



SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE  
**BOLLETTINO**

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIÈGE PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLS  
OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE SALA DE IMPRENSA DA SANTA SÉ  
BIURO PRASOWE STOLICY APOSTOLSKIEJ دار الصحافة التابعة للكرسي الرسولي

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**Video Message of the Holy Father with the prayer intention for the month of November,  
disseminated via the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network**

The following is the text of the Pope's video with the prayer intention for the month of November, disseminated via the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, on the theme *Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community, and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation:*

**Video Message of the Holy Father**

What can we say to parents who have lost a child? How can we console them?

There are no words.

You see, when one spouse loses the other, they are a widower or a widow. A child who loses a parent is an orphan. There's a word for that. But when a parent loses a child, there's no word. The pain is so great, that there's no word.

And it's not natural to outlive your child. The pain caused by this loss is especially intense.

Words of encouragement are at times banal or sentimental, they're not helpful. Spoken with the best intention, of course, they can end up aggravating the wound.

To offer comfort to these parents who have lost a child, we need to listen to them, to be close to them with love, to care responsibly for the pain they feel, imitating how Jesus Christ consoled those who were afflicted.

And those parents who are sustained by their faith can certainly find comfort in other families who, by suffering such a terrible tragedy as this, have been reborn in hope.

Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community, and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation.

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