



Taming the Turbulence

Finding Rest in God

Our Lady of the Fields Church

March 6, 2021

RETREAT SCHEDULE

9:30 Daily Mass

10:00 First Saturday prayers and the Rosary recited (see pages 4 - 5)

10:30 Introductions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (pg. 6)

10:45 Talk 1- Taming Inner Turbulence (pg.10)

Reflection Time (options 1 through 4, pp. 11-17)

11:20 Talk 2- Taming Family Turbulence (pg. 18)

Reflection Time (options 1 through 3, pp. 19-23)

11:55 Eucharistic Benediction (pg. 7)

NOTE: Confessions will be available during the retreat and for as long after Benediction as is necessary. (An Examination of Conscience for Married Persons, pp. 8-9)

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

History

The First Saturday (of the month) Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary was first mentioned by Our Lady of Fatima on July 13, 1917. After showing the three children a vision of hell she said, *“You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace... I shall come to ask for... the Communion of reparation on the first Saturdays...”*

Eight years later, on December 10, 1925, the most holy Virgin Mary appeared to Sister Lucia, and by the Virgin’s side, elevated on a luminous cloud, was a Child. The most holy Virgin rested her hand on Lucia’s shoulder, and as she did, she showed Lucia a heart encircled by thorns, which she was holding in her other hand. At the same time, the Child Jesus said:

“Have compassion on the Heart of your most holy Mother, covered with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is no one to make an act of reparation to remove them.”

Then the most holy Virgin Mother said:

“Look, my daughter, at my Heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce me at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console me and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen decades of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me.” (Fatima in Lucia’s Own Words: Sister Lucia’s Memoirs)

Note carefully the requirements for fulfilling the five First Saturday’s of devotion in reparation to Our Lady:

- ~ going to confession (may be 8 days before or after the First Saturday)
- ~ receiving Holy Communion
- ~ praying five decades of the Holy Rosary
- ~ meditating on the Mysteries of the Rosary

FIRST SATURDAY PRAYERS

Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (*pray together aloud*)

O Most Sweet Virgin Mary, we consecrate ourselves, our home, and our family to your Immaculate Heart. Watch over us with your motherly love. Help us to draw closer to your son, Jesus, especially present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. May your motherly mantle be over us day and night to protect us from sin, that we may not renew the wounds in the Sacred Heart of your Son. Be to us, O Mother most sweet, our Helper, our Protector, our Mediatrix, and our sure road to Jesus. And just as you crushed the head of the Evil One, the Deceiving Serpent, vanquish in us anything that keeps us attached to sin and temptation, that we may live, like you, for God alone. Give us the strength and courage to live and proclaim the Gospel of life and love, often contradicted in today's world and in our own culture.

And finally, O Mother Most Pure, grant us the gift of chastity according to our state in life. Grant us holiness and faithfulness to Holy Mother Church, and final perseverance. AMEN.

Fatima Prayers (*pray together aloud*)

(Pardon Prayer) My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love you. I implore Your pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love You. AMEN.

(Angels Prayer) Most Holy Trinity- Father, Son, Holy Spirit- I adore You profoundly and offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the earth, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifference by which He Himself is offended. And by the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart and those of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners. AMEN

(Eucharistic Prayer) Most Holy Trinity, I adore you! My God, my God, I love you in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

(Penance Prayer) O My Jesus, I offer this love of Thee, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Marian Invocations (*leader prays all respond "pray for us"*)

O Mary, eternally predestined Mother of God	<i>pray for us.</i>
O Mary, favorite Daughter of the Father	<i>pray for us.</i>
O Mary, Mother of the Redeemer	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, Temple of the Holy Spirit	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, our most Beloved Mother	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, conceived with the splendors of holiness	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, whom Elizabeth greeted as blessed	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, who believed in the promise of salvation	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, who gave life to the world	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, joyfully showing Jesus to Shepherds and Magi	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, handmaid of the Lord	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, devoted to the Person and work of Jesus	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, whose prayer obtained a miracle at Cana	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, advancing in your pilgrimage of Faith	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, united with Jesus unto the Cross	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, who implored the gifts of the Holy Spirit	<i>pray for us</i>
O Mary, who aided the Church by prayers	<i>pray for us</i>

