



# PARENTS

## From Farina's writings:

*"Fathers and mothers, always keep this brief thought before your eyes: God, in giving you children, has given you a precious deposit of which he will one day ask you for a close account; he has given them to you so that you may direct them to the end for which he created them.*

*"What does it matter that your children should become men of letters, brilliant scientists, know modern techniques, if then, through ignorance of the things of Religion, they should be eternally lost?"*

## Brief comment:

The mission of parents is very delicate and often underestimated; it requires many sacrifices, necessary for the sake of the children, but it is also accompanied by joy and satisfaction.

There is always the risk of considering children as absolute property, forgetting that they are God's co-workers and not masters of life.

(Excerpt from Nicola Gori's book, 'Con la Passione nel Cuore')

## Food for thought and sharing:

- We think back to the most important lessons our parents left us.
- What example do the children, the grandchildren, the young people we associate with receive from us?

## Commitment:

We see children and young people in general as a gift from the Lord to be loved, cherished and encouraged.

We express our closeness and support to a couple of parents, a family.

## Anecdote about Farina's life:

"A mother had come to attend her daughter's Religious Profession. She was very sad at the thought of having to part with her. Farina noticed this and feeling compassion for her, waited for her at the church door. He also called his daughter and placed his hands on both their heads, blessing and heartening them. Mother and daughter wept, and Farina's tears joined theirs. Admired for such goodness, the mother departed consoled".

(From the nuns' testimonies)