

Dear Family,

We have come to the fourth theme of *Fully Alive*, our family life program. Because the partnership of home, church, and school is so important, this letter is written to let you know what we talk about in class, and to offer some ideas for your involvement.

About Theme Four

Theme Four of *Fully Alive* is called “Growing in Commitment.” Each one of us is challenged to grow in commitment to God and to each other. This is part of what it means to be fully human. The best way for children to learn about commitment is to grow up experiencing the unconditional love and devotion of family members and the support of a caring community around them. Knowing that they can rely on the commitment of others helps children learn to be dependable, to keep their word, and to make wise choices. For more information go to: www.acbo.on.ca.

In Theme Four we will:

- learn more about the commitments that all families have, and how important it is for people to keep their commitments.
- discover that we have to think before we make a decision.
- analyze a situation involving a decision, and learn that other people can help us when we are making decisions.

Working together at home and at school

- Talk to your child about your family’s commitments (at work, at home, in the community), why they are important, and how each member of the family can contribute to making sure these commitments are met.
- We will be talking about the importance of reflection — asking ourselves questions — before we make a decision. Although young children do not make major decisions, they do make small ones, and the habit of reflection is a valuable one to develop. Encourage your child to stop and reflect before acting.
- The story the children will be reading at school is about a boy named Eddie who has to make a decision involving a choice between two good things. Ask your child to tell you about Eddie’s decision. Children often need your help with their decisions, not to make the decision for them, but to clarify for them the questions they need to ask themselves in order to decide wisely.

Teacher: _____ Date: _____