○ Mary, taken up to heaven in body and soul	<i>pray for us</i>
○ Mary, exalted above all angels and men	<i>pray for us</i>
○ Mary, caring for the members of Christ on earth	<i>pray for us</i>
○ Mary, to whom Christians raise their eyes	<i>pray for us</i>
○ Mary, one with us in our need for salvation	<i>pray for us</i>
○ Mary, highest in the Church after Christ	<i>pray for us</i>
○ Mary, model of all virtues	<i>pray for us</i>
○ Mary, sign of sure hope and comfort	<i>pray for us</i>
○ Mary, shining forth until the day of the Lord	<i>pray for us</i>
○ Mary, whom all generations call blessed!	<i>pray for us</i>
AMEN	

Let us pray:

Hail, holy Lady, most holy Queen, Mary, Mother of God, ever Virgin. You were chosen by the Most High Father in heaven, consecrated by Him, with His Most Holy Beloved Son and the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. On you descended and still remains all the fullness of grace and every good.

Hail, His Palace. Hail, His Tabernacle. Hail, His Robe. Hail, His Handmaid. Hail, His Mother. Hail, all Holy Virtues, who by grace and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, are poured into the hearts of the faithful so that from our faithless state, we may be made faithful servants of God through you. AMEN.

The Rosary- Joyful Mysteries *(each decade is led by a leader who starts the prayers and then the group completed them out loud together)*

The Annunciation

The Visitation

The Nativity

The Presentation

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

Devotion to St. Joseph *(prayed aloud together)*

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation, and having implored the help of your most holy spouse, Mary, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through the charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ had purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful Guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O most mighty protector, be propitious to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness, and, as once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die holy, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. AMEN

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION

Exposition: Please kneel.

The priest will lead the people in chanting the following hymn while the Eucharist is being placed into the monstrance:

O salutaris Hostia
Quae caeli pandis ostium;
Bella premunt hostilia,
Da robur, fer auxilium.

Uni trinoque Domino
Sit sempiterna gloria,
Qui vitam sine termino
Nobis donet in patria. Amen.

After Eucharistic exposition, you may continue kneeling in prayer or be seated as you wish. The first talk will begin shortly after exposition.

There will be two short periods of adoration and prayer time this morning. Remember, Jesus wants to speak with you in a personal way. There is no right way to pray during Eucharistic adoration, and all you need to bring is an open heart, ready to encounter the living presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Benediction: Please kneel.

The priest will again lead the people in chanting the following hymn:

Tantum ergo Sacramentum
Veneremur cernui:
Et antiquum documentum
Novo cedat ritui;
Praestet fides supplementum
Sensuum defectui.

Genetori, Genitoque
Laus et jubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedictio:
Procedenti ab utroque
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.

The priest prays: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of your suffering and death. May our worship of this sacrament of your Body and Blood help us to experience the salvation you won for us and the peace of the kingdom where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

The people respond: AMEN.

The priest and the people then recite the Divine Praises:

Blessed be God.
Blessed be his holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.
Blessed be his most Precious Blood.
Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.
Blessed be her glorious assumption.
Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.
Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

After the prayer the priest will put on the humeral veil, genuflect, and take the monstrance. He will make the sign of the cross over the people with the monstrance in silence.

AN EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE FOR MARRIED PERSONS

Responsibilities to God:

Have I gone to Mass every Sunday? Have I participated at Mass or have I day dreamed or been present with a blank mind?
Have I prayed every day (15-20 minutes)?
Have I read the Bible? Have I studied the truths of our faith and allowed them to become more part of the way I think and act? Have I read any spiritual books or religious literature?
Have I told God that I want to love him with my whole heart, mind and strength? Do I hold any resentments toward God?
Have I recognized my need for Jesus and his salvation? Have I asked the Holy Spirit to empower me to live the Christian life, to be a proper husband/wife and parent?
Have I been financially generous to the Church? Have I participated in parish or religious activities?
Have I held resentments toward the Church or Church authorities? Have I forgiven them?

