

I have told you this so that my own joy
may be in you and your joy be complete.
This is my commandment:

LOVE
ONE
ANOTHER
AS I
HAVE
LOVED
YOU

John 15:11-12

Parish of St Vincent de Paul
presents
Feast Day Novena 2018

*"THE JOY OF LOVE
IN THE FAMILY"*

12 Sept-23 Sept
(Monday-Friday 8pm
Saturday & Sunday 6pm)
(23 Sept- 7am 9am 11am 6pm)



Church of St Vincent de Paul Feast Day Novena 2018

"The Joy of Love in the Family"

Night of Reflections 21 Sep 2018

DAY 1

The Vocation of the Family

We are all called
to a life of holiness, of love and of fidelity.

- Do I recognise the sacredness of my calling as the bride of Christ, the Bridegroom?
- How can I help my family to be a cradle of Life, of Faith, of Love and of Holiness?

DAY 2

The Family as the Domestic Church

Every family is called to be *ecclesia domestica*,
a Domestic Church - sanctuaries of God
where He lives and reigns.

- Is my family a sleeping church or a living church?

DAY 2

The Family as the Domestic Church

Five Models of Church

1. Church as Institution

- How am I Teaching faith in my family, Sanctifying my family by my example, and Governing my family with protection and love?

DAY 2

The Family as the Domestic Church

Five Models of Church

2. Church as Mystical Union

- How is my family living together in harmony, communicating face to face with each other?

DAY 2

The Family as the Domestic Church

Five Models of Church

3. Church as Herald of Good News

- How am I embodying the Good News to my family, that I may be the “best translation” of the Gospel?

DAY 2

The Family as the Domestic Church

Five Models of Church

4. Church as Servant

- How am I serving my family with humility, love and forgiveness as Christ has washed my feet?

DAY 2

The Family as the Domestic Church

Five Models of Church

5. Church as Universal Sacrament

- How is my family evangelising to others in my neighbourhood by our example?

DAY 3

The Christian Family in a Secular Society

- Where do I place God and family within my priorities in life?
- What “small stuff” do I have to let go off so as to place God and family first?

DAY 4

Growing in Love in Family Life

- How am I loving my family intimately, generously and joyfully?
- How is my family loving others intimately, generously and joyfully?

DAY 5

Carrying the Cross in Family Life

- Do I believe that only God can turn our mourning into dancing and our sorrow into joy?
- What is the next “one step at a time” I can take to carry the crosses I face in my family life?

DAY 6

Prayer in Family Life

- Do I believe that the family schooled in prayer is the best insurance against broken homes and families?
- Have I prayed with deep faith, persistence, humility and forgiveness?
- How can I make prayer with my spouse and children a deeper reality in my life?

DAY 7

Christian Husband and Wife

- Do I treasure what attracted me to my spouse, work hard for my marriage, and forgive my spouse?
- How can I better compromise with, appreciate and communicate with my spouse?

DAY 8

Christian Parents and Children

“Go home and love your children”

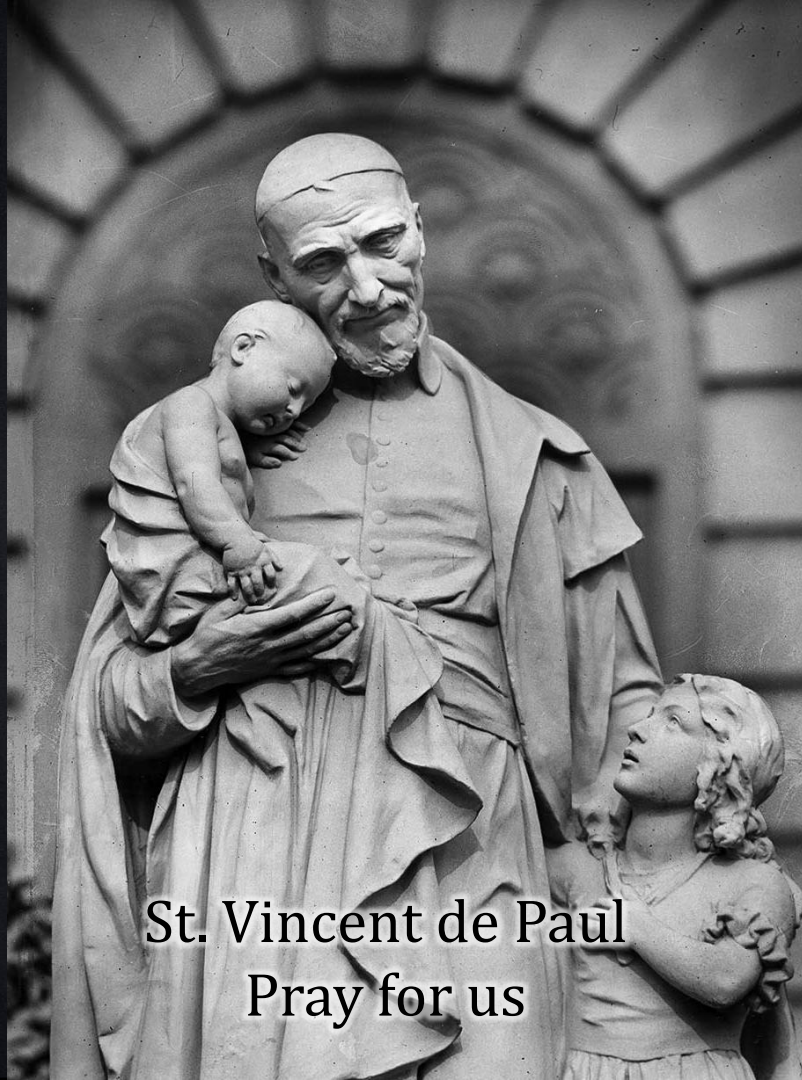
- Mother Teresa

- Do I know the love languages that my children prefer? (Affirmation, Time, Gift of Presence, Physical Touch and Acts of Service)
- Have I loved my children only as how I would like to love them?

DAY 9

The Evangelical Family

- How can my family and I be salt (taste, preserve, destroy) and light in our neighbourhood and workplace?
- How is Christ calling my family and I to be His hands and feet with the gifts He has given us?



St. Vincent de Paul
Pray for us

Dear Lord,

We thank you for the abundant blessings you have granted to our parish family. Look with favour on all the families of our parish. Grant that our parish family and all the families that have been consecrated, be strengthened and grow in faith and that they will continue to be inspired by the spirit of charity, simplicity and brotherly love so that all our efforts to be free of worldly interests and desires will be pleasing to you.

You know Lord, our spiritual and material needs. Lord, have mercy on us and grant them. Help also any of our sisters and brothers who may be suffering in any way. Grant them strength, peace and confidence. May their sufferings and ours be acceptable to you.

O Lord, we ask this through the intercession of Mary, our Mother and St Vincent de Paul, our Patron, to unite us one day in heaven with our families and friends.

Amen.