



Essential Evangelization

Household Evangelization

You may have heard the saying that you can tell a lot about a person by looking at their checkbook and seeing how they spend their cash. More importantly, looking at a person's Day Planner or Calendar, and seeing how a person spends their days, especially their free time, is even more likely a better barometer of where their heart truly is. What about your time? What about your family's time?

In today's readings we can see glimpses of God's perfect family life. Wives giving of themselves to their husbands and husbands loving their wives as Christ loves the Church – now that's a very tall order! And Joshua, in leading God's very impatient chosen people to the Promised Land, challenging them to commit their lives to God by exclaiming, "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord!" Is your current life and that of your family's life God centered? Is it balanced?

Is there room in your life for a personal relationship with God or prayer time? Or does your work life consume you, along with the golf league, endless activities for the kids, TV sports, television, Internet or even worse yet, bad habits or addictions? Do you put your spouse or family's real issues and challenges on the back burner and go your separate ways each week?

When was the last time you took a walk in nature just to enjoy God's creation? Or how about the last time you had a real meaningful and courageous discussion with a loved one beyond the weather and the stock market? When was the last time you read a Scripture passage, went to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or did a spiritual retreat? Does your family reach out to others and spend "quality" time in service to others, or at our St. Thomas a Becket church home, or in our community?

With summer sadly succumbing to a quick close soon, and the return of routine in the fall, it may be a very good time to "turn over a new leaf." How do you spend your time? Isn't there more to this life?

"It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life."

The words of Jesus from today's Gospel reading
John 6:63

*This is one of a series of articles on
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