

## Business Ads

**Oral Surgery Associates of Alaska, L.L.C.**  
William F. Bergeron  
111 W 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 203  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
**907-561-1430**

**Rachel Alexander LMT**  
Strong, Experienced Therapeutic Massage  
[rachelalexanderlmt.abmp.com](http://rachelalexanderlmt.abmp.com)  
907-310-0464

**Eagle River Trustworthy Hardware Store**  
17034 N. Eagle River Loop Road  
Eagle River, Alaska 99577  
(907) 694-9384

**Alaska Premier Dental Group**  
Brian Kruchoski, DDS  
[www.smilealaska.com](http://www.smilealaska.com)  
"Taking Care of You Way Beyond Your Smile"

### 日本語のレッスン Japanese Lessons!

Custom designed to interests, goals & learning styles. Certified AK teacher, MA in Japanese Studies, worked & studied in Japan. Taught for Chugiak High School, UAA & home school programs. Please call/text: 350-7395 for Caryn

**VALLEY UROLOGY**--Eagle River Office  
Jeff A.Simerville MD  
Adult and Pediatric Urology  
689-1270 [www.akvalleyurology.com](http://www.akvalleyurology.com)

### MEGAN'S TAX SERVICE IN EAGLE RIVER

Megan's Tax Service will donate \$30 to St. Andrew debt reduction fund for each parishioner's tax return filed.  
**694-1040.**

### CBL ACCOUNTING SERVICES

Sara McCormick, Owner  
Payroll, Bookkeeping and Medical Billing  
907-854-7882  
[cblaccounting@gci.net](mailto:cblaccounting@gci.net)

### A & A The Shop

**Eagle River** Mon-Sat, 8am-5p  
11135 Ashley Park Ln  
**Anchorage** Mon-Sat. 7am-5:30  
48617 Old Seward  
**Alaska's Independent Subaru Service**

### SIMPSON HOME REPAIR

Mike Simpson Owner/Operator  
1-907-863-3254  
[msimpson@mtaonline.net](mailto:msimpson@mtaonline.net)  
17209 Foothill Ave., Eagle River

### OYdesigns&sewing

Custom made and Tailoring, alterations, restorations, fittings, bridal, special occasion, ready to wear  
1-907 -717-7723 Free pick up service  
[onlyyoudesigns68@yahoo.com](mailto:onlyyoudesigns68@yahoo.com)  
[www.onlyyoudesigns68.wixsite.com](http://www.onlyyoudesigns68.wixsite.com)

### KELLEY & CANTERBURY LAW OFFICES

On your side, at your side, every step of the way.  
A family-owned personal injury law firm. Visit our website at  
[www.kelleyandcanterbury.com](http://www.kelleyandcanterbury.com)

### HOME AWAY FROM HOME Inc. K9 Daycare & Boarding



Eagle River's exclusive Homestyle K9 care facility. We specialize in caring for your K9 just like you do at home. If your dog needs a safe, secure and comfortable place to call its own we have it!  
[www.K9HM.com](http://www.K9HM.com)

### EAGLE RIVER BALLET

Alice Bassler Sullivan, Director  
Heather McEwen, Instructor  
Inquiries:  
[www.eagleriverballet.com](http://www.eagleriverballet.com)  
*Sharing Space with All Life is Yoga*

### Golden Paws Kennel



Canine Boarding for senior dogs ages 9 and older  
907 622-6121  
[winter-in-ak@mtaonline.net](http://winter-in-ak@mtaonline.net)

### PAMPERED CHEF

Aimee Woodley, Independent Consultant 907-240-9338  
[frozenchef@mac.com](mailto:frozenchef@mac.com)  
[www.pamperedchef.biz/aimeewoodley](http://www.pamperedchef.biz/aimeewoodley)  
Cooking/Catalog Parties, Wedding Registries & Showers, Fundraisers & More!  
Check out exclusive Facebook specials at  
[www.facebook.com/thefrozenchef](http://www.facebook.com/thefrozenchef)

### BERNIE MCCLURE



Specializing in Residential, Commercial, & Land Sales  
694-4294  
(907) 854-4147  
[bernie4homesak@gmail.com](mailto:bernie4homesak@gmail.com)

**EAGLE RIVER EDUCATIONAL SERVICE**  
K-Adult  
Math, Reading, Italian  
Bonnie & Michael Melielo 250-0023



**EAGLE SUMMIT DENTAL GROUP**  
Michael Sanders, D.M.D., P.C.  
Eagle River, AK **694-8234**  
[www.eagleriverdental.org](http://www.eagleriverdental.org)

**GLORIOUS LIFE ASSISTED LIVING HOME LLC**  
16641 Marcus St. Eagle River  
341-3277

**Cozy Interiors**  
Carpet - Furniture - Flooring - Cabinets - Window Shades - Rugs  
**Matt & Melissa 694-2699**



**GRANITE CITY ALASKA**  
Slab granite countertops. Professional installations.  
Contact Matt or Melissa Hickey **694-6900**

