

# Living FAITH Family Edition



## Preparing For Family Prayer

### SPACE

To create your family prayer space:

- Gather around the table;
- Clear the space of all distractions;
- Engage in the prayer either before or after sharing a family meal at the table.

### CONNECTING

To encourage connection, establish this space as:

- Phone and other technology free (except to use the #blessed Sway or to read the PDF);
- "Pay out" and judgement free.

### SHARING

When it is time to share:

- Each member of the family feels invited to share freely and uninterrupted;
- Listen actively and openly to each other;
- Affirm each other;
- Provide the option to "pass" if someone would prefer not to share.

### PRAYING

Once you are ready to get started:

- Chose a member of the family to lead the prayer session;
- Chose a member of the family to read the Gospel;
- Chose the discussion question you would like to engage with.

### PRAYERS OF INTENTION

You might like to offer prayers for:

- Immediate needs in your household;
- Relatives who may be sick or in need;
- Broader community (homeless, those in CoVid lockdown, poor, sick etc)
- Global concerns (war, famine, drought etc)

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## 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

### “The Greatest Commandment”

#### WE CONNECT

Ask each member of the family to share their triumph for the week? Celebrate each achievement, no matter how small it may seem, and talk about how you each might build on that success in the coming week.

Once each person has had their turn to share, pray together:

God of Love;  
We are truly grateful for the gift of each one of us,  
And for the many ways You bless our family.  
**Amen.**

#### WE LISTEN

#### ***A reading from Matthew (22:34-40)***

After Jesus had made the Sadducees look foolish, the Pharisees heard about it and got together. One of them was an expert in the Jewish Law. So he tried to test Jesus by asking, “Teacher, what is the most important commandment in the Law?”

Jesus answered:

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind. This is the first and most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like this one. And it is, “Love others as much as you love yourself.” All the Law of Moses and the Books of the Prophets are based on these two commandments.



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## WE SHARE

Choose one or all of the discussion questions to engage with:

What are some aspects of yourself that you love and appreciate?  
What are some aspects of your family members that you love and appreciate?

Why do you think it can be difficult sometimes for the family (immediate and/or extended) to get along? What are some ways we can show more kindness, compassion and love to each other?

How do we as a family show that we love God? How might we share our love of God to other around us better?

## WE OFFER

Each member of the family is invited to offer a prayer of intention. (See the guide above).

***We pray for (intention)... Lord, hear us.***

When all intentions have been offered everyone says together:

***Lord hear our prayer.***

## WE GIVE THANKS

Loving God,  
We are so grateful for spending this time together in prayer and love knowing that when we gather for prayer You are there with us.  
Thank you for the gift of each of us,  
And help us to continue to appreciate how precious our family is.  
**Amen**

***"Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure"***

- St. John Paul II

Hands by Lina Trochez  
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