

FAMILY PERSPECTIVES

February 3, 2019
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus encounters resistance from his indignant neighbors in today's gospel as he begins his ministry. Sometimes, families can resist members who are seeking to follow a new direction from God. Families that practice flexibility and openness are helpful to those seeking God's calling in their lives

February 10, 2019
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel places Jesus standing next to a lake when a crowd suddenly appears and presses upon Him. So much for a quiet moment alone! Jesus did not rebuke the people or send them away. All of us have experienced the times that we longed for a quiet moment but family obligations pressed in upon us. Like Jesus, we must not neglect those who depend on us.

February 17, 2019
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In many families, even when we are home together, we find ourselves going in different directions, separated by the things that clutter our lives. We acquire more and more "stuff," yet we can still feel empty. Today's gospel suggests that those who avoid all this "stuff," who are poor and hungry now, are better able to concentrate on the things that lead to happiness: times spent together and shared memories.

February 24, 2019
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Families each teach their own set of values. The gospel speaks of judging, condemning and forgiving noting in effect "what goes around comes around." *"Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven."* Practice and grow with the gospel virtues of mercy and forgiveness. Be bold and stop the family blame game. Forgiving families prosper.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

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| February 3, 2019 | For families that are flexible and open to God's plans for each family member. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| February 10, 2019 | For more marriage vocations and for God's blessing on all engaged and married couples. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| February 17, 2019 | That families will be strong in faith and believe in God's blessings when life is challenging. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| February 24, 2019 | For families who are blinded or divided by self-righteous anger, that they may be able to see, hear, forgive and reconcile. Let us pray to the Lord. |