Welcome! The Pope invites people of good will to come together and pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

Getting started:
Stop and dedicate some time to be in the presence of the Lord. Think about the persons who are dear to you, about your family and thank God for them. Think also about those persons who have helped your family, your relatives and others.

Short story:
Fr Ian had known Sandra since she was sixteen years old. He became her spiritual director. Sandra had felt very comfortable talking to him and she met him whenever she wanted to open up about her difficulties in life. She discussed her family problems, troubles in relationships, and her doubts about her future. By time, Sandra became a university student, graduated and later got married. Meanwhile, Fr Ian became well acquainted with her husband, David. He remained close to the couple and gave them all the support they needed. He invited them for retreats that helped them understand each other, strengthen their relationship and grow spiritually. Fr Ian respected their relationship and always encouraged them to look for the positive in each other. Sandra found a lot of support from Fr Ian who was always quick to answer her emails during her difficult moments. When the couple could not get pregnant, they expressed their emptiness and grief to Fr Ian who supported them to go through the hard moments. “Trust in the Lord’s mercy”, he would always remind them. Sandra and David were very grateful for the love and the guidance they received from Fr Ian. They felt privileged to have Fr Ian always present in their lives.

Time to reflect:
Sandra and David were lucky to find support in their lives. What could have happened to Sandra and David had they not received guidance in their lives? Do you think that nowadays it is easy to find this kind of support?

Let us pray:
Lord, help us understand that the family is the most precious thing that we have. Help us to forgive and treat our families with respect. Help us find the courage to support our parents and siblings so that they will strengthen their love for each other.

Inspiration:
If you want to change the world, go home and love your family.  

Mother Theresa

Hands on:
I try to place my family first and foremost and treat her as the most precious thing in the world. During this month I try to support and help a family that I know.