**Young Living Essential Oils**  
Live a healthy, chemical free life & learn about oils!  
Karla Beller #10161134  
[Itsthefamilylife@gmail.com](mailto:Itsthefamilylife@gmail.com)  
[www.youngliving.com](http://www.youngliving.com)

### COURTESY FLUSH

Drain/Sewer Line Cleaning;  
Plumbing and Heating  
907-622-3033

### ALL LIFE IS YOGA

Mary McCormick, RYT Owner/instructor  
[www.alllifeisyoga.org](http://www.alllifeisyoga.org)

### Holy Rosary Academy K-12 Catholic School

Where Faith and Reason  
Meet in the Pursuit of Excellence  
Website: [www.hraak.com](http://www.hraak.com) Phone: 907-276-5822

### ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

Located in Eagle River, we offer Preschool-8th grade. St. John's provides children with a sound educational foundation in a loving Christian environment. For more info contact us @ 696-3920 or Visit us on the web:  
[sjocs1@gmail.com](mailto:sjocs1@gmail.com) [www.stjohnalaska.org/school](http://www.stjohnalaska.org/school)

Come dance with us!  
**Irish Dance Academy of Alaska**  
Irish step dancing classes for kids age 4-18 years old  
An energetic, fun, modest form of dance  
Both performance and competitive  
For more details please contact us at  
[www.irishdanceak.com](http://www.irishdanceak.com)

### ALASKA QUALITY SEPTIC

Septic Pumping  
Contact Jacob Tramp -(907)344-2632

**240 Gordy's P & H**  
Journeyman Plumber  
Licensed City & State  
907-575-5747



### CAKESUCRAVE

By Lalaine (907) 365-9883

## October 2020

## St. Andrew Catholic Church

16300 Domain Ln.  
Eagle River, AK 99577  
694-2170 phone  
[www.aksaintandrews.org](http://www.aksaintandrews.org)



### 4TH COMMANDMENT

**"HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER, THAT YOUR DAYS MAY BE LONG IN THE LAND WHICH THE LORD YOUR GOD GIVES YOU. "**

During the general audience of Sept 19, 2018 Pope Francis continued his series of talks on the Ten Commandments and reflected on the obligation to "honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

To love and respect one's father and mother, he said, means "recognizing their importance with concrete actions that express dedication, affection and care." "Honor your parents: they gave us life. If you have distanced yourself from your parents, make an effort and return, go back to them, perhaps they are old. They gave you life," the pope said.

Pope Francis explained that the promise of a long life that comes from honoring one's parents associates happiness with one's relationship with them.

"This centuries-old wisdom declares what human science has only been able to elaborate upon a little over a century ago: that the imprint of childhood marks a person's life," he said.

However, this commandment does not require mothers and fathers to be perfect and regardless of the merits of one's parents, "all children can be happy because the achievement of a full and happy life depends on the proper gratitude to those who have brought us into the world."

The pope recalled the example of saints who despite being orphaned or having lived through painful childhoods grew up to "live virtuous lives because, thanks to Jesus Christ, they reconciled with their life."

"We should also think of St. Camillus de Lellis, who, out of a dysfunctional childhood, built a life of love and service; St. Josephine Bakhita, who grew up in horrible slavery; or Blessed Carlo Gnocchi, orphaned and poor; and even St. John Paul II, who was impacted by the death of his mother at a tender age," he added.

In the light of love, Pope Francis said, sad and painful experiences "can become for others a source of well-being."

Thus, he said "we can begin to honor our parents with the freedom of adult children and with merciful acceptance of their limitations."

<https://www.thebostonpilot.com/article.asp?ID=183302>

### Mass Schedule

Saturdays: 5:30 pm

Sundays: 10 am and 7 pm

Weekdays\*: Monday-Communion Service 9 am  
Tues-Fri. Mass 9 am

*\*Unless otherwise noted in the weekly schedule*

Holy Days: 9 am and 7 pm

Rosary—8:30 am daily, 6:15 pm on Thursday

Eucharistic Adoration—Perpetual

### Sacraments

Confessions—Saturday: 3:30 or by appointment

Baptism, Marriage, Anointing of Sick--contact the office

Sacraments of Initiation--**Adults interested in becoming Catholic** --Please contact Deacon Mark or the office.

### MISSION STATEMENT

*As followers of Jesus Christ, our mission is to build a community of Faith, Hope and Love by the way we educate, celebrate, and live as individual stewards of the many blessings of Almighty GOD. We are called to be Christ's hands and voice reaching out to embrace all who are in need, and to establish peace and justice in the Kingdom of GOD.*

## Stewardship

### SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE SUPPORT GROUP

This group is composed of people who have suffered the loss of a loved one to suicide. It is facilitated by trained volunteers and is there to help its participants to help heal from the pain and loss. This is an open group that will meet twice a month to discuss issues and problems related to the suicide of their loved one and help them to integrate this loss into their life.

Meetings are the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, 6:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M in Eagle River. Please call before first visit: 907-696-5229. There is no cost.

### MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Do you have crutches, braces, wheel chairs, padding, bandaging materials, or non-prescription medical supplies or ointments that you would like to donate? Contact Paula or Raymond @ 694-2415 for pickup.

## Miscellaneous

### INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Classes for those interested in becoming Catholic begins in September. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the name given to the instruction and discernment program for those who would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the Church. The classes meet every Sunday beginning with the 10 am Mass and finish around noon. The program leads to Confirmation and reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday. Please contact Deacon Mark ([deaconmark@mtaonline.net](mailto:deaconmark@mtaonline.net)) or the office if you would like to learn more.

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT** : Help is available—Have you or someone you know been sexually or physically abused? Contact:

Office of Children's Services 1-800-478-4444  
Adult Protective Services 1-800-478-9996  
STAR Standing Together Against Rape 907-276-7273  
Archdiocesan Victim's Assistance Coordinator 907-297-7786



## Welcome !

### NEW TO THE PARISH?

Stop by the Welcome table to register and find out more about St. Andrew Parish! You can also register online at our website [www.aksaintandrews.org](http://www.aksaintandrews.org)

### Pamphlets, Flyers, Posters

**Anything to be displayed in the church must be approved in the office. Please stop by the office so that we may run the items by the pastor before they are displayed. Anything that is not OK'd will be taken down. Help us assure that what is displayed is appropriate and theologically correct. Thank you!**

**All children must be supervised** by their parents *at all times* while on parish property. As always, our ushers are on hand during Mass to render assistance.

*Please join us for coffee and doughnuts after Sunday morning Mass!*

### Comfort and Accessibility:

- Accessible Restrooms available in the halls off the narthex.
- Ladies' and Family Restrooms on the North side, Men's restroom on the South side.
- Seating for Wheelchairs available in the front of the Nave.
- If you have difficulty approaching the altar for communion, please tell an usher, and Communion will be brought to you.
- A limited number of assisted-hearing devices are available; ask an usher for assistance.

## Sacrament Corner—Congratulations !

Baptisms:

September 16, 2020—Divine Miracle Morgan

September 25, 2020—Luke Aindriu Matthews

September 26, 2020—Jayden O'Connor Lazenby  
Eliza Katherine Lazenby  
Emmalyn Carroll Lazenby

September 30, 2020—Brax Everett Blessie



### STEPS TO GETTING YOUR CHILD BAPTIZED AT ST. ANDREW

- Contact Deacon Mark@ [deaconmark@mtaonline.net](mailto:deaconmark@mtaonline.net)

If this is your first child to be baptized at St. Andrew you will need to take a class. Once you have received instruction your baptism will be scheduled. Usual times for baptism are during or after the weekend Mass.

## Miscellaneous

### FRIENDLY REMINDER

Please keep your children from scribbling in the green music issues as many parishioners donated the books in memory of loved ones. Thank you!

**NEW CDS** from the Augustine Institute are available on the table by the coat closet.

### MOVING/ADDRESS CHANGES?

Are you moving or planning to move? If so, **please** let the parish office know in advance so we can change or stop mailing your offering envelopes. This saves postage.

**STAMPS & POSTMARKS:** A box is in the coat room for all cancelled stamps you may have. They are sent to the retired SSSF Sisters in Wisconsin where they are prepared for selling to stamp collectors. The revenue they receive helps maintain their convent.

## Calendar

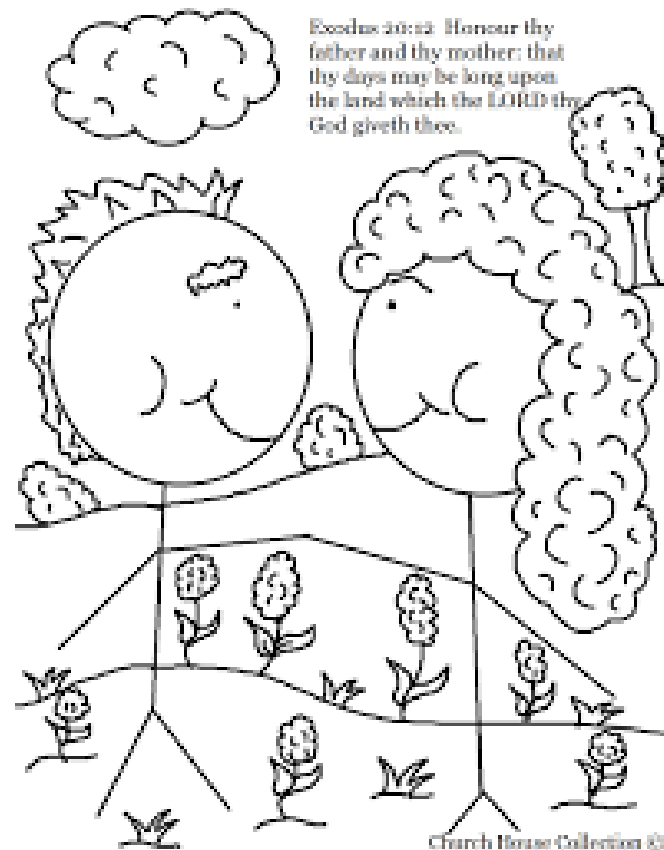
The church repair is done. Please check the web page for the most recent updates. We are currently streaming Mass. We also have weekend Mass in person on Sunday only at 10 am and 7 pm. We have daily Mass at 9 am Tuesday-Friday. For all Masses we require masks to be worn and social distancing to be observed.

