

The COLLECTION Basket



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IDEAS FOR LIVING BETTER FROM THE FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

Family Ritual

Mother's Day - Imagine what it would be like to be Mary, the Mother of God himself. How was Mary's life similar to Mother's today?

Did she have the same fears and worries? Where did she get her strength? Discuss the unique trials and triumphs that Mary may have experienced as the Mother of Jesus and compare them to Mother's of today.

Pray the Rosary, reflecting on the Motherhood of Mary.



Pope Francis hugs a young boy during his weekly General Audience on August 17, 2022

Happy Mother's Day from the Members of the Diocesan Respect Life Committee

"Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him." Psalm 127:3

Lord, I thank You for the miracles of new life, for the joy of seeing children grow, and for the memories and bonds that mothers create. I am grateful for the sacrificial love and selflessness of mothers, who pour out their hearts and souls for the well-being of their children.

Thank You for the love and care they provide, shaping lives and nurturing souls.

May You bless every mother with Your presence and grant them the wisdom and strength to continue their sacred journey.

In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

"God's mercy is our liberation and our happiness. We live for mercy, and we cannot afford to be without mercy. It is the air that we breathe. We are too poor to set any conditions.

We need to forgive, because we need to be forgiven." Pope Francis

Let us unite in prayer:

"Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.



The above Prayer and other Pro-Life Prayers can be found on the USCCB Website. The Respect Life Committee of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown is actively promoting a culture of Life through Respect Life Presentations, Prayer, and supporting The Gabriel Project and other Pregnancy Care Centers. For more information on The Respect Life Committee or to schedule a presentation at your parish, please send an email to: respectlifegm@gmail.com or respectlifeajt@gmail.com or call: 814-207-9110.

A Family Perspective



May 4, 2025: Third Sunday of Easter (JN 21: 1-19) Jesus invited the disciples to “Come and have breakfast.” At this beach breakfast and the Last Supper Jesus teaches us meals should be more than eating. Family meals are opportunities to share prayer, listen to each other’s stories, understand and support one another.

May 11, 2025: Fourth Sunday of Easter (JN 10:27-30) Today’s gospel reminds us to be shepherds for our children who depend on us to be their guides and role models. Where are we leading them? When they “hear our voice” what message do they hear?

May 18, 2025: Fifth Sunday of Easter (JN 13:31-33a, 34-35) In today’s gospel Jesus tells us: “Love one another.” Love holds a family together. It is not what a family does which makes it outstanding, rather it is what it has, love for one another.

May 25, 2025: Sixth Sunday of Easter (JN 14:23-29) Today Jesus gives this advice: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.” Worry and anxiety can consume our lives preventing us from seeing the love which surrounds us and binds us to one another. Don’t miss the forest for the trees. We are living today what we worried about yesterday. Reprinted with permission from: “A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar.”



ROAD TRIP!

SAVE THE DATE!

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown invites you to join us for a Jubilee celebration Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC
Official Holy Door Site

HIGHLIGHTS:

- A special Liturgy with Bishop Mark Barchak as Celebrant along with priests of the diocese.
- Tour the amazing shrine with all of its chapels and oratories
- Opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions



TRAVEL:

Passenger buses will depart from various areas around the diocese:

Altoona Area
Ebensburg Area
Johnstown Area
Bellefonte Area

Carpooling and personal vehicle travel are also permitted.

More information on travel arrangements to come at a later time!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2025

More information will be available soon on the Diocesan Website:
www.diocesej.org/jubilee-2025
and updated accordingly.



Registrations will be taken in each area at designated parishes. Official registration will open in Summer of 2025.

Sponsored by the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown