



Roots & Wings

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The Sixth Commandment: You shall not commit adultery

(Exodus 20:14)

By Laurie Liesen

While the Sixth Commandment is a prohibition against adultery for married couples, it also calls for all of us to keep our promises and to regard our sexuality as sacred. Adultery not only hurts others, it also destroys one's soul. Therefore, within the context of marriage the sixth commandment promotes fidelity and considers our sexuality as a means of communication expressing a covenant based on love.



Thou shalt
not commit
adultery.

Exodus 20:14

Not only does this commandment call for fidelity to one's marriage promises, it also implies the sacredness of the family. It "speaks of the sacredness of the person and the importance of a permanent relationship based on love and the nurturing of children" (McBride 1990:80).

At the same time, this commandment does not only apply to married persons. It is a call for everyone to live chaste lives, which means that we should not be controlled by our passions or desires.

To live lives of chastity means that "human sexuality should be integrated into the full humanity of the person and not just considered a physical act" (McBride 2001). In sum, the Church teaches that human sexuality should be expressed in the context of marriage, and the Sixth Commandment calls all persons to honor themselves and treat ones' sexuality as sacred.

Aquinas, St. Thomas (1992). *God's Greatest Gifts: Commentaries on the Commandments and the Sacraments*. Manchester, NH: Sophia Institute Press.

Catechism of the Catholic Church (1995). New York: Doubleday.

Stockert, Fr. Hal (1997). "Decalogue—The Ten Commandments Today." *Catholic Information Network*. www.cin.org/wwdec2.html. Accessed 17 December 2003.

The IJP Catholic Life Committee and the Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter are teaming up for Easter Baskets for Seniors

We're looking for IJP families, clubs and organizations to adopt a senior citizen and provide items to fill Easter baskets. The senior citizens involved are residents of nursing homes or hospice care centers. Some of the items needed could be: non-perishable food items, health and beauty items, homemade cards, etc. and the total cost would be between \$10-\$25 per basket. Once you "adopt" your senior we'll give you specific ideas. If your family or group is interested in taking on this worthwhile, Lenten project, please fill out the information below and return it to the IJP school or religious education office by Friday, March 2 marked "Catholic Life Committee" If you have any questions, please call Natalie Lamb at 708 748 3909 or seslam@ameritech.net or Nadine DiNuzzo at IJP School or dinuzzo@aol.com.

Name: _____

Phone: _____



Lent: A Call to Conversion

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 21. As Catholics, we have many traditions and practices that we need to understand during this season. For example:

What does the word “Lent” mean?:

It comes from the Anglo-Saxon word “lengthen” which means “Spring”.

Why do we give things up for Lent?

We give things up as a step towards conversion, or turning our lives over to Christ. This always involves giving up sin in some form.

Why the ashes?

Ashes are an ancient symbol of repentance. Being marked with ashes shows that our lives on earth will end (“remember you are dust and to dust you shall return”) and one day we will stand before God and be judged.

For more information on these and other Lenten practices see www.americancatholic.org.

February Prayer

For My Family:

Loving God, thank you so much for my family. Bless my parents, my brothers and sisters: heal our quarrels, bind us close. I place our family in your care since your love for us is so life-giving. Bless all families.

Keep us close to one another and to you.
Amen



“And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.”

Mark 10:16

Books about Faithfulness

These materials are available through your local library as well as Metropolitan Library System. Check out the IJP library for books with the “Our Catholic Culture” label.

Ages 5-8:

Munson, Derek; Enemy Pie. Hoping that the enemy pie which his father makes will help him get rid of his enemy, a little boy finds that instead it helps make a new friend.

Spinelli, Eileen; Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch. An anonymous valentine changes the life of the unsociable Mr. Hatch, turning him into a laughing friend.

Buehner, Carolyn; Superdog: The Heart of a Hero. Tired of being overlooked because he is so small, a big-hearted dog named Dexter transforms himself into a superhero.

Christiansen, Candace; The Mitten Tree. Old Sarah knits mittens for all the children waiting for the school bus and hangs them on the blue spruce tree at the bus stop.

Ages 8-11:

White, Ruth; Tadpole. In rural Kentucky in 1955, Serilda Collins, single mother of four lively girls, discovers that her orphaned nephew is being subjected to brutality.

Cleary, Beverly; Ribsy. Separated from his owner, Henry Huggins, in a shopping center parking lot, an ordinary city dog begins a string of bewildering adventures.

Creech, Sharon; Granny Torrelli Makes Soup. With the help of her wise old grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, Bailey, the boy next door.

DiCamillo, Kate; Because of Winn-Dixie. Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

Hurwitz, Johanna; Aldo Ice Cream. Nine-year-old Aldo discovers the pleasures of doing volunteer work to help the older citizens of the community and the satisfactions of earning his first money on his own for unselfish reasons.

Newman, Lesléa; Hachiko Waits. Professor Ueno's loyal Akita, Hachiko, waits for him at the train station every afternoon, and even after the professor has a fatal heart attack while at work, Hachiko faithfully continues to await his return until the day the dog dies. Based on a true story.

Ages 10-13:

Hesse, Karen; Phoenix Rising. Thirteen-year-old Nyle learns about relationships and death when fifteen-year-old Ezra, who was exposed to radiation leaked from a nearby nuclear plant, comes to stay at her grandmother's Vermont farmhouse.

Paterson, Katherine; Bridge to Terabithia. The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer who subsequently meets an untimely death trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm. Please note: Swear words are used.

Adult:

Unell, Barbara C.; 20 Teachable Virtues: Practical Ways to Pass on Lessons of Virtue and Character to Your Children. This book demonstrates the simple ways that you can teach your children to care about others – and about themselves. By using everyday time together, you can pass on the lessons of virtue that are most important to your family.