Responsibilities to my spouse:

Have I cared for my spouse? Have I been generous with my time? Have I been affectionate and loving? Have I told my spouse that I love him or her?
Have I been concerned about the spiritual well-being of my spouse?
Have I listened to my spouse? Have I paid attention to his or her concerns, worries, and problems?
Have I sought these out?
Have I allowed resentments and bitterness toward my spouse to take root in my mind? Have I nurtured these?
Have I forgiven my spouse for the wrongs he or she has committed against me?
Have I allowed misunderstanding, miscommunication or accidents to cause anger and mistrust? Have I nurtured critical and negative thoughts about my spouse?
Have I manipulated my spouse in order to get my own way?
Have I tried to bully or overpower my spouse?
Have I spoken sharply or sarcastically to my spouse? Have I spoken in a demeaning or negative way?
Have I injured my spouse through taunting and negative teasing? Have I called my spouse harsh names or used language that is not respectful?
Have I physically abused my spouse?
Have I gossiped about my spouse?
Have I undermined the authority and dignity of my spouse through disrespect and rebelliousness?
Have I been moody and sullen?
Have I bickered with my spouse out of stubbornness and selfishness?
Have I lied or been deceitful to my spouse?
Have I misused sexuality? Have I used sexual relations solely for my own selfish pleasure? Have I been too demanding in my desire for sexual fulfillment? Have I been loving and physically affectionate in my sexual relations or have I used sexual relations in a way that would be demeaning or disrespectful to my spouse?
Have I refused sexual relations out of laziness, revenge or manipulation?
Have I refused to conceive children out of selfishness or material greed? Have I used artificial means of contraception?
Have I had an abortion or encouraged others to have one?
Have I masturbated?
Have I flirted or fostered improper relationships with someone else, either in my mind or through words and actions?
Have I used pornography: books, magazines or movies?
Have I committed adultery?
Have I misused alcohol or drugs?
Have I been financially responsible?

Responsibilities to children:

Have I cared for the spiritual needs of my children? Have I been a shepherd and guardian as God has appointed me? Have I tried to foster a Christian family where Jesus is Lord? Have I taught my children the Gospel and the commandments of God?

Have I prayed with them?

Have I been persistent and courageous in my training and teaching? Have I disciplined them when necessary?

Have I been lazy and apathetic?

Have I talked with them to find out their problems, concerns and fears? Have I been affectionate toward them?

Have I hugged them and told them that I love them? Have I played or recreated with them?

Have I been impatient and frustrated with them? Have I corrected them out of love in order to teach them what is right and good? Have I treated them with respect? Have I spoken to them in a sarcastic or demeaning way?

Have I held resentments against them? Have I forgiven them?

Have I been of one heart and mind with my spouse in the upbringing of the children? Or have I allowed disagreements and dissension to disrupt the training, educating and disciplining of our children?

Have I undermined the role of authority in the eyes of my children by speaking negatively against God, the Church, my spouse or others who hold legitimate authority over them?

Have I been a good Christian witness to my children in what I say and do? Or do I demand one standard for them and another for myself?

Have I been properly generous with my children regarding money and physical and material well-being?

Have I been miserly? Have I been extravagant, thus spoiling them?

Responsibilities to society:

Have I been a Christian witness to those with whom I work or associate? Have I spoken to anyone about the Gospel and how important it is to believe in Jesus?

Have I held resentments and anger against those with whom I work, relatives or friends? Have I forgiven them?

Have I been unethical in my business dealings? Have I stolen or lied?

Have I allowed the Gospel to influence my political and social opinions?

Have I had a proper Christian concern for the poor and needy?

Have I paid my taxes?

Have I fostered or nurtured hatred toward my “political” enemies, either local, national or international?

Have I been prejudiced toward others because of race, color, religion or social status?

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Talk 1: Taming Inner Turbulence

Note Page

REFLECTION AND PRAYER TIME

The following ideas are only suggestions for ways to reflect and hear his voice in your life. Please feel free to use any of the following (or none of them at all!) to guide you so that you will spend the time in a way that you think will most allow you to connect with Jesus.

