

# LIVING FAITH



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S

*16th  
Sunday  
Ordinary  
Time*

July 22, 2018

THE GOSPEL FOR  
TODAY Mark 6:30-34

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

## TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

In today's Gospel, the disciples, sent out in last week's Gospel story to proclaim the Good News, return, and Jesus takes them away to an isolated place in order to allow them to share their experiences, pray over them, and grow from them. But Jesus' plans are tossed aside when He is followed by the crowd. Instead of devoting His time to His disciples, Jesus directs His attention and love to the hungry crowd. He is moved with compassion for them, because they need Him. He recognizes that they are like sheep without a shepherd, and He begins to teach them.

Do you ever find that you "never get anything done" because of the demands people place on you? Sometimes we can get angry and upset by this. Jesus teaches us to be compassionate, and to reach out to others in love.

## CONVERSATION STARTERS....

- How do you attend to the needs of the people around you?
- How can you grow in compassion?

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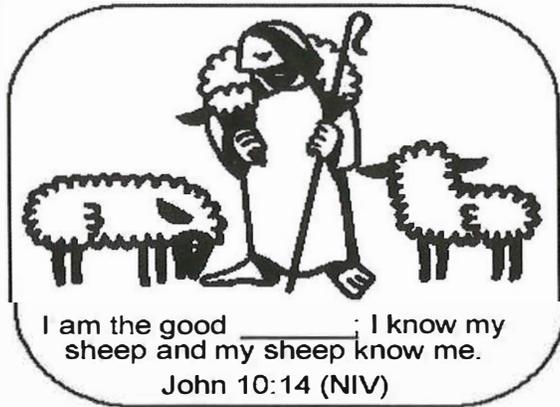
Jesus



Good Shepherd

# The Good Shepherd

John 10 :11-18 (NIV)



LEFI

			3

HSEPE

1	5			4

RETHFA

		2	6	7	

GDOO

			8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

## Bible Memory Verse

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."  
John 10:11 (NIV)

### CLUES

- The opposite of death is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Not a goat, but a \_\_\_\_\_.
- A male parent is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- The opposite of bad is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A person who takes care of sheep is a \_\_\_\_\_.

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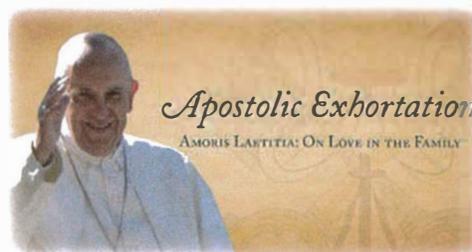
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# THE CHURCH TEACHES

## LOVE IN THE FAMILY EXPLORING POPE FRANCIS' APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION, *AMORIS*



### Chapter nine: "The spirituality of marriage and the family" (paragraphs 313-325)

The ninth chapter of *Amoris Laetitia* is devoted to developing a spirituality for marriage and family. Pope Francis says that family spirituality "is made up of thousands of small but real gestures" (paragraph 315).

Pope Francis clearly states that "those who have deep spiritual aspirations should not feel that the family detracts from their growth in the life of the Spirit, but rather see it as a path which the Lord is using to lead them to the heights of mystical union" (paragraph 316). Everything, "moments of joy, relaxation, celebration, and even sexuality can be experienced as a sharing in the full life of the resurrection" (paragraph 317).

Pope Francis teaches that "all family life is a 'shepherding' in mercy. Each of us, by our love and care, leaves a mark on the life of others" (paragraph 322). It is a profound "spiritual experience to contemplate our loved ones with the eyes of God and to see Christ in them" (paragraph 323).

In the final paragraph, Pope Francis tells us that: "No family drops down from heaven perfectly formed; families need constantly to grow and mature in the ability to love ... All of us are called to keep striving towards something greater than ourselves and our families, and every family must feel this constant impulse. Let us make this journey as families, let us keep walking together. (...) May we never lose heart because of our limitations, or ever stop seeking that fullness of love and communion which God holds out

