

Compiled by Michael Pekar for the Area Catholic Community of Harding, Pierz, Lastrup and Buckman.  
May not be copied or sold. For complete Catechism go to  
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/INDEX.HTM>

Excerpts from the English translation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church for use in the United States of America Copyright © 1994, United States Catholic Conference, Inc --- Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with Permission NOTE: The footnotes will not be the same number as the Catechism but the citations are the same.

August 10 Monday

CCC 1648 It can seem difficult, even impossible, to bind oneself for life to another human being. This makes it all the more important to proclaim the Good News that God loves us with a definitive and irrevocable love, that married couples share in this love, that it supports and sustains them, and that by their own faithfulness they can be witnesses to God's faithful love. Spouses, who with God's grace give this witness, often in very difficult conditions, deserve the gratitude and support of the ecclesial community.<sup>1</sup>

August 11 Tuesday

CCC 1653 The fruitfulness of conjugal love extends to the fruits of the moral, spiritual, and supernatural life that parents hand on to their children by education. Parents are the principal and first educators of their children.<sup>2</sup> In this sense the fundamental task of marriage and family is to be at the service of life.<sup>3</sup>

CCC 1654 Spouses to whom God has not granted children can nevertheless have a conjugal life full of meaning, in both human and Christian terms. Their marriage can radiate a fruitfulness of charity, of hospitality, and of sacrifice.

August 12 Wednesday

CCC 1656 In our own time, in a world often alien and even hostile to faith, believing families are of primary importance as centers of living, radiant faith. For this reason, the Second Vatican Council, using an ancient expression, calls the family the *Ecclesia domestica*.<sup>4</sup> It is in the bosom of the family that parents are "by word and example . . . the first heralds of the faith with regard to their children. They should encourage them in the vocation which is proper to each child, fostering with special care any religious vocation."<sup>5</sup>

August 13 Thursday

CCC 1657 It is here that the father of the family, the mother, children, and all members of the family exercise the priesthood of the baptized in a privileged way "by the reception of the sacraments, prayer and thanksgiving, the witness of a holy life, and self-denial and active charity."<sup>6</sup> Thus the home is the first school of Christian life and "a school for human enrichment."<sup>7</sup> Here one learns endurance and the joy of work, fraternal love, generous - even repeated - forgiveness, and above all divine worship in prayer and the offering of one's life.

---

<sup>1</sup> Cf. FC 20

<sup>2</sup> Cf. GE 3.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. FC 28.

<sup>4</sup> LG 11; cf. FC 21.

<sup>5</sup> LG 11.

<sup>6</sup> LG 10.

<sup>7</sup> GS 52 # 1.

August 14 Friday

CCC 1658 We must also remember the great number of single persons who, because of the particular circumstances in which they have to live - often not of their choosing - are especially close to Jesus' heart and therefore deserve the special affection and active solicitude of the Church, especially of pastors. Many remain without a human family often due to conditions of poverty. Some live their situation in the spirit of the Beatitudes, serving God and neighbor in exemplary fashion. The doors of homes, the "domestic churches," and of the great family which is the Church must be open to all of them. "No one is without a family in this world: the Church is a home and family for everyone, especially those who 'labor and are heavy laden.'"<sup>8</sup>

August 15 Saturday

CCC 1669 Sacramentals derive from the baptismal priesthood: every baptized person is called to be a "blessing," and to bless.<sup>9</sup>

CCC 1691 "Christian, recognize your dignity and, now that you share in God's own nature, do not return to your former base condition by sinning. Remember who is your head and of whose body you are a member. Never forget that you have been rescued from the power of darkness and brought into the light of the Kingdom of God."<sup>10</sup>

August 16 Sunday

CCC 1694 Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, Christians are "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" and so participate in the life of the Risen Lord.<sup>11</sup> Following Christ and united with him,<sup>12</sup> Christians can strive to be "imitators of God as beloved children, and walk in love"<sup>13</sup> by conforming their thoughts, words and actions to the "mind . . . which is yours in Christ Jesus,"<sup>14</sup> and by following his example.<sup>15</sup>

---

<sup>8</sup> FC 85; cf. ⇒ Mt 11:28.

<sup>9</sup> Cf. ⇒ Gen 12:2; ⇒ Lk 6:28; ⇒ Rom 12:14;  
⇒ 1 Pet 3:9

<sup>10</sup> St. Leo the Great Sermo 22 in nat. Dom., 3: PL 54, 192C.

<sup>11</sup> ⇒ Rom 6:11 and cf. ⇒ 6:5; cf. ⇒ Col 2:12.

<sup>12</sup> Cf. ⇒ Jn 15:5.

<sup>13</sup> ⇒ Eph 5:1-2.

<sup>14</sup> ⇒ Phil 2:5.

<sup>15</sup> Cf. ⇒ Jn 13:12-16.