

## From the Pastor's Office

### *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

We don't usually think of Paul in this way, but Paul was a bit of a poet. He knew how to craft words. One of his famous images is given to us today. He describes the idea of embracing the faith, walking the Christian way like unto putting on a coat. "Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility....And over all these put on love." Today on the Feast of the Holy Family, let us contemplate the idea of putting on the Holy Family like unto putting on a coat. This will be a decision that we will make. We commit ourselves to being a Holy Family. When people come to visit our house, one of the first things they will notice is that they are in the home of a Holy Family. In this place we commit ourselves to love. We commit to living out the Christian virtues. We will show Christ to our children and our children will show Christ to us, their parents. We will pray together. We will do works of charity together. Of course we will have our fights, that is kind of natural, but very quickly we will reconcile with each other. We will share what we have with each other. Because I am a child that might be a bit harder to achieve, because I don't like much sharing my toys with the others. But I will commit to it. Hopefully, I will get used to the idea and it won't be so bad. In our Holy Family, Mom and Dad commit to being role models for us their children. In this Holy place, they will make us feel safe and secure, a place we call home. They will always encourage their children to talk with them about anything. Mom and Dad promise that no Facebook or Instagram or Smart Phone or ball game will ever get in the way of us being together and talking. The thing that will move our hearts is the way we share our treasure and warmth with other people. We, this Holy Family, take our love with us out into the community. Together as a family we commit to works of charity. We make time to participate and work in our parish community. Sometimes we go to the Food Bank and help with the food. Sometimes we take part in City of Austin things to show our solidarity with other Holy Families. The effect of our commitment to being a Holy Family is that other families have begun to imitate us. We are becoming a community of Holy Families. We are the people who walk in darkness. We have seen a great light.



With love,  
Fr. Pat