Sienna Donnellan St. Joseph Hill Academy Writers' Workshop - Mr. O'Keefe 11/6/2024

## The Value of Family Time

The number of things I am thankful for in life is countless. It is so difficult to try and pick just one thing that makes me the most grateful. However, there is one thing that makes me more thankful than words can express, and that is spending time with my family.

Family time is priceless. There is nothing, not even all the money in the world, that can buy the preciousness of spending time with your loved ones, especially since not all people have that opportunity. Getting to have even five personal minutes with someone in your family, no matter if it is your mom or your dad, is wonderful. Some people don't have a family to spend time with, and this is one of the many reasons I am thankful for having the chance to do this.

Some members of my family I only get to see once in a while. This is because they are either in college, or just live very far away. For example, I only get to see my Aunt Phil a few times a year since she lives upstate. I have a chance to see her sometime around Christmas or at really big family events, and that's pretty much it. Despite this, I am grateful that I get to enjoy seeing her at those times. A couple of my cousins go to college, and I only get to see them once every couple of months. Then again, I feel lucky to get to spend time with them in those little moments.

What do we do when we're together? We share our thoughts, talk about what is happening in our lives, discuss family matters, and play games together. Sometimes we work out problems that may arise. Some of these activities are fun and some just provide reassurance or comfort. For example, when I have a problem with homework, I go to my aunt and she explains it to me.

One reason why I love big holidays such as Thanksgiving or Christmas is because all of my close family members from my mom *and* dad's side of the family come together in one house and we get to play games together and talk to each other. This brings us closer together, and not only that, but it just makes holidays better with them around. Having family to talk to and spend time with, especially on holidays, makes the day better and more fun.

When other people get together and do things as a family, they don't realize how incredible spending time with their family is, especially since their family won't always be able

to be there for them and do things with them. I will never forget how valuable family time is, and want to be able to spend every minute of it with my family.