

PREACHING FOR MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week July 24-30, 2011

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HOMILY NOTES

Sunday 24 July 2011 "God's Love, Our Love, Our Family"

Reading 1: **1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12** *Ask something of me and I will give it to you.*

Psalm: **119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130** *Lord, I love your commands.*

Reading 2: **Rom 8:28-30** *We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose.*

Gospel: **Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46** *The Kingdom of God is like...a treasure buried in a field, a pearl of great price, a net thrown into the sea which collects fish of every kind.*

Homily Helper Talking Points

- If the readings this week teach us anything, it is about PRIORITIES. If our priorities are in the proper order, then our life will be in the proper order. In today's society, especially for those who are in marriage or discerning a vocation to married life, it is especially important to get our priorities straight.
- For National NFP Awareness Week, the bishops of the United States invite us to reflect on the theme, "God's Love, Our Love, Our Family."
- It makes sense if you think about it. God's love must always come first. This is first priority. This is the treasure in the field or the pearl of great price. This is priority number one. All other decisions and relationships in life will find their source and their fulfillment in our relationship with God. It's God's love that makes us lovable, and allows us to love others as God would love them.
- In the married vocation, it is the very love of God which brings two people together to become the living expression of God's love alive in the world. Married love finds its origin in and flows out of God's love. When the rest of us see how the married couple loves one another without reservation and without condition, then we get just a glimpse of what it means for God to love us. This is one way in which the Sacrament of Marriage truly is the sacrament of God's love alive and expressed in the midst of everyday life. For the married couple, "God's Love" finds its expression in "Our Love."
- And then what a marvelous thing! Through the most intimate expression of love between a husband and wife, new life becomes possible. God is love and love by its very nature is creative. The Sacrament of Marriage, as an expression of God's Love, shares in that creative dynamic and is truly "pro-creative." "Our Love" becomes "Our Family."
- There is an element of trust, born of love, which makes this all possible. We have to be able to trust that God, who loves us, wants what's best for us, even if we don't know exactly what that is at the outset. So we must be open to the possibilities that God will open up for us, especially the possibility of love, life and family. St. Paul is correct. If our priorities are in the right order, then all things do indeed work out. This does not mean that we are Pollyannaish about things. After prayerful discernment, some couples may decide that it is more prudent to plan their families more judiciously. Here, Natural Family Planning provides a practical moral option. But the bottom line is that we need to trust God and to cooperate with God by working with the way in which God made us. To act *with* the body and mind God gave us, not against them.
- Natural Family Planning is not rocket science. It's about having our priorities straight and being practical in their application to everyday life. "God's Love, Our Love, Our Family" is more than just a catchy slogan. It's a roadmap for the Sacrament of Marriage and simple way of remembering how to keep our priorities in the proper order.

Monday, July 25, 2011, Feast of St. James the Apostle

Reading 1: **2 Cor 4:7-15** *Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.*

Responsorial Psalm: **126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6** *Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.*

Gospel: **Mt 20:20-28** *The mother of the sons of Zebedee approached Jesus with her sons and did him homage, wishing to ask him for something.*

Homily Helper Talking Points

- There is a cardinal rule in the wilderness that you never get between a mother bear and her cubs. This is because the maternal instinct is one of the most powerful in nature. In this light the request of the mother of James and John makes sense. She is just looking out for her boys.
- Like everyone following Jesus, and indeed all the people Israel at that time, the mother of James and John was expecting the coming Messiah to be a priest-king in the line of David. He would throw out the Romans and reestablish the Kingdom of Israel as a political and religious entity. She, like all of the disciples at that time, misunderstands what Jesus means by the

“Kingdom of God.” Jesus is simply being honest when he tells her that she does not know what she is asking. She is setting her sights too low. The Kingdom of God is a much richer reality than anything she can imagine at that time.

