

## Msgr. Bill's Weekly Letter...

Dear Parishioners:

We have been reminded often that the Holy Family's life was not idyllic. There was much tension surrounding survival and where to live. Forced to live in a foreign land and culture, they discovered that God never promised a quiet life of daily peace and meditation.

At the same time, this family was made up of the two holiest people to walk the earth, and a close third is Joseph. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are definite role models for all of us. One can only imagine their daily routine.

David Warren offers "Ten suggestions" *Ottawa Citizen* (Sep. 20, 2009) for families in times of attack:

**First**, absolutely refuse to give obeisance to the various idols that the "politically correct" specially define and demand that we worship, such as "equality," "fairness," "human rights," and the other specious abstractions to which they attribute a Gnostic and mystical power. In addition, symmetrically, refuse to worship in the temples of the gods of money and power and coolness.

**Second**, make conscious, reverent references to God -- even to God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit -- an audible part of our lives in the world, and love God in our hearts. Conversely, carefully avoid speaking of any divine thing in a cute or irreverent way.

**Third**, unfailingly attend Mass, each Sunday, and daily where we can; and let the Mass do its work upon our souls. Let the enemy see our churches filled.

**Fourth**, defend our families, by keeping as aloof as possible from the bureaucracies of Nanny State. Do not neglect the needs of our parents in their time of sickness and old age; do not fail to instill in our children, by our own upright and sincere behavior, the respect they owe to us as their parents.

**Fifth**, do not participate in any way in what the last Pope so eloquently described as "the culture of death." Do everything in our power to streetproof ourselves and our children against its demands, and do not hesitate to spell out the basic facts of life, behind all life issues. Be sure our children understand them, and that they grasp the sanctity of all human life.

**Sixth**, reject sexual liberation in all its insidious forms.

**Seventh**, be consistently honest and honorable in all business and social transactions, with everyone, regardless of race, color or creed, even when it must be at some cost to ourselves.

**Eighth**, be truthful in speech, fair and even charitable in speaking of other people, and look constantly for whatever good we can find in them.

Be encouraging rather than discouraging by habit, and most important; do not spread personal gossip and lies, even against our worst enemies, and even when we think they deserve it.

**Ninth**, be content with what we have in our family and religious life, make ourselves happy with the homes we have to return to, and do not look covetously upon the Joneses. Accept with humility our station in life; have ambitions, but make them unselfish.

**Tenth**, be content with our fate more generally, and trust in God to deliver His justice in the fullness of Eternity: "Thy will be done." Take only what comes our way, including all knocks, and use what we have been given, including all talents and skills, generously. Indeed, give, according to our means, a little recklessly. See and sympathize with need.

Some good words. Let us rejoice in our families and thank the good Lord for his gifts to us. Let God work in you so that your family will grow in Love, as did Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

Pax et bonum,

*Msgr. Bill*

