

THE FEAST OF HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Dear beloved Parishioners,

In a world that often moves too fast and pulls families in many directions, the Feast of the Holy Family gently calls us back to what truly matters. Today, we contemplate Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—not as an idealized family without struggles, but as a real family who trusted God amid uncertainty, sacrifice, and daily love.

The first reading from Sirach reminds us that family life is sacred ground. Honoring parents is not simply a social courtesy; it is a holy act that brings blessing, healing, and peace. Care, patience, forgiveness, and gratitude within the family are expressions of our love for God Himself. Even small acts of kindness toward one another become acts of faith.

Saint Paul, in his Letter to the Colossians, offers a beautiful portrait of Christian family life. He urges us to “put on” compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience. These virtues are not abstract ideals; they are meant to be lived daily in our homes. Forgiveness, encouragement, and love are the threads that hold families together, with love being **“the bond of perfection.”** When Christ is at the center of family life, peace finds a home there.

The Gospel reminds us that the Holy Family faced real danger and fear. Forced to flee into Egypt to protect the Child Jesus, Mary and Joseph trusted God even when the road ahead was unclear. Their story tells us that holiness is not found in a life without trials, but in faithfulness amid them. God was with them in exile, uncertainty, and return—and He is with our families in every season of life.

On this feast, we pray for all families: those filled with joy and those carrying heavy burdens; those united and those longing for healing; those present and those remembered. May the Holy Family inspire us to make our homes places of faith, love, patience, and hope.

May Jesus dwell in our hearts, Mary teach us trust, and Joseph show us quiet courage—so that our families may truly become schools of love and reflections of God’s presence in the world. Amen.

Fr. Albert and Msgr. Mike