- “God's Love, Our Love, Our Family” - Sometimes married couples do the same thing regarding their marriage. They set their sights to low. In the Sacrament of Marriage, God's Love calls a husband and wife to a higher, more sacred calling than that of a secular, civil marriage. When we cooperate with God's love by living out that calling in fidelity to God and each other, “Our Love” takes on and expresses a deeper meaning than anything this world can offer. When we trust the God who calls us to holiness through married life, when we cooperate with the way in which God has designed us as human beings, then the fruits of the that love give life not only to our children, but becomes a life-giving relationship to all those we encounter every day.

Tuesday, July 26, 2011, Memorial of Saint Joachim and Saint Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Reading 1: [Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28](#) *Receive us as your own.*

Responsorial Psalm: [103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13](#) *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Gospel: [Mt 13:36-43](#) *Whoever has ears ought to hear.*

Homily Helper Talking Points

- It's nice to know that Jesus has a sense of humor. I'm told that the pun, “Whoever has ears ought to hear” works as well in Aramaic and Greek as it does in English regarding ears of grain and ears on the side of one's head. My mother always told me that God gave us two ears and one mouth because we were supposed to listen twice as much as we speak. Good advice.
- With this in mind, Jesus' exhortation that we must listen first in order to understand is very well taken. We must listen as we study, worship and pray in order to come to insight as to what God has planned for us.
- This is especially important for married couples as they discern together how God is working in their lives for the building up of the Church and the world. It is important to make use of all the practical and spiritual resources the Church offers when making important decisions about children and family. The resources of available to regarding Marriage and NFP are readily available, especially on the USCCB website. It's a good place to get good information that makes sense in the real world we live in.
- The parents of Mary, Joachim and Anna, whose feast we celebrate today, certainly did so. It must have been quite a job being the parents of the future Mother of God. But God had a plan and Joachim and Anna seemed to understand that they were an essential part of that plan.
- As the saying goes, we may not know the master plan, but it is comforting to know that the Master has planned it, and we are included.

Wednesday, July 27, 2011, Wednesday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Reading 1: [Ex 34:29-35](#) *Later on, all the children of Israel came up to him, and he enjoined on them all that the LORD had told him on Mount Sinai.*

Responsorial Psalm: [99:5, 6, 7, 9](#) *Holy is the Lord our God.*

Gospel: [Mt 13:44-46](#) *The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field...or a pearl of great price.*

Homily Helper Talking Points

(Note: If the preacher would like to concentrate on the gospel, please see the Talking Points for Sunday, July 24, 2011, above.)

- Moses would commune with God so intimately that afterwards his face would shine radiantly. This was a sign to the people that he had a very special relationship with God.
- Each of us, through our baptism, also has a very special relationship with God. When we live our baptismal calling in communion with Christ and His Church, we also become a sign and source of God's love in the world.
- For example, we all know at least one couple who are living the Sacrament of Marriage especially well. Such couples are incredibly “life giving.” The love they share in their relationship radiates out, if you will, in such a way that others cannot help but be drawn into it. There is always an invitation to family functions, always an extra place at the table, always the time for someone in need. Being invited into the circle of love of a sacramental marriage is an incredibly enlivening experience.
- We are all called to be “life giving,” but this call finds a unique and beautiful expression in the Sacrament of Marriage in all aspects. It reminds us that life is a precious gift that we should be open to receive in accord with God's plan. When we do so, we become “life giving” in every sense of the word.
- The Irish have a wonderful saying, “May the love of God warm your heart like a great fire, so that a friend may come and warm himself there.”

