

Keeping Faith in a Changing World (A.D. 1648-1789)

Homily Hints

We Live Our Faith

The Big Question:

“How do I keep my faith in a world full of changes?”

Chapter Goals:

1. to examine the challenges to faith the Church faced in 1648–1789
2. to appreciate the faithful response that was demanded of the Church at this time
3. to respond in faith and love to the challenges we face today.

Homily Hints:

What changes have you witnessed in the Church and the world? How have these changes affected the way you now view your faith? These two honest questions are a great starting point to begin your talk.

With the challenges facing Catholic youth today the faithful response of previous generations give insight into what is demanded of today's youth. As examples you may discuss early explorers, who ventured out into the unknown world motivated by spreading the Gospel message. We can think of them and their strength as an example of keeping faith. In this chapter of the *We Live Our Faith* program, students are learning about the extraordinary rate of change happening in exploration but also challenges the Enlightenment presented to Christian faith. Point out that today there are many new theories proposed in the name of science and reason that seem to go against the truths of faith. As members of the Church who are guided by the Holy Spirit, we can always fight against secularism for its own sake and find strength in the Bible as a book of faith that teaches great spiritual truths.

Your conversation should focus always on the way we respond to challenges to our faith and changes around us. The Christian way is to respond in faith and love rather than cynicism and hate.

Notes