Changes are on going. You should receive an email or text when there is a major change to schedule. If you have not been receiving notification please email [parishsecretary@aksaintandrew.org](mailto:parishsecretary@aksaintandrew.org) with current contact information.

Other uses of the church will be forthcoming in the following weeks and months, dependent on the state of the COVID pandemic,



## Kids' Corner: 4th Commandment—Honor thy Father & Mother



Church House Collection ©

## Tech Corner/ Miscellaneous Information

### CATHOLIC NETFLIX! —Formed.org

Your parish **has gifted** you with free unlimited access to the best **eBooks, talks, and videos** in the Church today. Register at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)

Parishioner code: **8MZ8B4**



### LOOKING FOR EWTN?

[www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)

Tune in to any of the following channels:

GCI 122 Dishnet 261

MTA-DTV 67 DirectTV 370

Copies of the EWTN programming schedules are placed in the Bulletin quarterly. EWTN Catholic television and radio has an App for the iPhone, iPad and Android phones.



Listen to Catholic Radio on **KHRM, 94.1 FM Anchorage**

## Church Ministries

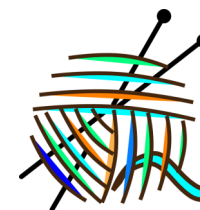
**Bereavement Support**  
**Communion to the Homebound**  
**Love INC**  
**Elizabeth Ministry**  
**St. Andrew Meal Ministry**  
**Respect Life Ministry**  
**Single Parent Fellowship**  
**Hospital Visits**  
**Prayer Chain**

### OUTREACH & SUPPORT

Parish Office—694-2170  
 Parish Office—694-2170  
 Virginia Marquez—632-0272  
 Jo Martin—688-4882  
 Barbara Peters—696-4164  
 Rashae Johnson 854-2997  
 Ann Marie Mabry— 227-4516  
 Joe Beaty—770-2300 694-3104  
 Jacki Augustine—694-4771

*Because of HIPAA laws, parishioners need to notify us if going to the hospital. Remember to request the Anointing of the Sick before surgery! Call the parish at 694-2170.*

### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Prayer shawls are knitted or crocheted with love and compassion. The prayer shawl ministry reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as celebration and joy.

The Ministry meets the 2nd and 3rd Monday of the Month in the Ladies Dressing Room. Contact Dolores @ 726-5345.

### LADIES GROUP

We are eagerly awaiting further developments that will accommodate our being able to meet again. Meanwhile, we are thinking about possibilities to carry on our mission once we are fully functioning and back together. We miss each and every one of you and hope you are doing well. You are in our thoughts and prayers.



### THE SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITE.

You are invited to visit The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelite. We study the power of contemplative prayer and the impact it can have in our Catholic Faith. Our monthly meetings introduce the categories of prayer as outlined in our Catholic Catechism. Additionally, we learn about the prayer lives of Carmelite Saints and how we can apply their spiritual prayer paths to our daily walk with God. Learn more by calling 907-602-2411 or 907-727-3372 or email [carmel907@gci.net](mailto:carmel907@gci.net).—Discalced Carmelite Seculars of Anchorage, AK.

**All scheduled events are subject to cancellation/rescheduling due to coronavirus pandemic/church closure**

## Religious Education

Families! Although Faith Formation and Youth Group will look different this year, please be sure to register online so I can communicate with you. We also need numbers to help know how many materials to order. Links to designated registrations are below:

Pre-K-5th Grade: <https://aksaintandrews.org/childrens-faith-formation>

Middle School (6th-8th): <https://aksaintandrews.org/middle-school-youth-group>

High School (9th-12th): <https://aksaintandrews.org/high-school-youth-group>

Contact Margaret with any questions regarding Youth Group/Formation: [Margaret@aksaintandrews.org](mailto:Margaret@aksaintandrews.org)

### SPRED

**(Special Religious Development)**  
**JESUS SAYS TO YOU TODAY,**  
**"I CALL YOU FRIEND"**

SPRED builds a community of Faith welcoming persons with developmental disabilities, so that they may find spiritual nourishment and opportunities to give glory to God. If you know someone who would benefit from this type of formation, or you want to volunteer for this most rewarding ministry please stop in the office or contact the parish chairperson email: Kate Green @ [spred.saintandrew@gmail.com](mailto:spred.saintandrew@gmail.com)



Relevant Radio® has been helping people bridge the gap between faith and everyday life through informative, entertaining, and interactive programming twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week. The Relevant Radio network is currently serving the Church by broadcasting coast-to-coast on 168 Owned and Operated and affiliate stations, reaching 220 million souls. Programming can be heard worldwide via streaming audio at [relevantradio.com](http://relevantradio.com) and on the mobile app.