Thursday, July 28, 2011, Thursday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

(NB: Anniversary of the encyclical, Humanae vitae)

Reading 1: [Ex 40:16-21, 34-38](#) *The glory of the LORD filled the Dwelling.*

Responsorial Psalm: [84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11](#) *How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord, mighty God!*

Gospel: [Mt 13:47-53](#) *The Kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind.*

Homily Helper Talking Points

- After Moses built the meeting tent, it was filled with the presence of the Lord. But think about it a minute. What made the tent of Meeting so sacred? Was it the tent itself; or rather was it the One who dwelt there?
- So it is with every Catholic household. What makes any ordinary house into a Catholic, Christian home? It certainly is not the building itself, but rather the family that dwells there. The same thing applies to the Sacrament of Marriage. What makes the relationship sacred? Is it the couple themselves, or the presence of Christ dwelling in them as an integral part of their relationship?
- *God's Love, Our Love, Our Family*: Holy families are born of a holy marriage, and the love found in a holy marriage is a sacred calling begotten first by God's Love. When spouses invite Christ into every aspect of their marriage, then Christ can be present in every aspect of the life of the family. In this way, our God truly is Emmanuel, "God with us."

Friday, July 29, 2011, Feast of St. Martha

Reading 1: [Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37](#)

"These are the festivals of the LORD which you shall celebrate at their proper time with a sacred assembly."

Responsorial Psalm: [81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab](#) *Sing with joy to God our help.*

Gospel: [Jn 11:19-27](#) *I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.*

Homily Helper Talking Points

- It's nice to know that Jesus had regular friends just like the rest of us. People who knew him before his public ministry and loved him for who he was. These were people with whom he could relax and not have to worry about being put on a pedestal. Today's feast celebrates St. Martha, one such friend of Jesus who embodies two essential Christian qualities: faith and hospitality. Each of these is spoken to in the options for the gospel reading today.
- Martha's faith is especially evident in the gospel passage where Jesus comes to visit her after the death of her brother Lazarus, also a good friend of Jesus.
- Relationships grow and deepen over time. Martha did not cease to become Jesus' friend just because she came to a fuller understanding of who he was. If anything, it deepened their relationship. Her new understanding and her profession of faith takes their relationship to a whole new level.
- It is the same in the life of faith, especially in the life of married couples and families. As couples continue to mature and grow and simply spend time in each other's presence, they discover more and more about their spouse and about themselves. If lived in the context of God's Love, this deeper self knowledge and knowledge of the other can lead not only to a deeper relationship with one's spouse, but also with God.
- Faith at its heart is a relationship. And relationships deepen and grow directly in proportion to the time and attention that we give to them. So it was for Martha and Jesus. So it is for us today.

Saturday, July 30, 2011, Saturday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Reading 1: [Lv 25:1, 8-17](#) *This fiftieth year you shall make sacred*

Responsorial Psalm: [67:2-3, 5, 7-8](#) *O God, let all the nations praise you!*

Gospel: [Mt 14:1-12](#) *The daughter of Herodias performed a dance before the guests and delighted Herod so much that he swore to give her whatever she might ask for.*

Homily Helper Talking Points

- Why did Herodius hate John the Baptist so much? Simple. By pronouncing her relationship with Herod to be unlawful, he had undermined her credibility in the public eye. Of course, she could have taken his message to heart and changed her ways, but that would have meant giving up too much. As it was, she didn't like the message so she had the messenger put to death.
- It didn't work out in the long run, of course. Later on, her ambition caused the ruin of Herod when she asked the Emperor Caligula to crown her husband king. The request was refused and Herod was stripped of power. He and Herodius died in exile.
- It's a good lesson for all of us. God uses all kinds of means to speak to us, like he did with John the Baptist to Herod and Herodius. We can choose to listen or we can choose to go our own way. If we choose to heed the promptings of the Holy Spirit to repent, then it is always life-giving. If we choose to ignore the Spirit and follow our own ambitions, then, as Herodius found out, it always leads to our destruction.
- In his poem, "Little Miracles," Larry Beck said, "I believe in little miracles, that happen every day/not the cataclysmic kinds which cause the world to sway/but the simple, subtle messages the Good Lord sends our way."
- May we have the grace to listen to the little messages the Good Lord sends our way today, so that we may have life and have it abundantly.

Suggested Intercessions for the Prayer of the Faithful

Please choose some of the following to be included among the intercessions in your parish

Liturgy during National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week.

