

God Loves Us

God loves us not because we have merited it or are worthy of it; rather, God's love for us is freely given and unearned, surpassing all we could ever hope for or imagine.

Pope John Paul II

There is no one who cannot discover and find a place in God's love. From it flows our Christian hope. There exists no one so bad, so brought down, so broken down, that he cannot find a place in that love.

Pope John Paul II

The love of Christ is more powerful than sin and death. St. Paul explains that Christ came to forgive sin and that his love is greater than any sin, stronger than all my personal sins or those of anyone else. This is the faith of the Church. This is the Good News of God's love that the Church proclaims throughout history and that I proclaim to you today: God loves you with an everlasting love. He loves you in Christ Jesus, his Son.

Pope John Paul II

God is not a relentless sovereign who condemns the guilty but a loving father whom we must love, not for fear of punishment, but for his kindness, his quickness to forgive.

Pope Benedict XVI

God's love has many aspects. In particular, God loves us as our Father... God's love for us as our Father is a strong and faithful love, a love that is full of mercy... It is the reality of God's love for us as our Father that explains why Jesus told us when we pray to address God as "Abba, Father."

"Does a woman forget her baby at the breast, or fail to cherish the child of her womb?" (Isaiah 49:15)

It is also true to say that God's love for us is like that of a mother... God's love is tender and merciful, patient and full of understanding. In the Scriptures and also in the living memory of the Church, the love of God is in indeed depicted and has been experienced as the compassionate love of a mother.

Jesus himself expressed a compassionate [*motherly*] love when he wept over Jerusalem, and when he said: "O Jerusalem... How often would I have gathered your children as a mother hen gathers her brood under her wings."

Pope John Paul II

Like a small child still totally dependent on his mother, but old enough to recognize his need, Christians must acknowledge their dependence on God. The image of the mother and child is a sign of the tender and maternal love of God.

Pope Benedict XVI

The love of God is so great that it goes beyond the limits of human language, beyond the grasp of artistic expression, beyond human understanding. And yet is concretely embodied in God's Son, Jesus Christ, and in his Body, the Church.

Pope John Paul II

God loves you all, without distinction, without limit. He loves those of you who are elderly, who feel the burden of the years. He loves those of you who are sick, those of you who are suffering from AIDS and from AIDS-related diseases. He loves the relatives and friends of the sick and those who care for them. He loves us all with an unconditional and everlasting love.

Pope John Paul II

The relationship between God and those who believe in him is one of warmth and love, not cold formality. The relationship is not cold like that between an emperor and his subjects, but is one of deep affection like that which develops between two friends, between spouses, between parents and children.

Pope John Paul II

God's faithful love will never lessen and will never abandon us to ourselves, or to the darkness of nonsense, blind fate, emptiness or death.

Pope John Paul II

God does not hide behind clouds of impenetrable mystery... He has shown himself, he talks to us and is with us; he lives with us and guides us in our lives.

Pope Benedict XVI

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" is a reflection of the reality of God's love, present with believers.

Pope Benedict XVI

Rediscover the joy of the faith, the joy of being personally loved by God, who gave his son Jesus for our salvation. To believe consists above all in entrusting oneself to the God who knows us and personally loves us...
Despite our weaknesses and our sins, God loves us...

Pope Benedict XVI

The secret of my ministry is in that crucifix you see opposite my bed. It's there so that I can see it in my first waking moment and before going to sleep. It's there, also, so that I can talk to it during the long evening hours. Look at it. See it as I see it. Those open arms have been the program of my pontificate: They say that Christ died for all... for *all*. No one is excluded from his love, from his forgiveness.

Pope John XXIII

Who can cancel the work of God himself, which the Son has carried out in union with the Father? Who can change the fact that we are redeemed? In spite of all the instability of human destiny and the weakness of the human will and heart, the church orders us to contemplate the might, the irreversible power of the Redemption, which lives in the heart and hands and feet of the Good Shepherd.

Pope John Paul II

The Church prays that no one should be lost: “Lord, let me never be parted from you.” If it is true that no one can save himself, it is also true that God “desires all men to be saved” (1 Tim. 2:4), and that for him “all things are possible” (Mt 19:26).

Catechism of the Catholic Church

God loves his people more than a bridegroom his beloved. His love will be victorious over even the worst infidelities and will extend to his most precious gift: “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Lord says: “Come then, come back to me, and come to know me as a father; for see, I return good for evil, love for injuries, and for deep wounds a deeper love.”

St. Peter Chrysologus

God’s closeness is not one of judgment that incites terror, but one of support and liberation. God is always with us. Even in the darkest nights of our lives, he does not abandon us. Even at the most difficult times of our lives, he is present. Therefore, we Christians can trust that we are never alone. The goodness of God never abandons us.

Pope Benedict XVI

There are only a couple of things that are at the core of the Christian message. It may be only one thing: God is love. All other truths are only various ways of articulating that fundamental truth.

The Bottom Line Catechism

Can God, who loves man so much, permit the man who rejects him to be condemned to eternal torment? Even when Jesus says of Judas, the traitor, ‘It would be better for that man if he had never been born’ (Mt. 26:24), his words do not allude for certain to eternal damnation.

Pope John Paul II, *Crossing The Threshold Of Hope*

God is love. On this solid rock the entire faith of the Church is based.

Pope Benedict XVI

Consider that no one – whether friend or brother, father or mother, lover or spouse – loves you more than your God.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

God loves each of us as if there were only one of us to love.

St. Augustine

God hugs you. You are encircled by the arms of the mystery of God.

Hildegarde of Bingen

God our Father, we find it difficult to come to you, because our knowledge of you is imperfect. In our ignorance we have imagined you to be our enemy; we have wrongly thought that you take pleasure in punishing us for our sins; and we have foolishly conceived you to be a tyrant over human life. But since Jesus came among us, he has shown that you are loving, and that our fear of you was groundless.

St. Augustine