

The COLLECTION Basket



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AUGUST 2025

Volume XLII Number 8

IDEAS FOR LIVING BETTER FROM THE FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

For a Better Way to Live...

...Count your blessings.

Once you realize how valuable you are and how much you have going for you, the smiles will return, the sun will break out, the music will play, and you will finally be able to move forward toward the life that God intended for you... with grace, strength, courage and confidence.

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"Apple Seeds"
Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R.



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary August 15

Please recite a Pro-Life Rosary on the feast day of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There are currently 18 Pro-life Rosary Groups in The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

If you would like to form or join a Pro-Life Rosary Group, please contact a member of the Diocesan Respect Lift Committee at:

RespectLifeajtc@gmail.com

OR

RespectLifejgm@gmail.com

Join the Choir!!

Before we make our pilgrimage to DC in October, a choir is forming to sing

during the Mass in the Basilica of the National

Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Call or email (814) 317-2672
jthompson@dioceseaj.org
Jeanne Thompson

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown invites the faithful to join in a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on Friday, October 17th, 2025



A Family Perspective



Augusts 3, 2025: Eighteenth Sunday (LK 12:13-21)

In today's gospel Jesus teaches us: "One's life does not consist of possessions." We spend so much time working to obtain more stuff; we don't have time for the people in our lives. What is enough? Are the words of Jesus, "You fool", meant for us?

August 10, 2025: Nineteenth Sunday (LK 12:32-48)

In today's gospel a servant WAITED for the master to return. Waiting is a normal part of family life. We wait for a child's birth, then for small legs to catch up. Later we wait for teenagers to return home safely. Finally we wait alone anticipating a call or visit from an adult child. Waiting is sacred time, for even in the waiting we are connected.

August 17, 2025: Twentieth Sunday (LK 12:49-53) A

Today Jesus warns us his Word will create conflict between parents and children. In a permissive society which advocates individualism and consumerism, parents must continue to teach and live the gospel values of respect, service to others, forgiveness, generosity and compassion. A Christian family is a countercultural family.

August 24, 2025: Twenty-First Sunday (LK 13:22-30)

The phrase in today's gospel, "I don't know where you come from," is often used by parents about children and children about parents. Change is so rapid one generation has little in common with another. We depend on love, trust, and mutual respect to bridge this gap.

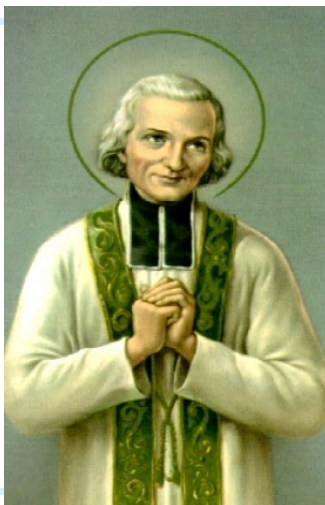
August 31, 2025: Twenty-Second Sunday (LK 14:1, 7-14)

Family life well lived confirms the words of Jesus in today's gospel, "Those who humble themselves will be exalted." Commitment, intimacy, loyalty and love are the rewards of humble service and care for one another.

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"A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar."
www.friendsofkenyanorphans.org

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August 4 – St. John Vianney

Born to a shepherd-farmer in France in 1786, St. John Vianney began his theological studies at age 20 with Abbé Balley, but shortly after was drafted into the army through a clerical mistake. After falling ill when his battalion was leaving for Spain and staying behind, he lived in hiding with a group of deserters until Napoleon declared general amnesty in 1810. Once he could resume his studies, Vianney enrolled in the seminary at Lyons. There, he struggled greatly with Latin and failed his exams for the priesthood, but his personal devotion was so great that Abbé Balley intervened on his behalf, tutoring him privately until he was ordained in 1815.

Vianney was next sent to work at a rural village called Ars, where he gained such great popularity that people traveled from far and wide to come visit him. In the last 15 years of his life, he spent 12 to 16 hours a day in the confessional and received 300 visitors a day on average. A special train ticket was sold in Lyons specifically for the pilgrimage to Vianney's parish, and in the final year of his life over 100,000 individuals came to visit him. He was so beloved among the French people that Napoleon sent him the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor, but he refused to accept it. With a life so dedicated to ministry, Vianney's own health suffered from overwork, and at age 73, he passed away.