The Pope, Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Lay Ecclesial Ministers

For Pope Benedict XVI: that our Heavenly Father may gift him with deep wisdom and familial love as he calls the world Church to reverence marriage and the family, we pray to the Lord, For the Pope: that the Lord God will strengthen and protect him as he proclaims God's design regarding human sexuality, marriage, conjugal love and responsible parenthood, we pray to the Lord,

For the bishops: that they may be encouraged by our prayer and support to lead God's people in building a culture of life, we pray to the Lord,

For priests and deacons: that the Holy Spirit may empower them to teach God's design for life and love, we pray to the Lord,

For lay ecclesial ministers: that the Holy Spirit will grace them with the gifts to inspire and to support married couples to live Church teachings on conjugal love and responsible parenthood, we pray to the Lord,

Government Officials

For the President of the United States, and government leaders: that they might have the wisdom to protect human life from conception and the courage to defend it, we pray to the Lord,

For the President of the United States and government leaders: that Jesus, the Son of God, will help them understand the great dignity of marriage as between a man and a woman, and that they will enact laws protecting and supporting marriage, we pray to the Lord,

For the President of the United States and government leaders: that God the Father may gift them with a profound reverence for the sacred role of parents and help them enact laws which safeguard the bond between parents and their children, we pray to the Lord,

For leaders in government: that the Holy Spirit may fill them with wisdom and zeal to protect the religious liberties of all people, we pray to the Lord,

Natural Family Planning Ministry

For diocesan Natural Family Planning Ministry: that the Lord God will call people with a variety of talents and treasures to share in His work, we pray to the Lord,

For diocesan Natural Family Planning Ministry: that the Holy Spirit will especially inspire physicians, nurses, and educators to become trained in the teaching of the natural methods of NFP, we pray to the Lord,

For diocesan Natural Family Planning staff: that their work may be blessed and strengthened as they help the People of God embrace God's gifts of human sexuality, marriage and family, we pray to the Lord,

For Natural Family Planning teachers: that they may be filled with renewed zeal as they teach couples about God's design for married love and the gift of life, we pray to the Lord,

For Natural Family Planning teachers: that the Holy Spirit will sustain them in their work and help them overcome all obstacles in sharing the good news of NFP, we pray to the Lord,

Couples Preparing for Marriage

For couples considering marriage: that the Holy Spirit may help them open their hearts and minds to God's design for life and love, we pray to the Lord,

For couples considering marriage: that they may welcome the Lord God into their relationship to discern His will for them, we pray to the Lord,

For engaged couples: that they may provide a witness to the truth of committed married love in the world, we pray to the Lord,

For engaged couples: that they may grow in the virtues of faith, chastity, fidelity and charity, we pray to the Lord,

For engaged couples: that in business of planning for their wedding day, that they take time to prepare their hearts for the Sacrament of Marriage, we pray to the Lord,

Married Couples

For newly married couples: that they be open to accepting children from God, we pray to the Lord,

For married couples: that God may give them the grace to welcome new life into their families, we pray to the Lord,

For husbands and wives who have recently experienced the birth of a child: that the Lord of Life may bless and supply them with all they need to nurture their child, we pray to the Lord,

For new mothers and fathers: that the Holy Spirit may inspire extended family, friends and neighbors to lend a helping hand, we pray to the Lord,

For married couples: that they might give witness to the beauty of their sacrament through their love for each other and in doing so, be an instrument for the conversion of others, we pray to the Lord,

For married couples: that they may look to St. Joseph and the Blessed Mother as their patrons for establishing holy families filled with faith, hope and love, we pray to the Lord,

For married couples experiencing difficulties in their relationship: that they may persevere in love and faithfulness to each other, we pray to the Lord,

Infertile Married Couples

For couples who are having difficulty in achieving pregnancy: that they may be assisted by physicians who honor God's laws, we pray to the Lord,

For infertile married couples: that our Heavenly Father may comfort their hearts and help them discern how to share their spousal love in their community, we pray to the Lord,

