



From the Desk of Father Peter

Children Learn What They Live

More than ever our society needs to put in perspective the benefits we get from our faith and let it show in the world.

This faith calls us to worship every Sunday and participate in our faith

community's other activities. We have the benefit of over two thousand years of people who believe in Christ. What lesson is in there for us? Hopefully we recognize that God's amazing plan of salvation continues to be fulfilled today with every believer ready to take responsibility to do his or her part. Through the persevering efforts of the early disciples, we see belief in Christ has spread to every corner of the world because of their first efforts. We remember that Christ chose us in baptism and each of us has an important role to play in fulfilling God's plan. Together we work to listen and discern more carefully God's call; then, as parents, teachers, and educators, we need to take our place as active disciples of Jesus in today's world. We must make every effort to know our faith more deeply by studying the basic documents of our Catholic faith, the Bible, the teachings of the church and the lives of men and women of faith we call Saints. They teach us to worship, pray, and uplift each other.



In fact, it is said that the greatest legacy a parent can leave their children in this world is the testimony of a deep faith that will help prepare their children for the future.

In the words of Dorothy Law Nolte:

- *If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.*
- *If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.*
- *If children live with ridicule, they learn to be shy.*
- *If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.*
- *If children live with tolerance, they learn to be patient.*
- *If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.*
- *If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate.*
- *If children live with fairness, they learn justice.*
- *If children live with security, they learn to have faith.*
- *If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.*
- *If children live with acceptance and friendship, they learn to find love in the world.*

God bless you parents as you go about your difficult task of imparting the faith to your children.



Peace to all,

Fr. Peter



Meet Dorothy Law Nolte. She's a woman who understood the field of positive youth development before it was invented.

Born in 1924, Dorothy Law Nolte became a parent educator, family counselor, and writer known for her inspirational poem, *Children Learn What They Live*. First published in 1954, it was pasted to refrigerators, printed on posters, and distributed to millions of parents by a baby formula maker.