

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 3rd, 2024

FATH @ HOME

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First Reading: Deuteronomy 6: 2-6
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 18: 2-3,3-4,47,51
Second Reading: Hebrew 7: 23-28
Gospel: Mark 12: 28b-34

[Find full readings from USCCB site here](#)

1. HEAR

Grab your bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries you can find the Gospel reading by clicking [HERE](#). (Bishop O'Connell's Gospel Reflection page.)

As an alternative to reading the Gospel, you can watch a short video with the proclamation for adults by clicking [HERE](#). (YouTube, Kithaabul Muqaddhas Dhivehi channel, 1:20 min.)

Children can also watch a video proclamation of the Gospel by clicking [HERE](#). (YouTube, CartoonBible channel, 1:05 min.)

2. PRAY

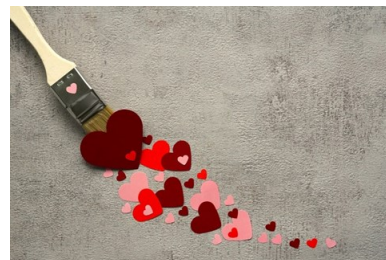
Gather the family around a prayer space and if available, light a candle. In today's First Reading we hear the prophet Moses deliver to the people an important message from God: *"You shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength."* Then, Moses asks the people to learn those words and repeat them often, so they never forget how much God loves them.

Close your eyes and imagine all the different ways you experience the love of God for you in your daily life. Maybe that experience comes through observing the world around you, or through the morning sun and the birds, or maybe it comes through by the love of a special person in your life. Make a minute of silence to allow all present to use their imagination and experience the way God loves them. *Optional: for small children, ask them to draw a picture of how they experience the love of God.*

After a moment of silence, one adult takes the candle from the prayer space and invites all to repeat the antiphon of today's responsorial psalm: "I love you, Lord, my strength." Next, he/she gives thanks to God for the love he/she has experienced. All answer with the psalm antiphon and the candle gets passed to another person, repeating the same pattern. *Optional: for small children, ask them to show their drawing and then give thanks to God for his love.*

3. TALK

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that we are invited to be people who give and demonstrate love. And there's two ways we show love: first, we love God who created us, saved us, and made us holy through the sacraments; next, we show that same love to the people around us beginning with our own families but going beyond to our neighbors, friends, coworkers, school mates, etc.



Invite the people gathered to share one example of when they show love in their daily lives, both for God and for their neighbor as Jesus is asking us to do. You may take a moment of silence or play a short instrumental song while people take the time to consider their answers.

Next, as the people present to partner with someone else and share with them the answer they came up with. It is OK to let adults pair with adults, youth with youth, and children with children. But, if necessary, pairs can be made between an adult with a youth or a child.

Once all have shared, ask the following question: what can we do as family to show our love for God and for our neighbors in a concrete way during the days of this new week? Allow for answers and ideas from all who want to share, and then select an option that all can agree to do.



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