For infertile married couples: that they may be consoled and guided to adopt children, we pray to the Lord,

For infertile married couples who have adopted children: that they may consider helping other infertile couples open their hearts to orphaned children, we pray to the Lord,

For the staff of diocesan marriage and family life offices: bless their pastoral programs that help and support infertile married couples, we pray to the Lord,

Families

For all families: that they may provide witness to God's unconditional love, we pray to the Lord, For families: that each member will be filled with hospitality and welcome the stranger into their homes, we pray to the Lord,

For mothers, fathers and children: that they may love and support each other as St. Paul had directed in holy harmony with each other, we pray to the Lord,

For all family members: that through their love and generosity with each other, they may foster vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and lay ecclesial ministry, we pray to the Lord,

For families who suffer due to illness, poverty, violence or other hardships: that they may be given hope, support and relief by their parish community, we pray to the Lord,

For families who are grieving: that God the Father may comfort them and grant them joy in the knowledge of the continued life of their beloved in Him, we pray to the Lord,

Children

For children: that the hearts of all people will cherish, value and protect them, we pray to the Lord,

For children: that they may be a source of blessings to their parents, we pray to the Lord,

For children who are hungry: that they may be fed, we pray to the Lord,

For children who are homeless: that they may be housed, we pray to the Lord,

For children who are disabled: that they may be loved and cared for by their families and neighbors, we pray to the Lord,

For children who are suffering: that they may be helped by family and friends, we pray to the Lord,

For children who have been abandoned: that loving adoptive parents may welcome them into their homes, we pray to the Lord,

Singles/Youth

For youth: that Our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph will guide them to a deeper relationship with Jesus, we pray to the Lord,

For youth: that wise and faithful adults will help them learn and embrace Church teachings on chastity, marriage and family life, we pray to the Lord,

For single men and women: that Jesus the teacher may lead them to study, reflect on, and accept God's plan for marriage and family life, we pray to the Lord,

For single people, that they might live chastely and "love with upright and undivided hearts," we pray to the Lord,

For single men and women: that the Holy Spirit may give them the power to resist all forms of temptation that deny God's design for marriage, life and love, we pray to the Lord,

Health Care Professionals

For health care professionals: that they may be inspired to study and promote medical practices in accord with God's law, we pray to the Lord,

For health care professionals: that they may have the courage to witness to ethical medical practices despite pressures from others in medicine and government, we pray to the Lord,

For physicians: that they may renew their commitment to "do no harm" to their patients and reverence human life from conception to natural death, we pray to the Lord,

For Catholic physicians: that they may learn and promote the natural methods of family planning and encourage their patients in being open to life, we pray to the Lord,

For nurses, especially those who work in obstetrics and gynecology: that they may learn the natural methods of family planning, we pray to the Lord,

For Catholic schools of medicine and nursing: that the Holy Spirit will move both faculty and students to study and embrace Church teachings on the human sexuality and the life issues, we pray to the Lord,

For staff in Catholic hospitals: that God may gift them with a renewed commitment to reverence human life and reject all immoral medical practices, we pray to the Lord,

Additional intercessions

For all people who work in the media: that God will move them to a conversion of heart which reverences human life and upholds the dignity of human sexuality, we pray to the Lord,

For people who work in the entertainment industry: that the Holy Spirit may lead them to reject all projects that attack God's design for life and love, we pray to the Lord,

For Christians who work in the media and entertainment industry: that they may fill their environments with Gospel values and noble human ideals, we pray to the Lord,

For scientists who study the human body: that the Holy Spirit may lead them to a deeper understanding of human fertility so that they may better articulate "the conditions favorable to a lawful regulation of procreation" (*HV*, #24), we pray to the Lord,

For scientists who study human fertility: that they may reverence human life and reject any technology which does harm to God's design, we pray to the Lord,

For our neighbors, coworkers, friends, fellow Christians, and all people, that they may increase their support for families and come to recognize that all human life is a gift from God and a reason for joy, we pray to the Lord,

Sugerencias para la Oración de los Fieles

Elija algunas de las siguientes intercesiones para incluirlas entre las peticiones de la liturgia de su parroquia durante la Semana Nacional sobre la Planificación Familiar Natural.

