

Thoughtful Moments

Aloysius Gonzaga

Born the son of a marquis accustomed to life at court, Aloysius Gonzaga was influenced by St. Charles Borromeo and chose religious life instead. He renounced his title and inheritance and joined the Jesuits in 1585.



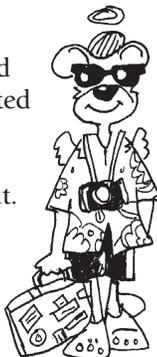
During his novitiate, he was noted for his brilliance and piety. In fact, he had to be told to tone down his penances. When a plague struck Rome, Aloysius tirelessly nursed patients but caught the disease himself. He died at the age of 23.

Pope Francis

"How beautiful it would be if each of you, every evening, could say: Today at school, at home, at work, guided by God, I showed a sign of love towards one of my friends, my parents, an older person! How beautiful!"

Our right

In parts of the world Catholics are prevented from attending Mass because their governments forbid it. Here it is our right. Exercise your right every Sunday and Holy Day.



Getting along goes a long way

Knowing how to get along with others is a useful skill for children at any age. Social competence is also helpful in effectively spreading the Gospel. It is widely believed that loving and involved parents are key to developing children's social competence and teaching them how to get along with others. Try these suggestions:

Play with your child just for fun.

Children whose parents frequently play with them have more advanced social skills and get along better with peers. When playing, just have fun. Avoid criticizing or directing the activity. Studies show that just-for-fun type of play teaches children to play with peers in positive, competent ways.

Encourage problem solving. When

your child has a problem with a peer, consider various solutions and perspectives together. Don't necessarily step in. Teach children to weigh the consequences of their actions for themselves.

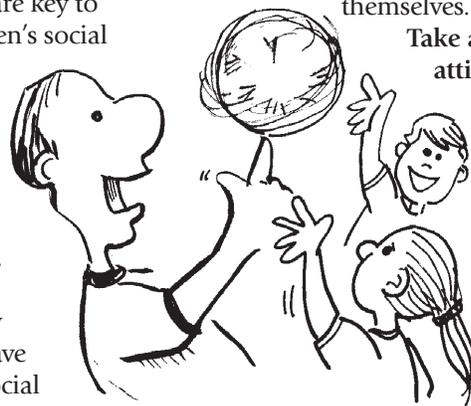
Take a positive, flexible attitude to social setbacks.

Some children develop a negative attitude after rejection. ("Nobody likes me." "I'm no fun.") You can help youngsters see that a social situation can be improved by changing behavior.

"I'll try joining their game instead of trying to change to a game I choose."

Develop the compliment habit.

Coach children to notice what others do well and give sincere compliments. Spotting the good in others is a step toward empathy and leadership.



Why Do Catholics Do That ?

What do Catholics believe about the Last Judgment?

The Last Judgment will take place at Jesus' second coming. *"All who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come forth, those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment"* (John 5:29).

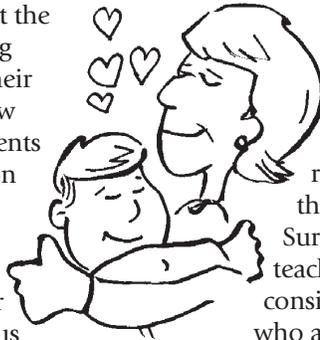


Nothing will remain hidden – not our thoughts or our actions. We will understand the meaning of God's marvelous ways. Then it will be decided whether we merit eternal life or separation from God forever.

Parents and faith always matter

There have been frequent news reports about the secularization of America, with focus on young adults who don't feel religion has a place in their lives. The good news is that recent studies show that in close and loving religious families, parents are just as likely as ever to pass on their religion to their children.

Close parent-child bonds make the difference. Researchers found that when a child feels emotionally close to a parent, he or she is more likely to adapt the parent's religious



practices. When raised by a warm and affirming parent, it is easier for a child to understand and relate to a warm and loving God.

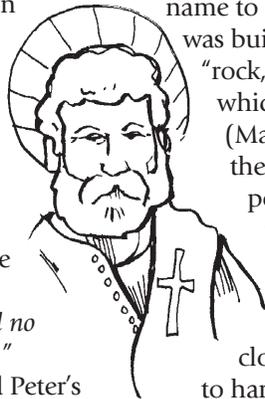
Religious parents model what they preach. Children are motivated to follow in their parents' religious footsteps when the parents practice what they preach. That kind of authenticity is compelling. Surrounding children with a loving faith community, teaching faith practices, encouraging service, and being a consistent presence were noted as convincing to children who adopted their parents' faith when grown.

Scripture LESSON

Matthew 16:13-19, Building on the "Rock"

The local buzz about Jesus said that he was a great prophet or even John the Baptist returned from the dead. When he asked the disciples who they thought he was, Simon Peter answered for the group declaring Jesus was the Son of God.

Peter was able to recognize the truth about Jesus because he was inspired by God. (*"No one but the Son knows the Father, and no one but the Father knows the Son,"* Matthew 11:27.) This cemented Peter's role as spokesperson for the disciples and the head of the new Church.



When Jesus changed Simon's name to "Peter," he signaled that he was building his Church on "rock," a solid foundation upon which a wise man will build (Matthew 7:24). As head of the Church, Peter (and all the popes to follow) was given the responsibility of opening the door of the kingdom to those who sincerely seek it and closing it to those who seek to harm it. Divine inspiration would lead Peter to speak and act in truth as head of Christ's Church.

Parent TALK

This year we have a new parochial vicar at our parish. Fr. Barton was ordained less than a year ago but when we found ourselves down to two priests due to a sudden reassignment, Fr. B jumped into

parish life with both feet. My girls just love him. So I'm not surprised that they wanted to make him a Father's Day card when they made their dad one.



Although we have never done it

before, showing appreciation to our priests – our spiritual fathers – on a day when we recognize our own fathers seems appropriate. Just as a father must nourish, instruct, challenge, correct, forgive, and listen, the priest meets the spiritual needs of those entrusted to his care in similar ways especially through the Sacraments. He must instruct and correct those who have erred but with mercy and compassion.

All the faithful fathers – spiritual and parental – deserve appreciation on Father's Day.

Feasts & Celebrations

June 8 – Pentecost (1st century). After the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus, the Apostles received the Holy Spirit at the first Pentecost. The "new age" of the Church was born.

June 20 – Immaculate Heart of Mary. In response to the request made by Our Lady of Fatima, Pope Pius XII consecrated the world to Mary's gentle and devout Immaculate Heart in 1942, and initiated this feast in 1945.

June 24 - Nativity of St. John the Baptist (1st century). The only saint whose birth and death we observe, St. John was Jesus' cousin. He baptized

and prepared people for Jesus' saving mission. He even baptized Jesus and was later executed for denouncing Herod's marriage to his sister-in-law.

June 29 - Saints Peter and Paul (1st century). Peter was the apostle chosen by Jesus to lead the Church. The Gospels show Peter was an ordinary man made extraordinary by God's grace. An early persecutor of the Church, Paul became the Great Apostle also transformed by grace.



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