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| **Theme** | **Dictionary** | **Scripture** | **Tradition** | **Prayer** |
| **relationships** | the way in which two or more people or things are connected, or the state of being connected | Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.  Genesis 2:24 | Might we say that the greatest mission of two people in love is to help one another become, respectively, more a man and more a woman? Amoris Laetitia 2016 (English: The Joy of Love) #221. Francis  There can be no renewal of our relationship with nature without a renewal of humanity itself.  Laudato Si 2015 (Praise be to you)#118 Francis | A loyal wife brings joy to her husband,     and he will complete his years in peace. A good wife is a great blessing;     she will be granted among the blessings of the man who fears the Lord. Whether rich or poor, his heart is content,     and at all times his face is cheerful. Sirach 26:2-4 |
| **community** | a group living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common | Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. Acts 4:32 | The ecological conversion needed to bring about lasting change is also a community conversion. Laudato Si 2015 (Praise be to you) #219 Francis | Embracing Father, You grace each of us with equal measure in your love. Let us learn to love our neighbors more deeply, so that we can create peaceful and just communities. Inspire us to use our creative energies to build the structures we need to overcome the obstacles of intolerance and indifference. May Jesus provide us the example needed and send the Spirit to warm our hearts for the journey. Amen |
| **family** | a group of people related by blood or marriage or some other significant association | And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Matthew 25:40 | “For children are a gift. Each one is unique and irreplaceable… We love our children because they are children, not because they are beautiful, or look or think as we do, or embody our dreams. We love them because they are children’” Amoris Laetitia 2016 (English: The Joy of Love) #170. Francis  In the family we first learn how to show love and respect for life; we are taught the proper use of things, order and cleanliness, respect for the local ecosystem and care for all creatures.  Laudato Si 2015 (Praise be to you) #213 Francis | Let us care for our families, because they are true schools for the future, spaces of freedom, and centres of humanity.  And let us reserve a special place in our families for individual and communal prayer.  Let us pray that families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly “schools of true human development”. Pope Francis |
| **forgiveness** | The act of to granting pardon for or remission of (an offense, debt, etc.); absolve. | If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  1 John 1:8-10 | Forgiveness is possible once we discover that goodness is always prior to and more powerful than evil, and that the word with which God affirms our life is deeper than our every denial.  Lumen Fidei 2013 (Light of Faith) #55 Francis | Create in me a clean heart, O God,     and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence,     and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation,     and sustain in me a willing spirit. Psalm 51 |
| **sin** | any act regarded as such a transgression, especially a willful or deliberate violation of some religious or moral principle | Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned.  Romans 5:12 | For “to commit a crime against the natural world is a sin against ourselves and a sin against God”. Laudato Si 2015 (Praise be to you) #8 Francis | Have mercy on me, O God,     according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy     blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,     and cleanse me from my sin. Psalm 51 |
| **freedom** | the state of being free or at liberty rather than in confinement or under physical restraint | Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.  2 Corinthians 3:17 | Human beings interpret and shape the natural environment through culture, which in turn is given direction by the responsible use of freedom, in accordance with the dictates of the moral law. Caritas In Veritate 2009 (Charity in truth) #48 Benedict XVI | Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth. Amen. |
| **death** | the act of dying; the end of life | Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4 | I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Apostles Creed | The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+23&version=NRSVCE#fen-NRSVCE-16308a)] he restores my soul.  He leads me in right paths     for his name’s sake. Psalm 23 |
| **evil** | morally wrong or bad; immoral; wicked | The Lord saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually.  Genesis 6:4-6 | “Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honour” (Rom 12:9-10). Quoted in Caritas In Veritate 2009 (Charity in truth) Benedict XVI | The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,     and his ears are open to their cry. The face of the Lord is against evildoers,     to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears,     and rescues them from all their troubles. Psalm 34: 15-17 |
| **the good life** | morally excellent; virtuous; righteous; pious | Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me     all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord     my whole life long.  Psalm 23: 25-26 | Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. Laudato Si 2015 (Praise be to you) #118 Francis | Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. |
| **journey** | a traveling from one place to another, usually taking a rather long time; trip | he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. 3 He said to them, “Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money—not even an extra tunic. 4 Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there. Luke 9:2-4 | The hand that blesses is an instrument of God’s love and a reflection of the closeness of Jesus Christ, who came to accompany us on the journey of life. Laudato Si 2015 (Praise be to you) #225 Francis | O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen  May the road rise to meet you, May the wind be always at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face, The rains fall soft upon your fields and, Until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.  Irish Blessing |
