

*“I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.” 2 Timothy 1:5 NIV*

This Sunday is mother’s day. There is always much emotion around that day for so many folks because of the impact their mother, grandmother, or other significant person who fulfilled that role had in their lives. Sometimes they are the ones who show us what love, patience, and sacrifice means. Sometimes they provided quiet support and just listened. Sometimes they may have been strict in raising us, but at the end of the day we knew it was for our own good.

Perhaps most importantly though, they were by their example, or by their direct involvement in our lives examples or “passed on the faith” I can still say the prayers my mom taught me when I was 5 years old. It was also my mom that persuaded my dad to start attending church again after my brother was born. From the time I was 5 to when I was a teenager, we attended church as a family, and it really started under my mom’s influence.

My story, interestingly enough, is not a “modern” phenomenon. When we read Paul’s letter to Timothy, we discover how faith of Timothy’s mother and grandmother was instrumental in Timothy’s life as well. We could even go back further to see the example in faith of Jesus’ mother, Mary.

On this week that begins with Mother’s day, let us give thanks to God for the one whose “sincere faith” was passed on to us, and now “lives in us” also.

Pr. John Van Haneghan