

## KNEELING ON THE BED

My first 11 years of education were in the public school system. As a result, I had no formal catechetical education. During these formative years, I learned my catechism at home with my mother being a teacher.

A scene that is etched in my mind was kneeling on the bed with my mother teaching me how to make the sign of the cross. Another scene was that of praying every night our prayers in Ukrainian; prayers that were catechetical in nature. What were these prayers?

Nicene Creed

Our Father

Hail Mary

Ten Commandments

Six Articles of Faith

Seven Sacraments

Psalm 50

God, be merciful to me a sinner.

Hymns related to Liturgical seasons.

“God is with us” “Pretepiviy” (with prostrations)

“Christu Tvoyemu” (with prostrations)

My brother Amil and I prayed these prayers every night together with my mother before the altar in the icon corner. Obviously, my mother did not give us a complex course in catechism, but what she taught us was a liturgical and prayerful catechism. This catechism was an example of a domestic church that gave me and my brother a strong sense of the sacred in our lives and in the home.