

What Every Christian Father Can and Should Do

By a Father of the Society of St. Basil

Never forget, father of a Christian family, that it is you who have the obligation of training your children in the knowledge and practice of their religion. As head of the family you have both the authority and the responsibility. It is a personal obligation; you must not delegate it to another; you must attend to it. Your vocation as father calls you to it. If you neglect it, it will never be done,—at least it will not be done at all as God intended it should. You can not, therefore, satisfy your conscience by leaving it to your wife, and even if you could, we trust you will not. As a rule, your evenings are freer than hers. The red man shot a deer or felled a tree and then returned to his cabin, allowing his wife to lug them home as best she could; that is no reason why you should sit evening after evening enjoying your pipe, or stand on the street corner, or perhaps betake yourself to some place of amusement, while the worn, worried woman, amid a multitude of tasks not yet com-