

FAMILY PERSPECTIVES

September 1, 2019 24th Sunday Ordinary Time	September 8, 2019 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time	September 15, 2019 24th Sunday Ordinary Time
<p>“Those who humble themselves will be exalted.” Family life confirms the words of Jesus in today’s gospel. Commitment, intimacy, loyalty, and love are the rewards of humble service and care for one another. Pope Francis reminds us, “no family drops down from heaven perfectly formed.”</p>	<p>Successful family life requires forgiveness – many times! Each time we forgive from the heart, our heart becomes more like Jesus’ heart. Yet this forgiveness must be mutual among all members. A family member who cannot forgive or accept forgiveness may need help from a priest or therapist.</p>	<p>The older brother in today’s Gospel parable resented the second chance his prodigal brother received from their father and missed out on the party. Is your heart held captive by resentment toward any family member and preventing you from receiving God’s blessings? If so, pray for the grace to forgive and become merciful like the Father.</p>

September 22, 2019 25th Sunday Ordinary Time	September 29, 2019 26th Sunday Ordinary Time
<p>We are working longer hours and have less family and leisure time. Today Jesus reminds us that we cannot serve two masters; “You will be devoted to one and despise the other.” We need to choose. Make a choice you won’t regret. Choose God and family over the love of money and things.</p>	<p>In today’s gospel parable the rich man wanted to warn his brothers so they could avoid his fate. Evidently, his whole family ignored the poor! If you were the rich man and could warn your family, what would you tell them? Better yet – invite them to practice the works of mercy to those in need.</p>

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

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| September 1, 2019 | That humility, loyalty and generous love are virtues taught in our families. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| September 8, 2019 | That families will choose to apologize and forgive. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| September 15, 2019 | That victims of trafficking may find a haven of help in our parish. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| September 22, 2019 | For the young married couples in our community, that they will always remain faithful to each other, and that their lives will be a witness of God’s love and fidelity. Let us pray to the Lord. |
| September 29, 2019 | That the families in this parish might be moved to share their time, money and influence to relieve the needs of other families in the community. Let us pray to the Lord. |