



Scripture

Old Testament: "Thus says the Lord, the Lord of hosts: 'O my people who dwell in Zion, be not afraid. In that day the burden will depart from your shoulder and the yoke from your neck.'" Isaiah 10:24,27 from the Breviary.

New Testament: "May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints." 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 from the Breviary

Catechism

"God entrusted children to parents so that they might be steady, righteous examples for those children, that they might love and respect them and do everything possible so that their children can develop physically and spiritually."
YOUCAT #372

Comment

For some families with young children, the month of December will be more winter than Christmas with some families struggling financially as well as socially and emotionally. Many charities seek to provide additional support to those in need where state help may be insufficient.

Organisation of the month

The Catholic Children's Society offers a variety of services to children and their families, ranging from counselling to promote mental health, therapy to support children through bereavement and emergency funds to support families in financial crisis, not only through the Christmas season but beyond winter. Visit www.cathchild.org.uk for more information.

Pray, Think, Act

Pray: that God the Father, through His Son Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit, may, with the intercession of Mary Help of Christians, grant you the wisdom to exercise virtue in charity . (cf. Wisdom 1:1)

Think: if you had severe financial problems and a young family in your care, would the dilemma of eating or heating apply to your situation?

Act: Visit www.cathchild.org.uk for more information, particularly with regards to how you can donate online.

*"Do as much as you can. God will do what we ourselves cannot do."
St John Bosco, Letter to Cagliero, November 13, 1875*