

1st Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c - 26
Responsorial Psalm: 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20
2nd Reading: 1 Jn 4:11-16
Gospel: Jn 17:1-19

May 16, 2021



7th Sunday of Easter

Jesus prays for his disciples and for us. In this Sunday Gospel Jesus prays that his disciples be united, protect from evil, and that they be guided by the truth. These are all things we seek for our families and friends.

One of the greatest gifts that we are given in our family life is protection from harm. Families work together to keep one another safe from physical harm. Think of the effort a family makes to childproof its home for infants and toddlers. Families also work together to protect each other from emotional harm. For example, we attend to the ways in which family members talk to one another so that we do not hurt one another's feelings by our words. Most importantly, families work together to protect each other from those things that might harm them spiritually. We shield our children from those things in our culture that might tempt them. When families work together to strengthen their sense of God and community, they build the spiritual strength to turn from those things that would lead them away from God and the Church. Jesus' prayer for his disciples can also be a prayer for family life.

Gather as a family and talk about the things that you want most for each other. Talk about the fact that as we work toward these things, we also work to protect one another from harmful things. What do you want to protect each other from? Observe that in today's Gospel, Jesus shows these same two tendencies as he prays for something he wants for his disciples and prays for their protection as well. Consider what Jesus wants for his disciples and what Jesus wants to protect his disciples from. We know that when Jesus prayed for his disciples, he was praying for us as well.

Loyolapress.com

Faith Sharing Questions:

Question for Children: Name a time this past week when you knew that God was with you in a special way.

Question for Youth: Jesus prayed for his disciples, that others might believe in him through their words. How are you spreading your belief in Jesus through your words and actions? Do others know who Jesus is by knowing you?

Question for Adults: Jesus invites us to be one with God. Name a moment when you were one with God this past week.

lifelongcatechesis.osv.com

Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

Loyolapress.com - *Praying with Children: Blessings and Family Prayers* (Family Faith Builder)

Youtube.com - *Prayer* (Teens Faith Builder)

Youtube.com - *Bishop Barron on Prayer* (Adult Faith Builder)

Youtube.com - *The Worrywarts* - children's book [Readers explanation document](#) (Children Faith Builder)

ADOPT A SEMINARIAN DURING THE EASTERTIDE! Contact egarn@syrdio.org for more information!

The ABCs for Fostering Vocations

P Pray for the seminarians of the diocese by name if you can find out their names; you may want to "spiritually adopt" one of them.



God's Story: Prayer

Youtube.com - *God's Story: Prayer*



Where in the world...

FLY around the diocese to find the Traveling Icon and learn more about our diocese!

A GOOGLE EARTH ACTIVITY

May 15 - May 22.

On Thursday, May 13th we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of Jesus into heaven. Here are some activities that you might enjoy with your family.

[Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Activities](#)

[Celebrating the Solemnity of the Lord](#)



PRAYER OF THE WEEK

"True Prayer, like true faith, leads to care for others." — Pope Francis

[LINK](#)

