MAKING MUSIC, PRAYING TWICE

By, Laura Quinn

That Spring day we were enjoying an impromptu lunch with some friends at the park when the children excitedly asked to play again the next day. My kids were bummed. Our friends had music class. Then the Mom said, "You should come to music class at Holy Family. I'm not Catholic, but anyone is welcome, and the kids love it." That night I checked the website, sent an email to Cyndi and she replied, "please come."

A little shy at first, my kids quickly warmed up. They loved the music, singing, dancing, making friends, and of course the snacks. Music class became a sacred time for us to be together, to sing and pray. I enjoyed getting to know the other Moms, Grandparents, and Caregivers too. Several of us joined the women's Bible study together. Each week I noticed my children and I felt a stronger connection to the community. They asked if we could go to Holy Family for mass instead of where we usually attended. Cyndi mentioned the youth mass with the contemporary choir. We went one evening and as we walked into the Church my daughter tugged on my shirt. She whispered, "Mom, it's Ms. Cyndi." She was so excited when Cyndi greeted her; we all felt a part of the community and we belonged.

Being surrounded by a strong community of faith has always been important to me. Growing up my family was actively involved in various ministries at our parish. When my husband and I married, we joined a local parish where our children were baptized, and we attended mass. Since we had small children, we did not have the bandwidth to join any ministries. We smiled at the parishioners we saw each week, but we never knew their names.

Walking into Holy Family for music class, we felt a part of an incredible faith community. The Holy Spirit was truly at work in our hearts and leading us to be a part of Holy Family. Now I see my children being spiritually nourished by the gift of fellowship and faith. They see friends, classmates, and neighbors at mass. We have joined ministries including, faith formation, vacation Bible camp, and Women's Ministries. Last year, I co-taught the music class and it was a blessing to give back. We look forward to the day when we can be together again in person and enjoy the wonderful ministry. For now, we'll enjoy the great slideshow and ideas Cyndi shares for us to have music class at home.