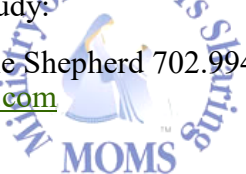
### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Fishers of Men: Monday nights 7pm in the Conference Room. We will resume again next Spring If anyone is interested and wants more information please contact Will Goolsby at [WilliamGoolsby@hotmail.com](mailto:WilliamGoolsby@hotmail.com).

### MOMS

The MOMS Ministry invites all women of the parish to join in our next study:

Contact: Donabelle Shepherd 702.994.9269  
[donabelle@gmail.com](mailto:donabelle@gmail.com)



## Financial Highlights

		St. Andrew Catholic Church		
		Offertory - August 2020		
			Building Fund	
		Offertory	& Debt Reduction	Total
Masses, Mail & Drop B		\$ 3,483.00	\$ 430.00	\$ 3,913.00
Given On-line		\$ 37,663.00	\$ 7,794.00	\$ 45,457.00
Earthquake Repair		\$ 350.00		\$ 350.00
Yurt		\$ 50.00		\$ 50.00
Total		\$ 41,546.00	\$ 8,224.00	\$ 49,770.00
Note: Donations received by mail were not counted until early September and will be included in the September report. Masses were online only in August.				

One bread one body	Last month cumulative	Current cumulative	Goal	% of Goal
Total Pledged	33457	36852	87,844	42%
Total Paid	27842	32578	87,844	37%
# of Parishioners	118	132	892	15%

## LOVE INC.

**Please continue to pray for OUR neighbors in need and pray that partners/donors will come forward!**

**WALK-INS:** Please inform our neighbors whom you are serving, that we are a call center not a walk-in center. Please call: (907) 250-1735.

Many of our neighbors are in serious financial trouble! So, we pray and give them guidance if they choose it. Assisting them with rent and utilities is challenging they really need to manage their time and finances! We will continue to assist them as we are able.

20090901 Please help: Single mother with two special needs children who is needing assistance to move into an apartment. She needs \$470 for the apartment and \$100 to turn on the electricity.

**20091101** Please help a single mother of three. They have been homeless since June 2020. Recently moved into a three bedroom duplex. They are in need of a couch, kitchen table and chairs, 4 beds, night stands, dressers, dishes, pots and pans, and utensils. They need bedding, towels, shower curtains, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, toilet tissue, broom and a vacuum cleaner. Hangers please!

### NEEDS IN THE EAGLE RIVER COMMUNITY

**LOVE INC--**Our Mission is to mobilize the Church to transform lives and communities in the Name of Christ. If you are in need of help, please call **907-726-5683**.

Our organization needs your contribution of volunteers, finances and donations to better serve our community. Can you contribute? Please call 250-1735 and let us know. [www.loveincfeagleriver.org](http://www.loveincfeagleriver.org)

Please donate to the Good Samaritan Fund: \$5, \$10 or \$20 month. This money will help our neighbors with utilities or gas cards. Please mail your donations to:

Rev. Gracie Jackson  
Executive Director  
P.O. Box 770833  
Eagle River, AK 99577

Office Location:  
11940 Business Blvd.  
Eagle River, AK 99577

**All scheduled events are subject to cancellation/  
rescheduling due to coronavirus pandemic/church closure**



THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT

*Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God gives you. He was obedient to them. The Lord Jesus himself recalled the force of this "commandment of God." The Apostle teaches: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother,' (This is the first commandment with a promise.) 'that it may be well with you and that you may live long on the earth.'"*

The fourth commandment opens the second table of the Decalogue. It shows us the order of charity. God has willed that, after him, we should honor our parents to whom we owe life and who have handed on to us the knowledge of God. We are obliged to honor and respect all those whom God, for our good, has vested with his authority.

This commandment is expressed in positive terms of duties to be fulfilled. It introduces the subsequent commandments which are concerned with particular respect for life, marriage, earthly goods, and speech. It constitutes one of the foundations of the social doctrine of the Church.

The fourth commandment is addressed expressly to children in their relationship to their father and mother, because this relationship is the most universal. It likewise concerns the ties of kinship between members of the extended family. It requires honor, affection, and gratitude toward elders and ancestors. Finally, it extends to the duties of pupils to teachers, employees to employers, subordinates to leaders, citizens to their country, and to those who administer or govern it.

This commandment includes and presupposes the duties of parents, instructors, teachers, leaders, magistrates, those who govern, all who exercise authority over others or over a community of persons.

Observing the fourth commandment brings its reward: "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land which the LORD your God gives you." Respecting this commandment provides, along with spiritual fruits, temporal fruits of peace and prosperity. Conversely, failure to observe it brings great harm to communities and to individuals.

