

The Collection Basket



Family Life Office

2713 W. Chestnut Avenue

Altoona, PA 16601

(814) 695-5579

familylife@dioceseaj.org

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IDEAS FOR LIVING BETTER FROM THE FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

Family Ritual

St. Valentine's Day - February 14

Families are encouraged to spread love of others by remembering, in a special way, the recently widowed. A simple card, a small box of chocolates or an invitation to dinner can bring comfort to those who may be struggling with loneliness.

In Christ, Andre McCarville
Director, Family Life Office
Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown



For Presidents' Day – February 21, 2022

The Boy and the Orange

During the darkest hours of the Civil War a tall, thin man with very long legs and a frowning wrinkled face walked along a Washington, DC street. His eyes were fixed on the pavement; his lips were moving and he looked cross.

There was a ragged young urchin standing barefoot on the curb, his dirty hands clutched behind him, his lips twisting and his big eyes fixed on a pile of oranges in a vendor's cart. The vendor's back was turned while he made change for a customer. The tall man passed the boy, stopped suddenly, plunged his hand in his pocket and bought a large orange. He gave it to the boy and went on.

The boy was grinning and had already sunk his teeth into the orange, when a passerby asked him if he knew who gave him the orange. The boy shook his head. "That was President Lincoln," he was informed. "Now, hurry and go thank him."

The boy ran, caught the tails of Lincoln's long black coat, and as the stern face turned sharply toward him, the boy shouted, "Thank you, Mr. President!"

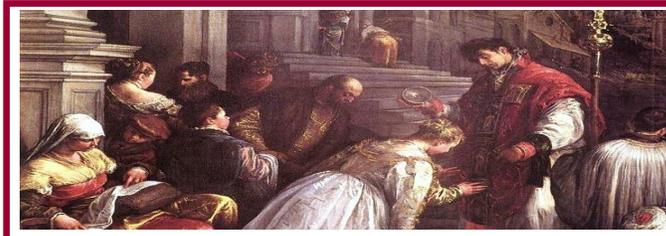
Suddenly that frowned face beamed into a beautiful smile. "You're welcome, boy. You wanted to steal that orange while the man's back was turned, didn't you? But you wouldn't because it wasn't honest. That's the right way. I wish some men and women that I know were more like you."



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

 <p>POSITIVE AFFIRMATION Tell them how good they look, compliment them.</p>	 <p>THE 5 LANGUAGES OF love IN MARRIAGE</p>	 <p>GIFTS Remembering birthdays and your anniversary is important.</p>
 <p>AFFECTION Hugs, hold hands, show them that you care.</p>	 <p>TIME TOGETHER Spend quality time together doing things that you both love to do.</p>	 <p>ACTS OF SERVICE Do things for each other as doing the dishes or making dinner.</p>

Source: anniversary-gifts-by-year.com



Families and the Gospel

February 6, 2022: Fifth Sunday (LK 5:1-11)

In today's gospel Jesus asked Simon to start by "going a short distance." Later he asked Simon to "go into deeper water." The first step toward reconciliation is usually a "short distance" which gives us the courage to go further "into deeper water." Reconciliation starts with the first short step!

February 13, 2022: Sixth Sunday (LK 6:17, 20-26)

Don't look very far when you hear today's gospel speak of poverty, sorrow, or exclusion. These things happen in families. Children feel "insulted" when they are constantly criticized. Spouses "hunger" for affection. Grandparents feel "excluded" by divorce and custody decisions. Parents "weep" because they feel alienated from their children.

February 20, 2022: Seventh Sunday (LK 6:27-38)

In studying the effects of religion upon family relationships, researchers inform us hostility and prayer can't coexist. You cannot be hostile toward someone for whom you are praying. Today's gospel encourages us: "Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who treat you badly."

February 27, 2022: Eighth Sunday (LK 6:39-45)

Today Jesus tells us: "Why do you seek the speck in someone else's eye but miss the log in your own eye?" It's always easier to try to change someone else than face the things in ourselves which need change. What a waste of time for we can't change anyone but ourselves.

Reprinted with permission: A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

"We Believe in Love"

The composer: Msgr. Marco Frisina

X WORLD MEETING of FAMILIES



Get ready to sing this June! A new and joyful song is ready for all to learn, well ahead of the June World Meeting of Families activities.

"The hymn is designed to accompany the great moments of the Meeting, a tool with which to involve all families in song – explains Msgr. Frisina -. The english-language chorus, composed of a very simple and catchy melody, enthusiastically proclaims the great fundamental values of the family: love and life. The musical style of the anthem is deliberately popular and international, to encourage participation by all the families of the world. In the stanzas, whose text is sung in nine languages (Italian, English, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Polish, German, Swahili, Chinese), the ideals of the family are presented, described as a way of holiness, a sign of love, a gift of hope and joy.

On the official website of the Meeting the text, melody, chords and mp3 file of the hymn are available, which can be downloaded for free below.

[World Meeting of Families 2022 Rome - #WMOF22 \(romefamily2022.com\)](http://www.romefamily2022.com/en/)
www.romefamily2022.com/en/

Excerpted from "Roma Sette" October 2021