El Papa, obispos, sacerdotes, diáconos y ministros laicos de la Iglesia

Por el Papa Benedicto XVI: que nuestro Padre Celestial lo dote de una profunda sabiduría y amor por la familia en su llamado a la Iglesia mundial a respetar al matrimonio y la familia, roguemos al Señor,

Por el Papa: para que Dios nuestro Señor lo fortalezca y proteja en sus declaraciones sobre la sexualidad, el matrimonio, el amor conyugal y la paternidad responsable en los designios de Dios, roguemos al Señor,

Por los obispos: para que se sientan alentados por nuestra oración y nuestro apoyo en guiar el Pueblo de Dios en la edificación de una cultura de la vida, roguemos al Señor,

Por sacerdotes y diáconos: para que el Espíritu Santo les de la facultad de enseñar el designio de Dios para la vida y el amor, roguemos al Señor:

Por los ministros laicos de la Iglesia: para que el Espíritu Santo los honre con los dones de inspirar y apoyar a las parejas casadas que desean vivir las enseñanzas de la Iglesia sobre el amor conyugal y la paternidad responsable, roguemos al Señor,

Funcionarios gubernamentales

Por el Presidente de Estados Unidos y los funcionarios del gobierno: para que tengan la sabiduría de proteger la vida humana desde la concepción, y el valor de defenderla, roguemos al Señor,

Por el Presidente de Estados Unidos y los líderes gubernamentales: para que Jesús, Hijo de Dios, los ayude a comprender la gran dignidad del matrimonio entre un hombre y una mujer, y para que promulguen leyes que protejan y apoyen el matrimonio, roguemos al Señor,

Por el Presidente de Estados Unidos y los dirigentes gubernamentales: para que Dios Padre los dote de una profunda reverencia por su función sagrada como padres y los ayude a promulgar leyes que resguarden el vínculo entre los padres y sus hijos, roguemos al Señor:

Por los líderes en el gobierno: para que el Espíritu Santo los llene de sabiduría y entusiasmo por proteger las libertades religiosas de todos, roguemos al Señor,

Ministerio de Planificación Familiar Natural

Por el ministerio diocesano de Planificación Familiar Natural: para que el Señor Dios llame a personas con diversos talentos y tesoros a participar de Su obra, roguemos al Señor,

Por el ministerio diocesano de Planificación Familiar Natural: para que el Espíritu Santo especialmente inspire a médicos, enfermeros y educadores a capacitarse en la enseñanza de los métodos naturales de PFN, roguemos al Señor,

Por el personal diocesano de Planificación Familiar Natural: para que su tarea de ayudar al Pueblo de Dios a aceptar los dones divinos de la sexualidad, el matrimonio y la familia, sea bendecida y fortalecida, roguemos al Señor,

Por los que enseñan la Planificación Familiar Natural: para que sean colmados con un renovado entusiasmo en su tarea de enseñar a las parejas acerca del designio de Dios para el amor matrimonial y el don de la vida, roguemos al Señor,

Por los que enseñan la Planificación Familiar Natural: para que el Espíritu Santo los sostenga en su labor y los ayude a superar todos los obstáculos que se presentan al compartir la buena nueva de la PFN, roguemos al Señor,

Parejas que se preparan para el matrimonio

Por las parejas que piensan contraer matrimonio: para que el Espíritu Santo las ayude a abrir su corazón y mente al designio de Dios para la vida y el amor, roguemos al Señor:

Por las parejas que piensan contraer matrimonio: para que reciban a Dios en su relación y puedan discernir la voluntad divina para ellos, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas comprometidas: para que den testimonio en el mundo de la verdad del amor conyugal fiel, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas comprometidas: para que crezcan en las virtudes de fe, castidad, fidelidad y caridad, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas comprometidas: que planean su boda, para que puedan dedicar tiempo a preparar su corazón para el Sacramento del Matrimonio, roguemos al Señor,