Option 1: Pray with Scripture: Genesis 3:1-13 The Fall of Adam and Eve

Read the following passage slowly, asking the Lord to speak through the words to you personally. The questions that follow are meant to help you reflect and apply the questions to your own life. Feel free to use the space to write out your thoughts or simply work through the questions mentally with Jesus.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?'² The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden;³ but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die;⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God,⁶ knowing good and evil.'⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

⁸ They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?'¹⁰ He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.'¹¹ He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?'¹² The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.'¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.'

Reflection questions:

1. Scripture says that a "serpent" came into the garden. But many translations indicate that this creature was a large and frightening monster, intimidating and foreign to Adam and Eve. Because of the threat of his presence, Adam and Eve were truly scared. What are the specific circumstances in your life right now that seem overwhelming or frightening to you?

4. When God questioned Adam and Eve about their actions, their first response was to blame someone else. Who might you be blaming for your circumstances right now? What could you do to counter the feelings of anger, hopelessness or frustration you are currently facing? Even though you might not have control over your circumstances, we do have control over our attitudes about them. Which of our attitudes or feelings do we need God's help with to change?

5. The Church offers us remedies and graces to battle our inclination to turn away from God. Our baptism gives us the initial graces for the strength to nurture our relationship with God. But we are further strengthened with grace in the Eucharist, Reconciliation, Eucharistic adoration and private prayer. What is one small change you can make in your own life to more regularly or more deeply nurture this grace in your own life? How would receiving this grace help you gain strength to face the circumstances that feel so overwhelming right now?

Option 2: Pray the Litany of Trust (written by the Sisters of Life www.sistersoflife.org)

From the belief that
I have to earn Your love
Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear that I am unlovable
Deliver me, Jesus.
From the false security
that I have what it takes
Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear that trusting You
will leave me more destitute
Deliver me, Jesus.
From all suspicion of
Your words and promises
Deliver me, Jesus.
From the rebellion against
childlike dependency on You
Deliver me, Jesus.
From refusals and reluctances
in accepting Your will
Deliver me, Jesus.
From anxiety about the future
Deliver me, Jesus.
From resentment or excessive
preoccupation with the past
Deliver me, Jesus.
From restless self-seeking
in the present moment
Deliver me, Jesus.
From disbelief in Your love
and presence
Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being asked
to give more than I have
Deliver me, Jesus.
From the belief that my life
has no meaning or worth
Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of what love demands
Deliver me, Jesus.
From discouragement
Deliver me, Jesus.

That You are continually holding me
sustaining me, loving me
Jesus, I trust in you.
That Your love goes deeper than my
sins and failings, and transforms me
Jesus, I trust in you.
That not knowing what tomorrow
brings is an invitation to lean on You
Jesus, I trust in you.
That you are with me in my suffering
Jesus, I trust in you.
That my suffering, united to Your own,
will bear fruit in this life and the next
Jesus, I trust in you.
That You will not leave me orphan,
that You are present in Your Church
Jesus, I trust in you.
That Your plan is better
than anything else
Jesus, I trust in you.
That You always hear me and in
Your goodness always respond to me
Jesus, I trust in you.
That You give me the grace to accept
forgiveness and to forgive others
Jesus, I trust in you.
That You give me all the strength
I need for what is asked
Jesus, I trust in you.
That my life is a gift
Jesus, I trust in you.
That You will teach me to trust You
Jesus, I trust in you.
That You are my Lord and my God
Jesus, I trust in you.
That I am Your beloved one
Jesus, I trust in you.
Amen.

Option 3: Pray with Scripture: Mark 4:35-41 Jesus quiets the storm

Read the following passage slowly, asking the Lord to speak through the words to you personally. The questions that follow are meant to help you reflect and apply the questions to your own life. Feel free to use the space to write out your thoughts or simply work through the questions mentally with Jesus.

³⁵ On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." ³⁶ And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷ A great wind-storm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸ But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹ He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰ He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹ And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Reflection Questions:

1. The disciples took Jesus with them as they left the crowd. When are the times in your life that you switch from one activity to the other? How often do you think about taking Jesus with you as you switch activities? How might the transitions in your daily life be changed if you took a moment to consciously invite Jesus to go with you through that transition to the next activity?

