

## FAMILY PERSPECTIVES

<b>June 2, 2019</b> <b>The Ascension</b>	<b>June 9, 2019</b> <b>Pentecost</b>	<b>June 16, 2019</b> <b>The Most Holy Trinity</b>
<p>The great mercy of Jesus is revealed in today’s account of his bringing back to life the deceased only son of a widow from the city of Nain. Pope Francis proclaims “Jesus is a paradigm for the Church.” Throughout the Gospels he shares in the important moments of family life and always shows mercy. May our families and parishes be rich in mercy like Jesus.</p>	<p>Developing the potential of each member is an important function and a major strength of families and churches. Do we recognize, affirm and nourish the gifts of those around us? In our families? Do we cultivate and thank God for our own gifts? They are meant to be shared! How do we share our gifts to build up God’s Kingdom on earth? On this day of Pentecost, let us ask the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth—<i>through us!</i></p>	<p>On this Trinity Sunday we are reminded that the Church has chosen the language of “family” to name our human experience of God. We refer to God as Father, Jesus as Son and Brother, the Church as Mother, and other Christians as our brothers and sisters. The way we act in our family relationships tells others a lot about the God we worship. St John Paul II and Pope Francis teach us the family is the first and most important school of love and mercy! Center your family on the model of the Trinity; on God’s loving and life-giving relationships.</p>

**June 23, 2019**  
**The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ**

**June 30, 2019**  
**Thirteenth Sunday Ordinary Time**

<p>Today Jesus feeds over five thousand and has leftovers! Notice that this meal is not fast food, nor is it only about eating. It is a larger event of gathering, teaching, healing, blessing and engaging others in making the meal happen. When we eat as a family, it is important to take the time to gather, talk, nourish relationships, pray, and participate together in making the meal happen. Meals like this give life that result in leftovers for others beyond the family. The works of mercy are energized by these meals.</p>	<p>In today’s Gospel, Jesus admonishes, “No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God.” Clearly, Jesus does not want families to be mired in mourning, resentment, worry or loyalties that cause them to lose hope and direction. The key is to seek God first and let all other cares be secondary. Then, we will find direction and energy to fulfill our responsibilities and journey through life with joy no matter what difficulties face us.</p>
---	---

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

- June 2, 2019** For families who grieve the loss of a child. May they know the tender mercy and consolation of God. We pray to the Lord.
- June 9, 2019** That the Holy Spirit will awaken families to appreciate the gifts of each member, we pray to the Lord.
- June 16, 2019** Today, on this Father’s Day, we pray that all fathers, stepfathers and grandfathers may be instruments of God’s love and discipline, but never violent in their behavior. We pray to the Lord.
- June 23, 2019** For families that are struggling to clothe and feed themselves. We pray to the Lord.
- June 30, 2019** For engaged couples who will soon marry, that the Holy Spirit will increase their love for one another and that their marriages will be a powerful witness of the love of God for each of us. We pray to the Lord.