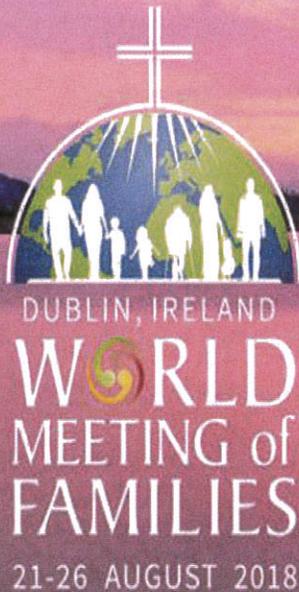
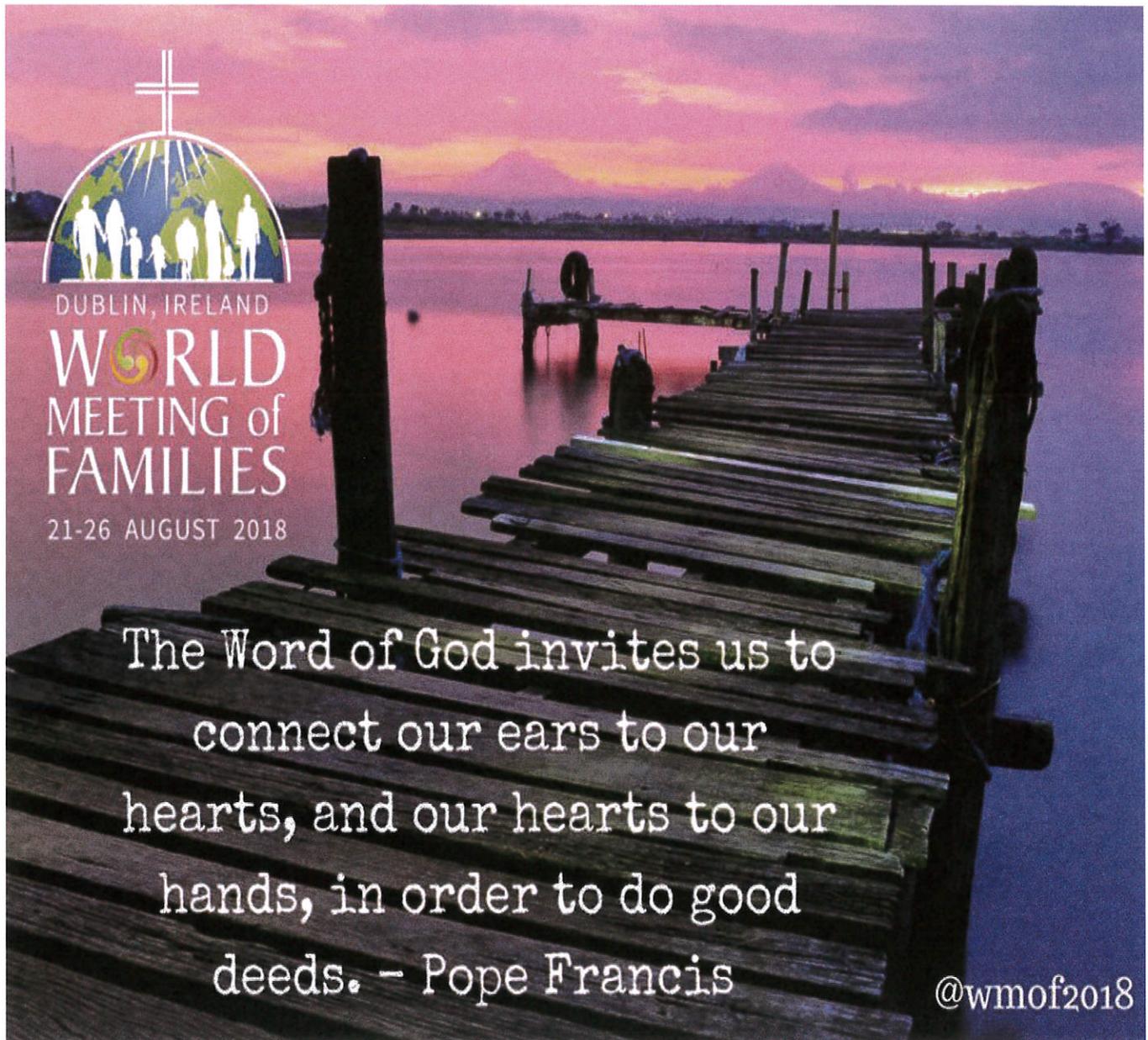
*For a copy of Amoris Laetitia click here:*

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\\_esortazione-ap\\_20160319\\_amoris-laetitia.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20160319_amoris-laetitia.html)





WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES  
DUBLIN, IRELAND  
AUGUST 21-26, 2018  
“The Gospel of the Family:  
Joy for the World”



The Word of God invites us to  
connect our ears to our  
hearts, and our hearts to our  
hands, in order to do good  
deeds. – Pope Francis

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