

3 Pause and reflect

Gathering music

The Cross is a reminder of the depth of God's immense love and care for each person and each family. With thanksgiving for such a wondrous gift we make the Sign of the Cross. "In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen"

Assemble in a circle around a focus with a candle and a cross.

When all are quiet, light the candle to welcome 'Jesus the Light of the World'.

Pray each 'litany of thanksgiving' and at the end of each all say:

"Bless (Name) and her/his family."

4 Closing hymn

'Sing a simple song unto the Lord.'

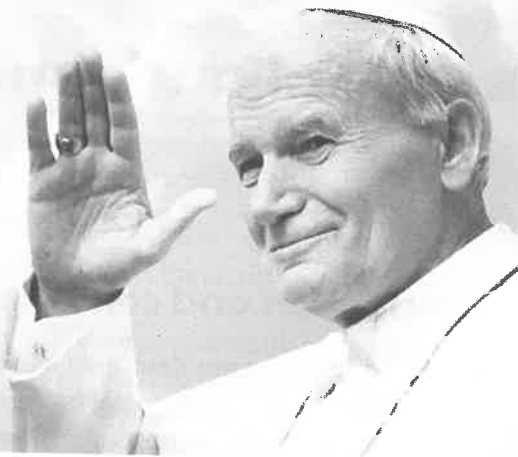
[Celebration Hymnal for Everyone, No. 644]

*" 'Please',
'Thank you',
and 'Sorry'
are words that open up the road
to a good family life."*

Pope Francis

"To maintain a joyful family requires much from both the parents and the children. Each member of the family has to become, in a special way, the servant of the others."

St John Paul II



*"The human family
is the greatest treasure of any country.
Let us all work to protect and strengthen this,
the cornerstone of society."*

Pope Francis