I. THE FAMILY IN GOD'S PLAN

**The nature of the family**—The conjugal community is established upon the consent of the spouses. Marriage and the family are ordered to the good of the spouses and to the procreation and education of children. The love of the spouses and the begetting of children create among members of the same family personal relationships and primordial responsibilities.

A man and a woman united in marriage, together with their children, form a family. This institution is prior to any recognition by public authority, which has an obligation to recognize it. It should be considered the normal reference point by which the different forms of family relationship are to be evaluated.

In creating man and woman, God instituted the human family and endowed it with its fundamental constitution. Its members are persons equal in dignity. For the common good of its members and of society, the family necessarily has manifold responsibilities, rights, and duties.

**The Christian family**—"The Christian family constitutes a specific revelation and realization of ecclesial communion, and for this reason it can and should be called a *domestic church*." It is a community of faith, hope, and charity; it assumes singular importance in the Church, as is evident in the New Testament.

The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. In the procreation and education of children it reflects the Father's work of creation. It is called to partake of the prayer and sacrifice of Christ. Daily prayer and the reading of the Word of God strengthen it in charity. The Christian family has an evangelizing and missionary task.

The relationships within the family bring an affinity of feelings, affections and interests, arising above all from the members' respect for one another. The family is a *privileged community* called to achieve a "sharing of thought and common deliberation by the spouses as well as their eager cooperation as parents in the children's upbringing."

II. THE FAMILY AND SOCIETY

The family is the *original cell of social life*. It is the natural society in which husband and wife are called to give themselves in love and in the gift of life. Authority, stability, and a life of relationships within the family constitute the foundations for freedom, security, and fraternity within society. The family is the community in which, from childhood, one can learn moral values, begin to honor God, and make good use of freedom. Family life is an initiation into life in society.

The family should live in such a way that its members learn to care and take responsibility for the young, the old, the sick, the handicapped, and the poor. There are many families who are at times incapable of providing this help. It devolves then on other persons, other families, and, in a subsidiary way, society to provide for their needs: "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained from the world." The family must be helped and defended by appropriate social measures. Where families cannot fulfill their responsibilities, other social bodies have the duty of helping them and of supporting the institution of the family. Following the principle of subsidiarity, larger communities should take care not to usurp the family's prerogatives or interfere in its life.

The importance of the family for the life and well-being of society entails a particular responsibility for society to support and strengthen marriage and the family. Civil authority should consider it a grave duty "to acknowledge the true nature of marriage and the family, to protect and foster them, to safeguard public morality, and promote domestic prosperity."

The political community has a duty to honor the family, to assist it, and to ensure especially:

- the freedom to establish a family, have children, and bring them up in keeping with the family's own moral and religious convictions;
- the protection of the stability of the marriage bond and the institution of the family;
- the freedom to profess one's faith, to hand it on, and raise one's children in it, with the necessary means and institutions;
- the right to private property, to free enterprise, to obtain work and housing, and the right to emigrate;
- in keeping with the country's institutions, the right to medical care, assistance for the aged, and family benefits;
- the protection of security and health, especially with respect to dangers like drugs, pornography, alcoholism, etc.;
- the freedom to form associations with other families and so to have representation before civil authority.

The fourth commandment *illuminates other relationships in society*. In our brothers and sisters we see the children of our parents; in our cousins, the descendants of our ancestors; in our fellow citizens, the children of our country; in the baptized, the children of our mother the Church; in every human person, a son or daughter of the One who wants to be called "our Father." In this way our relationships with our neighbors are recognized as personal in character. The neighbor is not a "unit" in the human collective; he is "someone" who by his known origins deserves particular attention and respect.

Human communities are *made up of persons*. Governing them well is not limited to guaranteeing rights and fulfilling duties such as honoring contracts. Right relations between employers and employees, between those who govern and citizens, presuppose a natural good will in keeping with the dignity of human persons concerned for justice and fraternity.

III. THE DUTIES OF FAMILY MEMBERS

**The duties of children**—The divine fatherhood is the source of human fatherhood; this is the foundation of the honor owed to parents. The respect of children, whether minors or adults, for their father and mother<sup>17</sup> is nourished by the natural affection born of the bond uniting them. It is required by God's commandment.

Respect for parents (*filial piety*) derives from *gratitude* toward those who, by the gift of life, their love and their work, have brought their children into the world and enabled them to grow in stature, wisdom, and grace. "With all your heart honor your father, and do not forget the birth pangs of your mother. Remember that through your parents you were born; what can you give back to them that equals their gift to you?"

Filial respect is shown by true docility and *obedience*. "My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not your mother's teaching. . . . When you walk, they will lead you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk with you." "A wise son hears his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke."

As long as a child lives at home with his parents, the child should obey his parents in all that they ask of him when it is for his good or that of the family. "Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord."<sup>22</sup> Children should also obey the reasonable directions of their teachers and all to whom their parents have entrusted them. But if a child is convinced in conscience that it would be morally wrong to obey a particular order, he must not do so.

