**Monthly Marriage Packet to Parishes**

December 2022

**Bulletin Corner**

Weekend of December 3/4 2nd Sunday of Advent

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” (Matt 3:2). John the Baptist calls for a change of heart, a turning of one’s life from rebellion to obedience towards God. How might you, your spouse, or your children be called to a “change of heart” today?

Weekend of December 10/11 3rd Sunday of Advent

“I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you” (Matt 11:10). Jesus reminds John the Baptist’s disciples about the fruits of his ministry. How has the example you have shown in your marriage helped to “prepare” the people around you, in your family, parish, or community, for the coming of Jesus?

Weekend of December 17/18 4th Sunday of Advent

“Do not be afraid…” (Matt 1:20). Advent is about waiting in the uncertainty of darkness. Ponder the times you have waited in the dark with a family member. Perhaps it was illness, or maybe fear, that kept you in vigil together. Be not afraid.

Weekend of December 24/25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

“What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race…” (John 1:4). If you are a parent, take a moment today to ponder the awesome miracle of your child’s birth. If you are not a parent, ponder a mysterious way that God has acted in your life.

Weekend of December 31/January 1, 2023 Mary, Mother of God

“Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart” (Luke 2:19). Use this day to take stock of what you liked best about last year. Share it in a quiet moment with your beloved.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

Weekend of December 3/4 2nd Sunday of Advent

That parents would heed the call to prepare the way of the Lord, and foster the spiritual growth of all family members. We pray to the Lord.

Weekend of December 10/11 3rd Sunday of Advent

That this Advent season would bring renewal and a deeper commitment to faithful service of all. We pray to the Lord.

Weekend of December 17/18 4th Sunday of Advent

That families would experience Emmanuel, God with us, in their homes and their hearts. We pray to the Lord.

Weekend of December 24/25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

That parents who have recently experienced the birth of a child may be blessed with all they need to physically and spiritually nurture their child. We pray to the Lord.

Weekend of December 31/January 1, 2023 Mary, Mother of God

That parents and children learn from Mary how to hear, accept, and say “yes” to God’s Word, and move forward through this new year in holy harmony. We pray to the Lord.