

Family Perspectives



Marriage and Family
Ministry

Catholic Diocese
of Cleveland

November 2020 (Year A)

1 November 2020 – The Solemnity of All Saints

2 November 2020 – The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

8 November 2020 – Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

15 November 2020 – Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

22 November 2020 – Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

26 November 2020 – Thanksgiving Day (USA)



1 November 2020 – The Solemnity of All Saints

Away from the crowds, Jesus sits down with his disciples and teaches them the path to holiness. These are the ones who have already decided that they will follow Jesus and have left family and livelihoods to do just that. How does your family follow in the path to holiness? The Beatitudes in today's Gospel are family Christian attitudes. On the journey of faith in our families we will mourn, face persecution and insult, be called to align ourselves with the poor, hunger and thirst for righteousness, exercise mercy and bring peace. We proclaim our identity as followers of the Lord of life.



Universal Prayer

For families who are persecuted around the world due to their religion, creed, or culture, may they find safe refuge and be granted freedom of expression . . .

2 November 2020 – The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls')

As we near the end of the liturgical year, Jesus gives us another parable relating to the end of time and also our own personal ends. In the second reading, St. Paul's words urge us to "not grieve like the rest, who have no hope." On All Souls' Day, who are the family or friends that have died who you celebrate and remember on this day?



Universal Prayer:

For those who mourn and grieve for loved ones who have died, may they know the hope of the resurrection and be comforted in their sorrow . . .

8 November 2020 - Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

The parable we read today should be a clarion call to “be prepared” for the coming of Jesus at the end times. How do we talk about death and grief as a family? St. Paul’s words in the second reading urge us to “not grieve like the rest who have no hope.” As Christians, we still grieve when a loved one or friend dies, even as we hope in the resurrection. How does your family help others in the passage of grief?



Universal Prayer:

For all gathered here, especially those who grieve the loss of a loved one, may we be sustained and comforted in the joy and hope of the resurrection . . .

15 November 2020 - Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Life in a family is a gift. The same applies to life in a parish community. We join others who share a common purpose and goal. When we read today’s parable and others like it, we can be moved to action, investing ourselves and our families more fully into the Christian life. What is one gift or talent that you have received from the hand of God and are using to serve your family and the People of God?



Universal Prayer:

For all unemployed and underemployed adults, may they find work that matches their talents and provides a living wage . . .

22 November 2020 - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

In the golden rule, Jesus tells us we must care for our neighbor as ourselves. Today this commandment is expanded: we are to care for those in need as we would care for the Lord himself. For whether we are serving another or turning our gaze and walking away, we are comforting or rejecting the Lord. As a family, how have you practiced the corporal works of mercy?



Universal Prayer:

For families who lack food, water, shelter, and clothing, may those who have an abundance willingly share with those who have nothing . . .

26 November 2020 - Thanksgiving Day (USA)

It is easy to become comfortable with the lifestyles we have created or try to create for ourselves. Then, tragedy can come in an instant. Loss of life – whether spouse, child, parent, or friend – can happen unexpectedly. Loss of job, income, or wealth may also loom as a specter just out of range in our awareness, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, on Thanksgiving Day, reflect as a family on the gift you are most thankful for. Where is God calling you to use your gifts to build up the Reign of God?

Universal Prayer:

For all gathered here, in thanking God for all that we have received, may we be blessed with generosity to use our gifts and talents for the good of others . . .

