, webhosting and design, and more.

[www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is an assembly of the hierarchy of the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands who jointly exercise certain pastoral functions on behalf of the Christian faithful of the United States. The purpose of the Conference is "to promote the greater good which the Church offers humankind, especially through forms and programs of the apostolate fittingly adapted to the circumstances of time and place." Great resource for Church "documents" such as an online Bible, Daily Mass readings, Catechism, and more!

[www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie) You can make a "Sacred Space" in your day, and spend ten minutes praying as you sit front of your computer, with the help of on-screen guidance and scripture chosen specially every day. It's like having a ten minute online retreat at your disposal every day!

[www.thereasonforourhope.org](http://www.thereasonforourhope.org) The Reason for Our Hope Foundation was founded by Fr. Larry Richards in answer to 1 Peter 3:15: "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." The purpose of The Reason for Our Hope Foundation is to fulfill the command of Christ to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 16:28). You can download Fr. Larry's weekly homilies for free and send away for his excellent teaching CDs on various Catholic topics.

[www.appleseeds.org](http://www.appleseeds.org) Apple Seeds has a collection of stories, quotations, and links that is generally inspiring, motivating, hope-instilling and encouraging - uplifting, to say the least, and a neverending source of inspiration from all sources and directions. A must-visit, when you need all of the above. Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R. is associated with Franciscan University of Steubenville, in Ohio.

[www.TheologyoftheBody.com](http://www.TheologyoftheBody.com) Christopher West's apostolate promoting Pope John Paul II's amazingly profound letter on how our bodies and our sexuality are a true expression of the love of God when redeemed by the Son. Books, articles, tapes, and passion. Highly recommended reading.

[www.parentsandkidstalking.com](http://www.parentsandkidstalking.com) This website is dedicated to supporting parents in their role as their child's primary sexuality educator. No one knows your child better than you and your child needs your guidance. Talking with children about the physical and emotional changes of puberty enables parents to start an informal dialogue based on trust and respect. This is the foundation that is needed to continue the conversation with teens before they can be overly influenced by the media and their peers.

[www.reallove.net](http://www.reallove.net) Real Love productions consists of Mary Beth Bonacci's dynamic, practical view of real life issues for teens, young adults, and parents. The series of articles on chastity provides great parent "homework" in preparation for discussions with their children. Also available is a variety of videos and books for parents and teens on chastity and love that reflect the teachings of John Paul II's Theology of the Body.

[www.magnificat.net](http://www.magnificat.net) Magnifikid! reaches children from 6 to 12. When you order a subscription, the booklets are sent to the child on a monthly basis. Every month, the child will discover a booklet of 16 color pages for each Sunday, and also special issues for all major feast days (Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Ascension, Assumption, and All Saints Day.)

[www.catholicculture.org](http://www.catholicculture.org) This site tries to organize many of its features so that the brief material is out front. If you've got more time, so much the better! For example, take their "What You Need to Know" feature - quick hits about important subjects. If you have only a few minutes they'll guide you to the most important things to read. They review over 500 Catholic web sites annually to let you know what's out there - both what to look at, and what to avoid. If you want to learn more about your Catholic Faith - it's doctrine, history, and what is happening in the Church today - this is the site for you!

[www.wau.org](http://www.wau.org) The Word Among Us is a monthly devotional magazine for Catholics. They self-describe their mission thus: "to encourage Christians to know the love of God in a practical and personal way. Following the daily Mass readings, it is our hope that the Spirit will 'enlighten the eyes of our hearts' (Ephesians 1:18) so that we may know Jesus more deeply through prayer, Scripture, and the teachings of the Church." Along with select featured articles from each month's magazine, the site includes resources such as Bible study lessons, timeless stories about Catholic saints and other Christian heroes, guidance on marriage and family, and much more.

