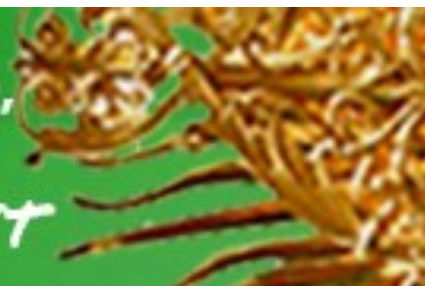




Pray for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty JOIN THE MOVEMENT



September 27: Friday Fast (St. Vincent de Paul)

Intention:

For married couples and families who are struggling financially or living in poverty – that God would provide for their needs and increase their trust in Him.

Did you know?

Today, we celebrate the feast day of St. Vincent de Paul. Born in France in 1580, St. Vincent was renowned for his work with the poor and sick. He founded both the Congregation of the Mission (known commonly as the Vincentians) and the Daughters of Charity. St. Vincent's holy life inspired [Bl. Frederic Ozanam](#) to found the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which now serves the poor in 148 countries.

Video

Your prayers matter. Your sacrifices make a difference. Watch a 90-second video about the Bishops' Call to Prayer – and share it with a friend! www.usccb.org/pray

Quick Links

- ⇒ [Call to Prayer webpage](#)
- ⇒ [Call to Prayer Facebook group](#)
- ⇒ [Past weekly intentions and reflections](#)

Reflection:

Marriage matters to society. When a bride and groom become husband and wife on their wedding day, a new family is formed. Each family is an interdependent mini-society, born from the communion of husband and wife. As [Bl. John Paul II said](#), the family is a “cradle of life and love.” It is the place where we learn to love and be loved.

For good reason, then, marriage and the family play a key role in [Catholic social teaching](#) (see ch. 5). The Church's interest in marriage is not limited to religious concerns because marriage is not just a religious reality; it has major social implications, too. The Church's concern for the poor overlaps with her concern for marriage because family breakdown has economic implications. For example, sadly, single mothers and their children are more likely to suffer from economic hardship.

Because marriage impacts each and every person in society, the Church strives to promote, strengthen, and defend marriage and the family. We pray today for all families who are struggling financially, that they would know the peace of the Lord.

VISIT WWW.USCCB.ORG/FAST TO SIGN THE FASTING PLEDGE & TO SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY E-MAIL REMINDERS & INTENTIONS, OR TEXT “FAST” TO 99000 TO RECEIVE WEEKLY TEXT MESSAGES.