Parejas casadas

Por las parejas recién casadas: para que estén abiertas a aceptar a los hijos que Dios les concede, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas casadas: para que Dios les conceda la gracia de recibir nueva vida en su familia, roguemos al Señor:

Por los esposos y esposas que recientemente han vivido el nacimiento de un hijo: para que el Señor de la Vida los bendiga y les proporcione todo lo que necesiten para criar a su hijo, roguemos al Señor,

Por los nuevos padres y madres: para que el Espíritu Santo inspire a la familia extendida, amigos y vecinos a prestar una mano solidaria, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas casadas: para que den testimonio de la belleza de su sacramento mediante su amor mutuo y al hacerlo, sean un instrumento para la conversión de los demás, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas casadas: para que vean a San José y a la Santísima Virgen como sus patronos para crear una sagrada familia llena de fe, esperanza y amor, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas casadas que tienen dificultades en su relación: para que perseveren en el amor y fidelidad mutuos, roguemos al Señor,

Parejas casadas estériles

Por las parejas que tienen obstáculos en lograr un embarazo: para que reciban atención de médicos que respetan la Ley de Dios, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas casadas estériles: para que nuestro Padre Celestial las consuele y ayude a discernir cómo compartir su amor conyugal en la comunidad, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas casadas estériles: para que reciban consuelo y orientación en la adopción de niños sin padres, roguemos al Señor,

Por las parejas casadas estériles que han adoptado a sus hijos: para que piensen en ayudar a otras parejas estériles a abrir su corazón a los niños huérfanos, roguemos al Señor,

Por el personal de las oficinas diocesanas de vida matrimonial y familiar: bendice sus programas pastorales que ayudan y apoyan a parejas casadas estériles, roguemos al Señor,

Familias

Por todas las familias: para que den testimonio del amor incondicional de Dios, roguemos al Señor,

Por las familias: para que cada miembro sea colmado de hospitalidad y acoja al forastero en su hogar, roguemos al Señor,
Por las madres, padres e hijos: para que se amen y apoyen mutuamente en santa armonía como lo ha indicado San Pablo, roguemos al Señor,
Por todos los miembros de la familia: para que por medio de su amor y generosidad con los demás, promuevan las vocaciones al sacerdocio, la vida consagrada y el ministerio laico, roguemos al Señor,
Por las familias que sufren a causa de enfermedad, pobreza, violencia u otras dificultades: para que reciban esperanza, apoyo y alivio de su comunidad parroquial, roguemos al Señor,
Por las familias en duelo: para que Dios Padre las consuele y les conceda gozo en el conocimiento de que la vida de su ser querido continúa en Él, roguemos al Señor,

Niños

Por los niños: para que todos nosotros los apreciemos, valoremos y protejamos, roguemos al Señor,
Por los niños: para que sean una fuente de bendiciones para sus padres, roguemos al Señor, Por los niños que tienen hambre: para que sean alimentados, roguemos al Señor,
Por los niños que no tienen casa: para que tengan un lugar donde vivir, roguemos al Señor,
Por los niños discapacitados: para que su familia y vecinos los amen y cuiden, roguemos al Señor,
Por los niños que sufren: para que sus familias y amigos los ayuden, roguemos al Señor,
Por los niños abandonados: para que padres adoptivos cariñosos los acojan en su hogar, roguemos al Señor,

