

(June 2019)

## THE JOY OF LOVE

### Chapter 8 – Accompanying, Discerning and Integrating Weakness (Part I)

“The way of the Church is not to condemn anyone for ever; it is to pour out the balm of God’s mercy on all those who ask for it with a sincere heart.” 296

“The baptized who are divorced and civilly remarried need to be more fully integrated into Christian communities in the variety of ways possible, while avoiding any occasion of scandal.” 299

“The baptized who are divorced and civilly remarried need to feel not as excommunicated members of the Church, but instead as living members, able to live and grow in the Church and experience her as a mother who welcomes them always, who takes care of them with affection and encourages them along the path of life and the Gospel.” 299

#### *Prayer to the Holy Family*

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
in you we contemplate  
the splendour of true love;  
to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth,  
grant that our families too  
may be places of communion and prayer,  
authentic schools of the Gospel  
and small domestic churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth,  
may families never again experience  
violence, rejection and division;  
may all who have been hurt or scandalized  
find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth,  
make us once more mindful  
of the sacredness and inviolability of the family,  
and its beauty in God’s plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
Graciously hear our prayer.  
Amen.

