



The Gift of Routine

This week, I've been reflecting on the beauty found in our daily routines. At first glance, routines may seem monotonous, but when we pause and truly look, they reveal themselves as gifts-blessings waiting to be uncovered and cherished.

Take the simple act of waking up in the morning. I think of the water we drink, the warmth of the house-even as we brace for rising energy bills-and the joy of small tasks like preparing lunches for my boys. These acts are filled with meaning, even if we don't always recognize it.

The rhythm of the day unfolds: the faithful hum of the washer and dryer, machines that never complain, tirelessly caring for our needs. I find joy in these simple tools that help me care for my family.

Then there are the unexpected moments-a bird chirping outside, a fleeting glimpse of creation's beauty. These small miracles remind

me of God's creativity and love, even though they never announce themselves directly.

This week, I've also been visiting friends and church members, finding grace in these encounters. This morning, I planned to visit one of the church members as he was preparing for a heart procedure in the El Camino hospital and realized again the sacredness of simply being present for others, even in hospital waiting rooms. These moments are a gift-opportunities to bear witness to God's love and to walk with others through life's uncertainties.

On the surface, life may feel mundane, yet within it lies mystery and meaning. Even as my wife waits patiently for her upcoming surgery, I'm reminded of Paul's words about perseverance and faith. Life often asks us to wait, to trust, and to hope. It's like a book we read slowly, page by page, uncovering wisdom and truth along the way.

I am learning to embrace the beauty of routine-the little things that ground us and remind us of God's presence. Every day is an opportunity to find deeper meaning and gratitude for the gifts we often overlook.