| **genetic engineering** | the development and application of scientific methods, procedures, and technologies that permit direct manipulation of genetic material in order to alter the hereditary traits of a cell, organism, or population. | So God created humankind[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+1&version=NRSVCE#fen-NRSVCE-27e)] in his image,     in the image of God he created them;     male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27 | “Greater emphasis needs to be placed on the fact that children are a wonderful gift from God and a joy for parents and the Church. Through them, the Lord renews the world” Amoris Laetitia 2016 (English: The Joy of Love) #222. Francis | God of all life,  Help us to appreciate the great gift that is human life formed in your image, a reflection of your holiness.  Help us to recognize you in all whom you have created: children not yet born, families affected by poverty and war, people of different abilities,  people from other lands, and all who are victims of hatred and racism.  Help us to bear witness to the dignity of all whom you have created, regardless of stage of life, or wealth, or ability, or color, or creed, for every person is fully equal in your loving eyes.  Share with us your holy knowledge that we are all your children, each bestowed with inherent dignity.  May your justice reign forever!  Amen.  U.S. Bishops |
| **life after death** | immortality, heaven, hereafter, eternity | 25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?  John 11:17-44 | Almighty God and Father,  by the mystery of the cross, you have made us strong;  by the sacrament of the resurrection  you have sealed us as your own.  Look kindly upon your servant N.,  now freed from the bonds of mortality,  and count him/her among your saints in heaven.  We ask this through Christ our Lord.  R. Amen.  Order of Christian Funerals. Additional Texts #7 | “Jesus, remember me when you come into[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2023%3A41%2D43&version=NRSVCE#fen-NRSVCE-30240a)] your kingdom.” Luke 23:42  Eternal rest, grant unto him/her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him/her. May s/he rest in peace. Amen. May his/her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen. |
| **human development** | the process of enlarging people's freedoms and opportunities and improving their well-being | And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour. Luke 2:52 | Authentic human development has a moral character. It presumes full respect for the human person, but it must also be concerned for the world around us and “take into account the nature of each being and of its mutual connection in an ordered system”. Laudato Si 2015 (Praise be to you) #5 Francis quoting John Paul II, Encyclical Letter [Sollicitudo Rei Socialis](http://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_30121987_sollicitudo-rei-socialis.html) 1987 (The Concern of the Church for the Social Order)  #34 | What kind of world do we want to leave for the future?  Let us leave a world with families.  Let us care for our families, because they are true schools for the future, spaces of freedom, and centers of humanity.  And let us reserve a special place in our families for individual and communal prayer.  Let us pray that families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly “schools of true human development”. Pope Francis |
| **individuality** | the particular character, or aggregate of qualities, that distinguishes one person or thing from others; sole and personal nature | Those who try to make their life secure will lose it, but those who lose their life will keep it. Luke 17:23 | For ‘children are a gift. Each one is unique and irreplaceable… We love our children because they are children, not because they are beautiful, or look or think as we do, or embody our dreams. We love them because they are children. Amoris Laetitia (English: The Joy of Love) #170 Francis | Lord, thank you for being here with me to call and invite me to a living relationship with you. Your mercy and grace go beyond our imagination. Thank you for knowing me to the bottom of my heart. You are aware of all my poverty and faults, which I am trying to hide from you so not to be judged by you.  Thank you, Lord, because I can easily bring you all my worries, sins and injustices. And you listen to me with respect, and you take on my burden. Thank you for keep renewing my dignity.  Today I especially commend all those who are pushed to the ground by worries of this world, living on the margins of society. Give them a new dignity, so they can experience it in all its fullness.  *﻿Amen* |
| **faith** | confidence or trust in a person or thing | For this reason, brothers and sisters, during all our distress and persecution we have been encouraged about you through your faith.  1 Thessalonians 3:6-8  Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and hold fast to the faith of Jesus. Revelation 14:11-13   “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.” Luke 17:19 | Faith in Christ brings salvation because in him our lives become radically open to a love that precedes us, a love that transforms us from within, acting in us and through us. #20  Lumen Fidei  (Light Of Faith) 2013 Francis  Faith, on the other hand, by revealing the love of God the Creator, enables us to respect nature all the more, and to discern in it a grammar written by the hand of God and a dwelling place entrusted to our protection and care. #55  Lumen Fidei  (Light Of Faith) 2013 Francis | The Lord is my light and my salvation;     whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life;     of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27 |
| **fear** | a distressing emotion aroused by impending danger, evil, pain, etc., whether the threat is real or imagined; the feeling or condition of being afraid. | 10 do not fear, for I am with you,     do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you,     I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.  Psalm 41:10 | The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the men of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts. #1 Gaudium et Spes (Joys and Hopes) 1965 Vatican II | O Christ Jesus, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and helplessness, give us the sense of Your presence, Your love, and Your strength. Help us to have perfect trust in Your protecting love and strengthening power, so that nothing may frighten or worry us, for, living close to You, we shall see Your hand, Your purpose, Your will through all things.  By Saint Ignatius of Loyola |