

The Fourth Commandment and the Ten Commandments

Please examine carefully the Ten Commandments and consider the relationship between the Fourth Commandment and the other nine commandments. The placement of the Fourth Commandment is no accident. In your reflection journal or on a sheet of notebook paper, answer each of the following questions in two or three sentences:

1. How is the Fourth Commandment different from the first three commandments?
2. Because it directly follows the first three commandments, the Fourth Commandment has a unique significance. What does this placement imply about the significance of love within a family?
3. How is the Fourth Commandment distinct from the six commandments that follow it?
4. Why does the Church extend the meaning of this commandment to also include obedience and respect for other people in authority (not just parents)?

