

The Collection Basket



October 2019

Family Life Office

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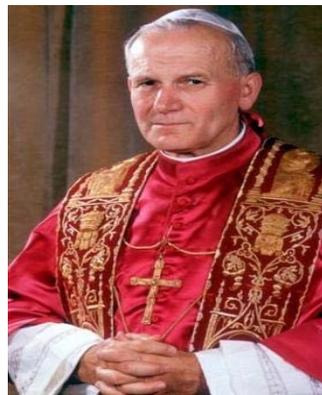
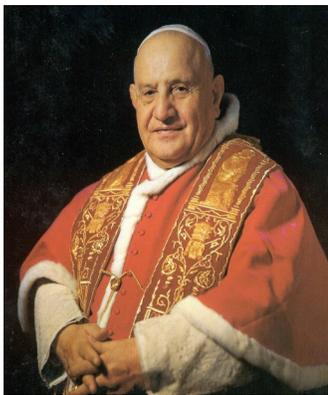
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IDEAS FOR LIVING BETTER FROM THE FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

October 11 & October 22

Feast days of Saints

John XXIII & John Paul II



“Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.
St. John XXIII

“Deepen your knowledge of Jesus which ends loneliness, overcomes sadness and uncertainty, gives real meaning to life, curbs passions, exalts ideals, expands energies in charity, brings light into decisive choices. Let Christ be for you the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” St. John Paul II

Be Thankful!

It is easy to be thankful for the good things.

A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.

Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.

Find a way to be thankful for your troubles and they can become your blessings.

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

Blessed is the Leader

Blessed is the leader who knows **Where** to go, **Why** to go there and **How** to get there.

Blessed is the who knows no discouragement,
Presents no alibi.

Blessed is the leader who knows how to lead
Without being dictatorial.

Blessed is the leader who develops leaders while leading.

Blessed is the leader who leads for the good of the most concerned, and not for personal gratification.

Blessed is the leader with a head in the clouds and feet on the ground.

Blessed is the leader who considers leadership an opportunity to serve.
Amen

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Family Ritual

World Mission Sunday: October 27

All people are God's people. Some don't have enough to eat, wear, etc.

Make an annual family donation to your brothers and sisters through a twinning project in your parish, diocese, or through your parish's mission collection.

Perhaps your annual yard sale earnings or a percentage of your family budget could be given.

A Family Perspective



October 6

27th Sunday

Luke 17:5-10

Faith is one of those things we just can't get enough of! In today's gospel the apostles asked Jesus to "Increase our faith." It is faith in ourselves, our spouse, our children and our parents which equips us to overlook annoyances helps us to forgive and urges us to ask forgiveness. "Lord, increase our faith!"

October 13

28th Sunday

Luke 17:11-19

Everyone needs "A Round Tuit." The lepers in today's gospel probably meant to thank Jesus. Excited about being cured they didn't get 'around-to-it.' We get caught up in our own interests and fail to appreciate what we have or to say what is in our hearts. This week get yourself a "Round Tuit."

October 20

29th Sunday

Luke 18:1-8

The widow in today's gospel is praised for her PERSEVERANCE. In our homes perseverance is a critical ingredient to resolving differences and teaching lessons and skills to children. Perseverance is always an act of faith in the goodness of the other person.

October 27

30th Sunday

Luke 18:9-14

Listen to Jesus in today's gospel: "who humbles himself will be exalted." It is not the occasional big events, but the daily humble routine of family life which creates bonds and relationships which last a lifetime.

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A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

The Most Essential Thing by Richard Rohr

The most powerful, most needed, and most essential teaching is always Love. Love is our foundation and our destiny. It is where we come from and where we're headed. As St. Paul famously says, "So faith, hope, and love remain, but the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13).

My hope, whenever I speak or write, is to help clear away the impediments to receiving, allowing, trusting, and participating in a foundational Love. God's love is planted inside each of us as the Holy Spirit who, according to Jesus, "will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you" (John 14:26).

Love is who you are. When you don't live according to love, you are outside of being. You're basically not real or true to yourself. When you love, you are acting according to your deepest being, your deepest truth. You are operating according to your dignity. For a simple description of the kind of love I am talking about, let's just use the word *out-flowing*. This will become clearer as we proceed.

All I can do is remind you of what you already know deep within your True Self and invite you to live connected to this Source. John the Evangelist writes, "God is love, and whoever remains in love, remains in God and God in them" (1 John 4:16). The Judeo-Christian creation story says that we were created in the very "image and likeness" of God—who sets the highest bar for this kind of outflowing love (Genesis 1:26-27). Out of the Trinity's generative and infinitely flowing relationship, all of creation takes form, mirroring its Creator in its deepest identity.

We have heard this phrase so often that we don't get the existential shock of what "created in the image and likeness of God" is saying about us. If this is true, then our family of origin is divine. It is saying that we were created by a loving God to also *be love* in the world. Our core is original blessing, not original sin. Our starting point is "very good" (Genesis 1:31). If the beginning is right, the rest is made considerably easier, because we know and can trust the clear direction of our life's tangent.

We must all overcome the illusion of separateness. It is the primary task of religion to communicate not worthiness but **union**, to reconnect people to their original identity "hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3). The Bible calls the state of separateness "sin." God's job description is to draw us back into primal and intimate relationship. "My dear people, we are already children of God; what we will be in the future has not yet been fully revealed, and all I do know is that we shall be like God" (1 John 3:2).

Henceforth, all our moral behavior is simply "the imitation of God." First observe what God is doing all the time and everywhere, and then do the same thing (Ephesians 5:1). And what does God do? God does what God is: Love. God does not love you *if and when you change*. **God loves you so that you can change!**

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28 W. Liberty St., Cincinnati, OH 45202 or
www.EveryDayCatholic.org Adapted from *Richard Rohr: Essential Teachings on Love*, ed. Joelle Chase and Judy Traeger (Orbis Books: 2018)

