

We are a  
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(1 Peter 2:4-9)

Family Life today, is fragmented, with much hurts and challenges between members in a family. This reality brings about great distress to families.

As an Easter people, forgiveness between siblings, parents and children is one area that is very often ignored. If allowed to continue, these hurts will grow deep. If nothing is done, the aggrieved persons will move apart, resulting in disunity, and breakdowns in Family Life. Once where there was love, now we find alienation, anger and disorientation.

Many changes need to be made in families. Unconditional forgiveness is one of them. No matter how deep or offensive the hurts are, there is a realization that God has put us together as a family unit, a small church.

Forgiveness must start on a personal level with each one in the family. With genuine hearts and true remorse, we must learn to forgive and to ask for forgiveness. We acknowledge we are not perfect, that we make mistakes, and that we all want to grow and be a happy loving family. Practicing forgiveness make this possible.

The Reading on the 5th Sunday in Easter, (1 Peter 2:4-9), reminds us, that as baptized persons, we are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a people called apart out of darkness. An extract from the Catechesis of the 10th World Meeting of Families held in June in Rome in 2022. remind us that, "We are all children, we are all brothers and sisters". We need to live by this.

Practice forgiveness as a family. Pray the Rosary daily as a family this May. Make time each day, to gather together and ask forgiveness from each other. Pray the forgiveness prayer. Bless each other and exchange Jesus' Peace and experience the power of Jesus' Resurrection. Blessed Easter everybody! ✚

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INTERNAL CIRCULATION ONLY

BUL 19/2023

6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023

# Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

5th Sunday of Easter

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:

COMMUNION (INCLUSIVE), PARTICIPATION (CREATIVE) & MISSION (BRIDGE BUILDING)

MONTHLY FOCUS: FAMILY LIFE

FOCUS EVENT: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

## Family Life and Forgiveness

One value that stands foremost in Family Life is the need for forgiveness. Taking the example from Jesus in Matthew 18:22, a person must be forgiven seventy times seven. Again in John 8:1-11, Jesus forgives the woman caught committing adultery.

