

**Cardinal Rigali Message  
Living the Fourth Commandment**

*Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

Dear Friends,

The Fourth Commandment enjoins us to honor our father and mother. This is a simple command to love and respect our parents, whom God has vested with His authority. Yet, the commandment's meaning extends much deeper.

Included in honoring our parents is obeying them, respecting their wishes and remembering to give thanks for all they do for us. A warm embrace, a kiss and words of gratitude are meaningful expressions of children's appreciation of their parents. *The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that we honor our parents by fostering good relationships with our brothers and sisters, which contribute to the harmony and holiness of the family. Adult children can offer material and moral support for parents in times of need.

I encourage all of you whose parents are alive to ask Our Lord Jesus Christ to give them strength and wisdom and keep them in good health.

May God bless you all.

*(Source material: The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church No. 455).*

**153 words**

50.

**Cardinal Rigali Message  
Angels**

*Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

Dear Friends,

Throughout our Christian development, we read and are taught about the presence of angels in our daily lives, particularly our Guardian Angel. But have you ever wondered, as children often do, What is an angel?

Angels are heavenly spirits created by God as ministers of His will for the ultimate benefit of mankind. God bestowed upon the angels great wisdom, freedom and power. Their many appearances in the New Testament define the roles He assigned to them. The *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that angels are purely spiritual, invisible, immortal and personal beings endowed with intelligence and will. They ceaselessly contemplate God face-to-face and glorify Him in the accomplishment of His saving mission to all.

I encourage you to invoke the assistance of God's messengers through prayer and join with the angels in adoring Him.

May God bless you all.

*(Source material: Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 60-61)*

**149 words**

51.

**Cardinal Rigali Message  
Theological Virtues**

*Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

Dear Friends,

One of the highest compliments one can receive is to be referred to as a good Christian. To be so judged is a reflection of a person's commitment to the virtues of faith, hope and charity.

These theological virtues have God Himself as their origin, motive and direct object. *The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that they are the foundation and the energizing force of Christian moral activity and that they give life to the human virtues, which are prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance. *The Compendium* also instructs that faith, hope and charity are the pledge of the presence and action of the Holy Spirit in the faculties of the human being.

I encourage all to grow in virtue by more freely committing to knowing and performing the will of God and by placing your trust in the promise of Christ.

May God bless you all.

*(Source: The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 384-386)*

**152 words**

52.

**Cardinal Rigali Message  
The Meaning of “Jesus”**

*Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

Dear Friends,

Throughout the Bible, God uses names to signify an individual's role and purpose in His plan for salvation. In the same way, the name Jesus tells us a great deal about His character, purpose and love for humanity.

In Matthew 1 (20, 21), an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, telling him not to be afraid, that Mary would conceive of the Holy Spirit, bring forth a Son and call him Jesus, who would save His people from their sins. Thus, the meaning of the name “Jesus” – God saves. *The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches us that it is through Jesus that God saves humanity.

It is important to remember that Jesus Christ became man to reconcile sinners with God, to be our model of holiness and to make us partakers of the divine nature.

May God bless you all.

*(Source: The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 81)*

**150 words**

53.

## Cardinal Rigali Message Heaven

*Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

Dear Friends,

As Christians surrounded by tangible things in our lives, sometimes we struggle to fully understand the meaning of Heaven. The Holy Bible contains numerous references to Heaven as the dwelling place of God, as the abode of the angels and the eternal resting place of the just in the next life.

*The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that Heaven is the state of supreme and definitive happiness. It tells us that those who die in the grace of God and have no need of further purification are gathered around Jesus and Mary, the angels and the saints, thus forming the Church of Heaven. It is here where they see God “face to face” and live in a communion of love with the Most Blessed Trinity.

I encourage you to prepare daily to fulfill God’s plan for us, that we might one day join Him in eternal happiness after death.

May God bless you all.

*(Source material: The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 209)*

**157 words**

54.

## Cardinal Rigali Message Meditation

*Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

Dear Friends,

Christian tradition has preserved three forms for expressing and living prayer. They are vocal, or spoken, prayer; meditative prayer; and contemplative prayer, which can be a simple gaze upon the Lord in silence and love. The feature common to all of them is the recollection of the heart.

*The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us that Meditation is a prayerful reflection that begins above all in the Word of God in the Bible. Meditation engages thought, imagination, emotion and desire in order to deepen our relationship with God. It also helps convert our heart and fortify our will to follow Jesus Christ. It is the first step toward the union of love with our Lord.

I encourage you, when unable to pray vocally, to experience intimacy with the Lord in thought and prayerful reflection through Meditation.

May God Bless you all.

*(Source material: The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 568-570).*

**149 words.**

55.

**Cardinal Rigali Message  
Indulgences**

*Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

Dear Friends,

The word indulgence is commonly used to describe a kindness or favor. In theological terms, it often is employed to signify the kindness and mercy of God.

In a more meaningful sense, *The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* defines indulgences as the remissions before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven.

*The Compendium* further instructs that the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains the indulgence under prescribed conditions for either himself or the departed. Indulgences are granted through the ministry of the Church which, as the dispenser of the grace of redemption, distributes the treasury of the merits of Christ and the Saints.

55.

**Cardinal Rigali Message  
The Sacrament of Penance**

*Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

Dear Friends,

Our Savior, Jesus Christ, knew that the life that He gives us in the sacraments of Christian initiation can be weakened or lost through sin. It is for this reason that Christ instituted the Sacraments of Healing -- Penance and the Anointing of the Sick.

*The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that Christ gave us the Sacrament of Penance – also known as Confession -- so that His Church could continue His work of healing and salvation. The risen Lord instituted the sacrament on the evening of Easter when He revealed himself to His apostles and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’” (John 20: 22-23).

I urge you to experience reconciliation with God and a renewal of spiritual strength through the Sacrament of Penance.

May God bless you.

*(Source: The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 296-298.)*

**155 words**



57.

**Cardinal Rigali Message  
Consecrated Life**

*Announcer: And now a message from Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia.*

Dear Friends,

There is no greater way to demonstrate one's love and devotion to God than by hearing the call of Jesus Christ and following it to a religious vocation, also known as consecrated life.

*The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that the consecrated life recognized by the Church is a free response to a special call from Christ by which those consecrated men and women give themselves completely to God and strive for the perfection of charity moved by the Holy Spirit. The consecrated life participates in the mission of the Church by means of a complete dedication to Christ and to one's brothers and sisters witnessing to the hope of the heavenly Kingdom.

I encourage young men and women to open their hearts to the possibility of being called by Jesus, and then to have the courage to respond to that call.

May God bless you all.

*(Source: The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 192-193.)*

**151 words**