Solteros y jóvenes

Por los jóvenes: que nuestra Santísima Madre y San José los guíen a una relación más profunda con Jesús, roguemos al Señor,
Por los jóvenes: para que adultos sabios y fieles los ayuden a conocer y a poner en práctica las enseñanzas de la Iglesia sobre la castidad, el matrimonio y la vida familiar, roguemos al Señor,
Por las personas solteras: para que Jesús el Maestro las guíe a estudiar, reflexionar y aceptar el plan de Dios para el matrimonio y la vida en familia, roguemos al Señor:
Por las personas solteras, para que vivan en castidad y puedan “amar con un corazón recto e indiviso”, roguemos al Señor,
Por las personas solteras: para que el Espíritu Santo les dé la facultad de resistir toda forma de tentación que niegue el designio de Dios para el matrimonio, la vida y el amor, roguemos al Señor:

Profesionales de la salud

Por los profesionales de la salud: para que sean inspirados a estudiar y promover prácticas médicas de acuerdo con la Ley de Dios, roguemos al Señor.
Por los profesionales de la salud: para que tengan el valor de dar testimonio de prácticas médicas éticas a pesar de las presiones de otros en la medicina y el gobierno, roguemos al Señor,
Por los médicos: para que renueven su compromiso de “no causar daño” a sus pacientes y respeten la vida humana desde la concepción a la muerte natural, roguemos al Señor,
Por los médicos católicos: para que aprendan y promuevan los métodos naturales de planificación familiar y animen a sus pacientes a estar abiertos a la vida, roguemos al Señor,
Por los enfermeros, especialmente los que trabajan en obstetricia y ginecología: para que aprendan los métodos naturales de planificación familiar, roguemos al Señor,
Por las escuelas católicas de medicina y enfermería: para que el Espíritu Santo mueva a la docencia y a los alumnos a estudiar y adoptar las enseñanzas de la Iglesia sobre la sexualidad humana y sobre los temas de la vida, roguemos al Señor,
Por el personal de hospitales católicos: para que Dios los dote de un compromiso renovado hacia el respeto por la vida humana y el rechazo a todas las prácticas médicas inmorales, roguemos al Señor,

Intercesiones adicionales

Por todos los que trabajan en los medios de comunicación: para que Dios los mueva a una conversión del corazón que respete la vida humana y defienda la dignidad de la sexualidad, roguemos al Señor.
Por los que trabajan en la industria del entretenimiento: para que el Espíritu Santo los guíe a rechazar los proyectos que atacan el designio de Dios para la vida y el amor, roguemos al Señor,
Por los cristianos que trabajan en la industria del cine y del entretenimiento: para que llenen su entorno con los valores del Evangelio e ideales humanos nobles, roguemos al Señor,
Por los científicos que estudian el cuerpo humano: para que el Espíritu Santo los guíe a comprender más profundamente la fertilidad humana para que expresen mejor “las diversas condiciones favorables a una honesta regulación de la procreación humana” (HV, no. 24), roguemos al Señor,
Por los científicos que estudian la esterilidad humana: para que puedan respetar la vida y rechazar toda tecnología que perjudique el designio de Dios, roguemos al Señor,
Por nuestros vecinos, compañeros de trabajo, amigos, cristianos y todas las personas, para que aumenten su apoyo a las familias y lleguen a reconocer que toda vida humana es un don de Dios y una razón de gozo, roguemos al Señor:

EL AMOR DE DIOS

*Nuestro amor
Nuestra familia*



Descubre la Planificación Familiar Natural

Celebra y honra la visión de Dios para la sexualidad humana.

Patrocinada por el Programa de PFN, Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 3211 4th St., NE, Washington, DC 20017; 202-541-3240; FAX 202-541-3176; pedidos 1-866-582-0943; nfp@uscbb.org.

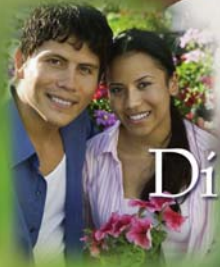
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Los modelos son solo para referencia.

GOD'S LOVE

*Our love
Our family*



Discover Natural Family Planning

Celebrate and reverence God's vision of human sexuality.

NFP Program, Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 3211 4th St., NE, Washington, DC 20017; 202-541-3240; orders 1-866-582-0943; nfp@usccb.org.
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