As they grow up, children should continue to respect their parents. They should anticipate their wishes, willingly seek their advice, and accept their just admonitions. Obedience toward parents ceases with the emancipation of the children; not so respect, which is always owed to them. This respect has its roots in the fear of God, one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The fourth commandment reminds grown children of their *responsibilities toward their parents*. As much as they can, they must give them material and moral support in old age and in times of illness, loneliness, or distress. Jesus recalls this duty of gratitude.

*For the Lord honored the father above the children, and he confirmed the right of the mother over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and whoever glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure. Whoever honors his father will be gladdened by his own children, and when he prays he will be heard. Whoever glorifies his father will have long life, and whoever obeys the Lord will refresh his mother. O son, help your father in his old age, and do not grieve him as long as he lives; even if he is lacking in understanding, show forbearance; in all your strength do not despise him. . . . Whoever forsakes his father is like a blasphemer, and whoever angers his mother is cursed by the Lord.*

Filial respect promotes harmony in all of family life; it also concerns *relationships between brothers and sisters*. Respect toward parents fills the home with light and warmth. "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged." "With all humility and meekness, with patience, [support] one another in charity."

For Christians a special gratitude is due to those from whom they have received the gift of faith, the grace of Baptism, and life in the Church. These may include parents, grandparents, other members of the family, pastors, catechists, and other teachers or friends. "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother and your mother and now, I am sure, dwells in you."

**The duties of parents**—The fecundity of conjugal love cannot be reduced solely to the procreation of children, but must extend to their moral education and their spiritual formation. "The *role of parents in education* is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute." The right and the duty of parents to educate their children are primordial and inalienable.

Parents must regard their children as *children of God* and respect them as *human persons*. Showing themselves obedient to the will of the Father in heaven, they educate their children to fulfill God's law.

Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by *creating a home* where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well suited for *education in the virtues*. This requires an apprenticeship in self-denial, sound judgment, and self-mastery - the preconditions of all true freedom. Parents should teach their children to subordinate the "material and instinctual dimensions to interior and spiritual ones." Parents have a grave responsibility to give good example to their children. By knowing how to acknowledge their own failings to their children, parents will be better able to guide and correct them:

*He who loves his son will not spare the rod. . . . He who disciplines his son will profit by him.*  
*Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

The home is the natural environment for initiating a human being into solidarity and communal responsibilities. Parents should teach children to avoid the compromising and degrading influences which threaten human societies.

Through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of *evangelizing their children*. Parents should initiate their children at an early age into the mysteries of the faith of which they are the "first heralds" for their children. They should associate them from their tenderest years with the life of the Church. A wholesome family life can foster interior dispositions that are a genuine preparation for a living faith and remain a support for it throughout one's life.

*Education in the faith* by the parents should begin in the child's earliest years. This already happens when family members help one another to grow in faith by the witness of a Christian life in keeping with the Gospel. Family catechesis precedes, accompanies, and enriches other forms of instruction in the faith. Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God. The parish is the Eucharistic community and the heart of the liturgical life of Christian families; it is a privileged place for the catechesis of children and parents. Children in turn contribute to the *growth in holiness* of their parents.<sup>36</sup> Each and everyone should be generous and tireless in forgiving one another for offenses, quarrels, injustices, and neglect. Mutual affection suggests this. The charity of Christ demands it.

Parents' respect and affection are expressed by the care and attention they devote to bringing up their young children and *providing for their physical and spiritual needs*. As the children grow up, the same respect and devotion lead parents to educate them in the right use of their reason and freedom.

As those first responsible for the education of their children, parents have the right to *choose a school for them* which corresponds to their own convictions. This right is fundamental. As far as possible parents have the duty of choosing schools that will best help them in their task as Christian educators. Public authorities have the duty of guaranteeing this parental right and of ensuring the concrete conditions for its exercise.

When they become adults, children have the right and duty to *choose their profession and state of life*. They should assume their new responsibilities within a trusting relationship with their parents, willingly asking and receiving their advice and counsel. Parents should be careful not to exert pressure on their children either in the choice of a profession or in that of a spouse. This necessary restraint does not prevent them - quite the contrary from giving their children judicious advice, particularly when they are planning to start a family. Some forgo marriage in order to care for their parents or brothers and sisters, to give themselves more completely to a profession, or to serve other honorable ends. They can contribute greatly to the good of the human family.

#### IV. THE FAMILY AND THE KINGDOM

Family ties are important but not absolute. Just as the child grows to maturity and human and spiritual autonomy, so his unique vocation which comes from God asserts itself more clearly and forcefully. Parents should respect this call and encourage their children to follow it. They must be convinced that the first vocation of the Christian is to *follow* Jesus: "He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." Becoming a disciple of Jesus means accepting the invitation to belong to *God's family*, to live in conformity with His way of life: "For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother, and sister, and mother."<sup>40</sup>

Parents should welcome and respect with joy and thanksgiving the Lord's call to one of their children to follow him in virginity for the sake of the Kingdom in the consecrated life or in priestly ministry.

