

# St. Lawrence Faith Formation Newsletter

*Sharing Faith... Home to Home*



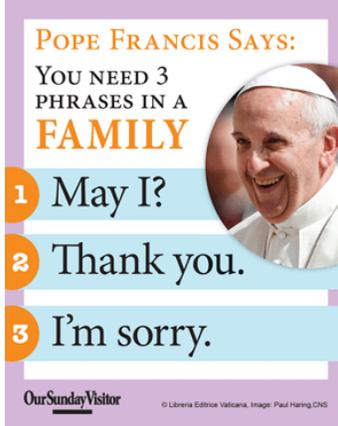
Whether you are young or old, married or single, engaged, widowed, or divorced, may Pope Francis' words strengthen you, refresh you, and illuminate the pages of your own life story. Here are some suggestions he offers to do just that. All words below are from the Pope Francis.

ADAPTED FROM THE BOOK THE BLESSING OF FAMILY: INSPIRING WORDS FROM POPE FRANCIS (FRANCISCAN MEDIA).

**Say These Three Words.** In order to have a healthy family, three words need to be used. And I want to repeat these three words: please, thank you, sorry. Three essential words! We say please so as not to be forceful in family life: "May I please do this? Would you be happy if I did this?" We do this with a language that seeks agreement. We say thank you, thank you for love! Be honest with me, how many times do you say thank you to your wife, and you to your husband? How many days go by without uttering this word? And the last word: sorry. We all make mistakes, and on occasion someone gets offended in the marriage, in the family and harsh words are spoken. But don't ever let the sun set without reconciling. Peace is made each day in the family.

**Pray Together.** It is in the family that we first learn how to pray. Don't forget: the family that prays together stays together! This is important. There we come to know God, to grow into men and women of faith, and to see ourselves as members of God's greater family—the Church. In the family we learn how to love, to forgive, to be generous and open, not closed and selfish. We learn to move beyond our own needs, to encounter others and share our lives with them. Praying the Our Father together, around the table, is not something extraordinary: it's easy.

**Light the Way.** The future passes through the family. So, protect your families! See in them your country's greatest treasure and nourish them always by prayer and the grace of the sacraments. Families will always have their trials, but may you never add to them! Instead, be living examples of love, forgiveness and care. Be sanctuaries of respect for life, proclaiming the sacredness of every human life from conception to natural death. What a gift this would be to society, if every Christian family lived fully its noble vocation! So, rise with Jesus and Mary, and set out on the path the Lord traces for each of you.



March 29, 2020

Fifth Sunday of lent

Today' Gospel

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/11:1>

*John's story of Lazarus reminds us how important time is to understanding. Lazarus is sick, yet it takes Jesus four days to arrive in Judea. Why does it take him so long? Jesus says, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." But this is so difficult to understand. The disciples don't seem to understand the relationship that Jesus has with his Father. Some of the Jews have already taken Jesus for granted, saying that, because he cured the blind man, he could have cured Lazarus too if he'd arrived earlier. Even Martha and Mary, who have enormous faith, have trouble understanding. Lazarus has been dead for four days and Jesus raises him from the dead so that everyone may see the glory of God, his Father. If there is an area in our life that causes us grief, and we walk closely with Jesus, he will help us gain a new perspective when the time is right!*

Liz Summers

[livingwithchrist.us](http://livingwithchrist.us)

**Saint Corona, Pray for Us**



St. Corona altarpiece, c. 1350 at Statens Museum for Kunst

Learn more about Saint Corona at the link below:

<https://catholicexchange.com/saint-corona-pray-for-us>



Confirmation Candidate, **Isabella Johns**, and family shared this photo of how they decorated the door of the home to share faith and hope to all who pass by.

We welcome your special family faith moments to pass along... home to home...