

1st Reading: Acts 7:55-60
Responsorial: Ps 97:1-2, 6-7, 9
2nd Reading: Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20
Gospel: Jn 17:20-26

The Seventh Sunday of Easter:

Today's reading comes from the end of the farewell discourse in the Gospel of John. Throughout the earlier part of the evening, read in the chapters 13-16, Jesus had given the disciples much information about what was about to happen to him and how he would provide for them in the future. Chapter 17 moves from information to intercession. This portion of the Gospel of John constitutes a small part of what is called the priestly prayer of Jesus as prays not only for the intercession of his present disciples, but also for future disciples for the sake of the whole world. Jesus' speaks in terms of unity. Jesus wants all his followers to have the same perfect unity he has with God, the Father. Jesus prays that belief in him will unite not only believers with one another but also with him. The key word here is *unity*. Through him people are also united with the Father. The prayer is both about what Jesus has done and what he will do. The risen Christ prays for and with every new generation, giving them hope and love.

In this final prayer, John gives us a glimpse into the loving heart of our fully human, fully divine Lord. Jesus speaks not only with a command but with deep, tender love. Jesus is from the Lord, and prays that we know it, but he also reflects on the gift he has received *from us*. "Father, they are your gift to me." We are God's gift to Jesus. We spend much time and energy on the knowledge that Jesus is a gift, and that our lives are a gift, and God showers us with gifts, but how often do we reflect on the notion that we, ourselves, are a gift to God? Do you ever wonder about how the way we choose to live our lives, and be in relationship with God and one another, is our gift to the God?

The Family Kitchen

Celebrate St. Joan of Arc on May 30th with some French foods!



[Catholic News World.com](http://CatholicNewsWorld.com) - French Toast and Cotignac Pears
Feastwiththesaints.com - Creme Brulee
Joanofarcbrie.com - Apricot Rosemary Baked Brie

Links for More Resources, Ideas and Activities

Loyolapress.com: *Seventh Sunday of Easter*
catholiccourier.com-The incredible faith and strength of the maid of Orleans — St. Joan of Arc
Loyolapress.com - *St. Joan of Arc (May 30)*
Catholicculture.com - *Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*



Use the url or QR code below to access the digital content on your computer or smartphone for the digital version with hyperlinks: Links are curated for families to continue to grow and learn together! Faith can be fun!

bit.ly/thisweekathome



Let's Pray the
Glory Be

Guided Meditation

Catholic Kids Media:

"The child is the beauty of God, present in the world, that greatest gift to a family. - Mother Teresa
 (www.patreon.com/catholickidsmedia)



youtube.com

Families Celebrate:

Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary


Pleasantly greet people who come to visit and spend time in conversation with them.

Connect with cousins, call or visit cousins.

Provide a meal for a pregnant mother.

Pray the Magnificat

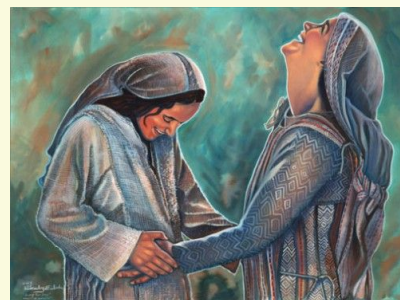
What ideas can your family think of to celebrate this Feast Day?

Cut & Pray! 

The Magnificat

Pray this everyday as a family!

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
 my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
 for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
 From this day all generations will call me blessed:
 the Almighty has done great things for me,
 and holy is his Name.



Loyolapress.com

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