#### V. THE AUTHORITIES IN CIVIL SOCIETY

God's fourth commandment also enjoins us to honor all who for our good have received authority in society from God. It clarifies the duties of those who exercise authority as well as those who benefit from it.

**Duties of civil authorities**—Those who exercise authority should do so as a service. "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant." The exercise of authority is measured morally in terms of its divine origin, its reasonable nature and its specific object. No one can command or establish what is contrary to the dignity of persons and the natural law.

The exercise of authority is meant to give outward expression to a just hierarchy of values in order to facilitate the exercise of freedom and responsibility by all. Those in authority should practice distributive justice wisely, taking account of the needs and contribution of each, with a view to harmony and peace. They should take care that the regulations and measures they adopt are not a source of temptation by setting personal interest against that of the community.

*Political authorities* are obliged to respect the fundamental rights of the human person. They will dispense justice humanely by respecting the rights of everyone, especially of families and the disadvantaged. The political rights attached to citizenship can and should be granted according to the requirements of the common good. They cannot be suspended by public authorities without legitimate and proportionate reasons. Political rights are meant to be exercised for the common good of the nation and the human community.

**The duties of citizens**—Those subject to authority should regard those in authority as representatives of God, who has made them stewards of his gifts:<sup>43</sup> "Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution. ...Live as free men, yet without using your freedom as a pretext for evil; but live as servants of God."<sup>44</sup> Their loyal collaboration includes the right, and at times the duty, to voice their just criticisms of that which seems harmful to the dignity of persons and to the good of the community.

It is the *duty of citizens* to contribute along with the civil authorities to the good of society in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity, and freedom. The love and service of *one's country* follow from the duty of gratitude and belong to the order of charity. Submission to legitimate authorities and service of the common good require citizens to fulfill their roles in the life of the political community. Submission to authority and co-responsibility for the common good make it morally obligatory to pay taxes, to exercise the right to vote, and to defend one's country:

*Pay to all of them their dues, taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due...[Christians] reside in their own nations, but as resident aliens. They participate in all things as citizens and endure all things as foreigners... They obey the established laws and their way of life surpasses the laws...So noble is the position to which God has assigned them that they are not allowed to desert it. The Apostle exhorts us to offer prayers and thanksgiving for kings and all who exercise authority, "that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, godly and respectful in every way."*

The more prosperous nations are obliged, to the extent they are able, to welcome the *foreigner* in search of the security and the means of livelihood which he cannot find in his country of origin. Public authorities should see to it that the natural right is respected that places a guest under the protection of those who receive him. Political authorities, for the sake of the common good for which they are responsible, may make the exercise of the right to immigrate subject to various juridical conditions, especially with regard to the immigrants' duties toward their country of adoption. Immigrants are obliged to respect with gratitude the material and spiritual heritage of the country that receives them, to obey its laws and to assist in carrying civic burdens.

The citizen is obliged in conscience not to follow the directives of civil authorities when they are contrary to the demands of the moral order, to the fundamental rights of persons or the teachings of the Gospel. *Refusing obedience* to civil authorities, when their demands are contrary to those of an upright conscience, finds its justification in the distinction between serving God and serving the political community. "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." We must obey God rather than men":

*When citizens are under the oppression of a public authority which oversteps its competence, they should still not refuse to give or to do what is objectively demanded of them by the common good; but it is legitimate for them to defend their own rights and those of their fellow citizens against the abuse of this authority within the limits of the natural law and the Law of the Gospel.*

Armed *resistance* to oppression by political authority is not legitimate, unless all the following conditions are met: 1) there is certain, grave, and prolonged violation of fundamental rights; 2) all other means of redress have been exhausted; 3) such resistance will not provoke worse disorders; 4) there is well-founded hope of success; and 5) it is impossible reasonably to foresee any better solution.

**The political community and the Church**—Every institution is inspired, at least implicitly, by a vision of man and his destiny, from which it derives the point of reference for its judgment, its hierarchy of values, its line of conduct. Most societies have formed their institutions in the recognition of a certain preeminence of man over things. Only the divinely revealed religion has clearly recognized man's origin and destiny in God, the Creator and Redeemer. The Church invites political authorities to measure their judgments and decisions against this inspired truth about God and man:

*Societies not recognizing this vision or rejecting it in the name of their independence from God are brought to seek their criteria and goal in themselves or to borrow them from some ideology. Since they do not admit that one can defend an objective criterion of good and evil, they arrogate to themselves an explicit or implicit totalitarian power over man and his destiny, as history shows.*

The Church, because of her commission and competence, is not to be confused in any way with the political community. She is both the sign and the safeguard of the transcendent character of the human person. "The Church respects and encourages the political freedom and responsibility of the citizen." It is a part of the Church's mission "to pass moral judgments even in matters related to politics, whenever the fundamental rights of man or the salvation of souls requires it. The means, the only means, she may use are those which are in accord with the Gospel and the welfare of all men according to the diversity of times and circumstances