



Word of Life

August 2011

August 7th Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For President Obama and all world leaders,
that they listen to the Word of God and respond in a fruitful manner.
We pray to the Lord:

August 14th Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For those burdened with loneliness,
that God will place in their lives someone to take that burden away.
We pray to the Lord:

August 15th Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

For all doctors and nurses,
that they may be joyful healers of those in their care.
We pray to the Lord:

August 21st Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all of our bishops, priests, and deacons,
that they will continue to preach the Gospel of Life.
We pray to the Lord:

August 28th Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

For unborn children,
that through the loving efforts of those around them they may have a healthy birth and a long and
fruitful life.
We pray to the Lord:



In this media age when our human contacts are more often via Facebook, and texting, blogs...and e-mails...the ability to form lasting human and spiritual relationships, face-to-face, seems to be diminishing. I wonder if the life giving spring of the Sacrament of Marriage is not the real “LIVE” life-giving witness and example of married couples in all stages of life whether in the family of the church or in the community of our daily life? Real marriages and real moments in couples and family life are not found in a text book, in the pages of theological and catechetical and canonical journals...even as important as they must be to us. Real examples and real models of faith are “Incarnational” when our beliefs become reflected in our lives by examples of faith, hope, and love, sometimes against the most impossible situations.

~Bishop Kevin W. Vann, Bishop of Fort Worth, “The Sacrament of Marriage: A Great Untapped Life-Spring” at the Family Life Ministry Conference in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, 2 April 2011

In today’s society the presence of exemplary Christian families is more necessary and urgent than ever. Unfortunately, we are forced to acknowledge the spread of a secularization which leads to the exclusion of God from life and the increasing disintegration of the family...Freedom without commitment to the truth is made into an absolute, and individual well-being through the consumption of material goods and transient experiences is cultivated as an ideal, obscuring the quality of interpersonal relations and deeper human values; love is reduced to sentimental emotion and to the gratification of instinctive impulses, without a commitment to build lasting bonds of reciprocal belonging and without openness to life. We are called to oppose such a mentality!

~Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, Holy Mass on the Occasion of the National Day of Croatian Catholic Families, Sunday, 5 June 2011

Alongside what the Church says, the testimony and commitment of the Christian family – your concrete testimony – is very important, especially when you affirm the inviolability of human life from conception until natural death, the singular and irreplaceable value of the family founded upon matrimony and the need for legislation which supports families in the task of giving birth to children and educating them.

~Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, Holy Mass on the Occasion of the National Day of Croatian Catholic Families, Sunday, 5 June 2011

Dear families, be courageous! Do not give in to that secularized mentality which proposes living together as a preparation, or even a substitute for marriage! Show by the witness of your lives that it is possible, like Christ, to love without reserve, and do not be afraid to make a commitment to another person!

~Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, Holy Mass on the Occasion of the National Day of Croatian Catholic Families, Sunday, 5 June 2011

Dear families, rejoice in fatherhood and motherhood! Openness to life is a sign of openness to the future, confidence in the future, just as respect for the natural moral law frees people, rather than demeaning them! The good of the family is also the good of the Church.

~Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, Holy Mass on the Occasion of the National Day of Croatian Catholic Families, Sunday, 5 June 2011