



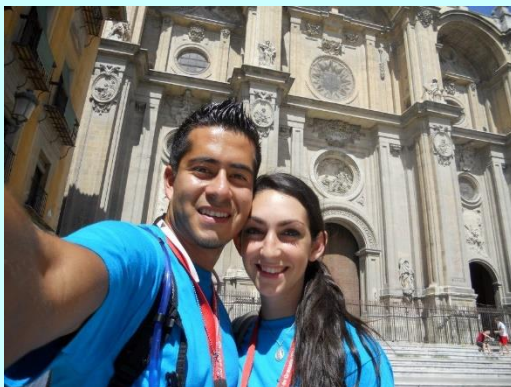
*Jermain and Elaina Garcia and two boys: Liem and Uriah*

*Our faith plays a huge role into our marriage. Marriage is between a husband and wife, and God. As husband and wife, we are encouraging one another to live a holy life. Our faith reminds us that marriage is not just a contract, but it's a holy sacrament, a life-long commitment, for better for worse. In difficult marital moments, we have to remind ourselves that we should hate the sin, not the sinner and to love your spouse, treat them with respect because they are God's son or daughter.*



*In 2011, my husband and I were dating at the time and had the privilege to join a group of young adults through Holy Rosary, and attend World Youth Day in Spain. Over 2 million young Catholics worldwide joined this experience and more watched on TV. This experience was life changing in so many ways. It was the most exciting but challenging 2 weeks of my life. We saw Pope Benedict XVI (is that 16?) and received many blessings. This was OUR faith. We*

*were halfway across the world with millions of young adults all saying the same mass in our own language together.*



Raising children in the faith can be challenging at times because that requires us as parents to live out our faith. These children are like sponges and just soak in every bit that we give them. We are modeling what it is to be a Christian. In moments that I struggle as a mom, I think of our Blessed Mother Mary. Even though her son was God, he was still 100% human. I ask myself, how did she deal with Jesus' terrible two's and three-year old moments? If my son was the son of God, is this how I would parent him? We are building foundations. With everything going on in this world, our kids need strong foundations.

The reward is to see them learn and grow as a Christian. Our children are the future, if everyone in the world taught their child to love like Christ did, imagine what our future would be like.

Our kids lead prayer for our meals and attend weekly mass with us. Our kids are still young and don't have a full grasp on our faith, but they watch and listen. I (Elaina) listen to a daily rosary about halfway through my day. I thought the kids didn't really realize what I was doing, but recently when I started the rosary, I saw my 1 1/2 year old put his hand to the top of his head, signaling the sign of the cross. This blew my mind, I didn't realize how much he was paying attention.

I (Elaina) attended HRS K-8, was involved in many ministries and met my now, husband through Holy Rosary. Holy Rosary was really a place that nurtured our relationship as young adults and we eventually married at Holy Rosary Church. We feel so blessed to be able to provide a catholic education to our children at Holy Rosary. - Elaina Orozco Garcia

