

# NOVENA TO SAINT JOHN PAUL II

## DAY 4 – THE FAMILY

**A family that draws its strength from God becomes the strength of man and of an entire nation.**

*Among the many paths in a person's life, the family is the first and most important one. It is a path common to all, yet one which is particular, unique and unrepeatable, just as every individual is unrepeatable. A person comes into this world and becomes a member of a family, grows and develops, learns about values. The Church embraces the family in its maternal care because it knows well that it is precisely the family that gives a person the foundation for complete humanity.*

*The family has its origin in the same love with which the Creator embraces the created world, as was already expressed “in the beginning,” in the Book of Genesis (1:1). It found its supreme confirmation in the words of Christ in the Gospel: “God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son” (Jn 3:16). The only-begotten Son, of one substance with the Father, God from God and Light from Light, entered into human history through the family: “For by his Incarnation He united himself with every person. He labored with human hands, (...) and loved with a human heart. Born of the Virgin Mary, He truly became one of us and, except for sin, He was like us in every respect”. Therefore, if Christ “fully discloses man to himself”, He does so beginning with the family in which he chose to be born and grow up.*

*We know that the Redeemer chose to spend most of His life in the obscurity of Nazareth, being “obedient” (Lk 2:51) as “the Son of Man” to His Mother Mary and to Joseph the carpenter. Is not this filial “obedience” a first measure of His obedience to His Father “even unto death” (Phil 2:8) through which He redeemed the world?*

**Let us pray:**

**God our Father,  
Your eternal plan of salvation reached its fullness  
when Your Beloved Son came into the world  
through the Holy Family, sanctifying by His  
birth, every human family.**

**We entrust to You our families and all the  
families around the world.**

**May prayer be a part of their lives, pure love,  
respect for life,  
and a healthy concern for youth.**

**We ask You humbly that Saint John Paul II,  
tireless defender for the rights of families, be our  
intercessor to God for us all ...  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be... Litany....**