2. The storm approached suddenly and seemed to threaten the integrity of the boat's ability to get the disciples and Jesus safely to their destination. What are the specific storms in your life right now that appear to be threatening your own emotional integrity?

5. The Church offers us remedies and graces to help us invite Jesus into the storms of our lives. Our baptism gives us the initial graces for the strength to nurture our relationship with God. But we are further strengthened with grace in the Eucharist, Reconciliation, Eucharistic adoration and private prayer. What is one small change you can make in your own life to more regularly or more deeply nurture this grace in your own life? How would receiving this grace give you strength to face the current storms of your life?

Option 4: Pray a decade of the rosary

While recalling one of the mysteries of the rosary below, pray one Our Father, ten Hail Mary's, one Glory Be followed by the Fatima prayer:

O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are in most need of Thy mercy.

The Joyful Mysteries

The Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary
The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth
The Nativity of Jesus
The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple
Finding the Child Jesus in the Temple

The Sorrowful Mysteries

The Agony in the Garden
The Scourging at the Pillar
The Crowning with Thorns
The Carrying of the Cross
The Crucifixion

The Luminous Mysteries

The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan
The Wedding Feast at Cana
The Proclamation of the Gospel
The Transfiguration
The Institution of the Eucharist

The Glorious Mysteries

The Resurrection
The Ascension into Heaven
The Descent of the Holy Spirit
The Assumption of Mary into Heaven
The Crowning of Mary, Queen of Heaven

Talk 2: Taming Family Turbulence
Note Page

3. How does your home reflect or imitate the Church? In what ways did the past year impact the ways in which your family creates “community”? Which of those things will you keep going forward? What other things can you do to help your family be a community?

4. Which virtue do you think is most needed in your home right now? What are some ways you can begin to foster the practice of that virtue?

5. What are the ways you see Christian charity being practiced in your home? Where are some areas that the Lord can help you and your family work together to foster greater charity in your home?

Option 2: Pray the Prayer for the Family

O God of goodness and mercy,
to Thy fatherly guidance we commend our family,
our household and all our belongings.
We commit all to Thy love and keeping;
do Thou fill this house with Thy blessings
even as Thou didst fill the holy House of Nazareth with
Thy presence.
Keep far from us, above all else,
the blemish of sin,
and do Thou alone reign in our midst by Thy law,
by Thy most holy love
and by the exercise of every Christian virtue.
Let each one of us obey Thee,
love Thee and set himself to follow in his own life Thine
example,
that of Mary, Thy Mother
and our Mother most loving,
and that of Thy blameless guardian, Saint Joseph.

Protect us and our house from all evils and misfortunes,
but grant that we may be ever resigned to Thy divine will
even in the sorrows which it shall please Thee to send us.
Finally give unto all of us the grace to live in perfect
harmony
and in the fullness of love toward our neighbor.
Grant that every one of us may deserve by a holy life
the comfort of Thy holy Sacraments at the hour of death.
O Jesus, bless us and protect us.

O Mary, Mother of grace and of mercy,
defend us against the wicked spirit,
reconcile us with Thy Son,
commit us to His keeping,
that so we may be made worthy of His promises.

Saint Joseph, foster-father of our Savior,
guardian of His holy Mother,
head of the Holy Family,
intercede for us,
bless us and defend our home at all times.
AMEN.

Option 3: Pray with Spiritual Writing

“Saint Joseph’s response to Mary’s pregnancy is a model for us. Our spiritual father teaches us how to be just and reverent in the face of all sorts of events. He teaches us to give God his due even if it requires us to be willing to sacrifice everything we love. Our spiritual father teaches us that we should not act hastily or harshly when we encounter perplexing situations. We are to take everything to prayer, and wait on the Lord for guidance and light. If we are loving, faithful, reverent, and just, God will reveal everything to us and make us abundantly fruitful.”
Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC Consecration to St. Joseph

1. What sorts of situations have made it challenging for you to be “just and reverent” in the midst of them? Where have you seen your children challenged?

2. What makes it challenging for you to “give God his due” (that is first priority and place in your life) in your day to day living? How about in the midst of specific challenges?

