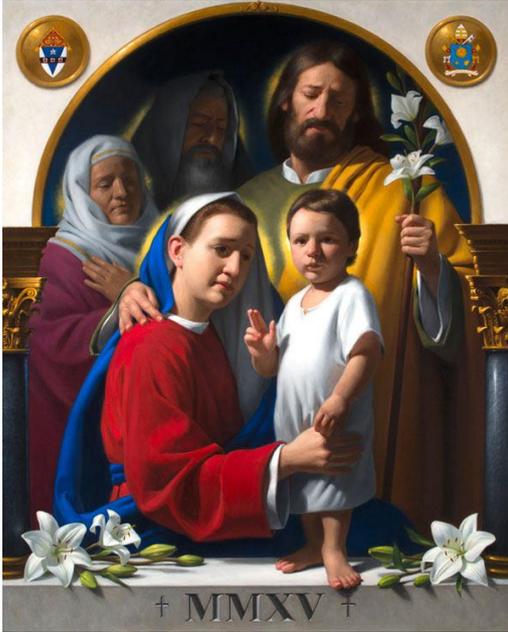


## HOLY FAMILY FEAST – 27 Dec. 2020 – FAMILY PRAYERS



*The Family prepares together the table, covered with white cloth, place the manger, white Candle, symbolizing Newborn Jesus, the CHRIST-CANDLE. Choose who is leading the celebration, who is reading/doing what before you start it.*

Song: .....

**LEADER:** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen.

**LEADER:** Dear Family Members, let us praise God our Father, who has made us his Children by Adoption, and gathered us together as his Family. To God be glory now and for ever.

**ALL:** To God be glory now and forever.

**LEADER:** We have celebrated in our parish Church the Feast of Holy Family of Mary, Joseph and Jesus, as well the grandparents: Anne and Joachim. And now we as Family of ..... have gathered together to continue the celebration of Holy Family, to invite them into our home and family life.

### LIGHTING OF THE FAMILY CANDLE:

**One of Family member lights the CANDLE on the table:**

**LEADER:** May Christ dispel all darkness from our lives, that together we may walk in light and share the joy of life and love. Blessed be God for ever.

**ALL:** Blessed be God for ever.

### SIGN OF RECONCILIATION AND FORGIVENESS:

**LEADER:** Let us, prepare ourselves spiritually, so that the Holy Spirit, Christ himself will speak to us in this celebration and bring us the comfort of his presence to reconcile and unite all of us as one family.

**LEADER:** Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace: Lord have Mercy.

**ALL:** Lord, have mercy

**LEADER:** Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary, who lived in the family like ours. Lord have mercy.

**ALL:** Lord, have mercy.

**LEADER:** Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendor of the Father. Lord, have mercy.

**ALL:** Lord, have mercy.

**LEADER:** Lord Jesus Christ, at your birth the angels sang: “Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.” Grant that we who have heard the message of the angels, may enjoy the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

As God’s chosen ones, we should clothe ourselves with kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. We must bear with one another and forgive one another, just as the Lord has

forgiven us. If we are angry, we must not let the sun go down on our anger. Above all, we should clothe ourselves with love, and the peace of God will reign in our hearts and in our homes.

*Now, all members go to each other to express the peace and forgiveness.  
All can sing a suitable SONG expressing peace and love.*

*After sharing the sign of peace – follows the reading of the Word of God.*

**READING OF WORD OF GOD:**

**READER:** Brothers and Sisters, listen to the Words of the Holy Gospel according to  
Mathew: Mt 7: 24-28

Jesus said to his Disciple: “Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his ho against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew an use on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat d beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching.

The Gospel of Lord.

*After the Gospel the couples can renew their COMMITMENT using this simple form (those married in the Church, have done in the parish using another form). Here anyone can renew their commitment to another to continue to love and care for each other.*

*The Couples join hands and say the following promise. The couple speak in turn.*

**N**, I renew the gift of myself to you;  
I renew the vow of my love.

With all my heart I thank you;  
with all my love I embrace you.

*When all couples present renew their commitments, follows the PRAYER OF CHILDREN for their parents:*

**PRAYER FOR THE COUPLE/COUPLES**

**The REPRESENTATIVE OF CHILDREN says the prayer:**

Blessed are you, Lord, Loving God of all creation: you have made us your beloved Children and have showered gifts upon us.

We thank you for the life of **N.....** and **N.....**, our parents, and for their years together. Continue to fill their hearts with love for you and for each other.

Bless them and all of us, the whole Family, all their relatives and friends. Lead us all through this life to eternal happiness with you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**ALL.** Amen.

Song.....

**INTERCESSIONS: *(it can be that each intercession will be prayed by different family member)***

**LEADER:** Dear Family members, as we ask the blessing of the Lord on his family, we must remember that a way of life that is a true communion can only endure and grow if the Lord is its source. Let us therefore call upon him saying:

**ALL:** Lord, Hear our prayer.

**FAMILY MEMBER:** Lord Jesus Christ, through whom every family is like a building constructed by the Holy Spirit to become a temple of your Glory, grant that this our Family may be bonded together in your name. May you be the unshakable foundation of our life together. For this we pray:

**ALL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**FAMILY MEMBER:** With Mary and Joseph you Sanctified family life; teach all who live here that self-giving is the way to guide and uphold our life as a family. For this we pray:

**ALL:** Lord. Hear our prayer.

**FAMILY MEMBER:** With the power of the Holy Spirit you filled the house where disciples were gathered; send the same Holy Spirit upon this family with the gifts of peace, unity, and joy. For this we pray:

**ALL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**FAMILY MEMBER:** You gathered the first members of the Church together in the upper room around Mary your mother; grant that the members of this small Church of our Family may learn from her to keep your words in our heart, to be constant in prayer, and to be generous in giving of ourselves and all we possess to others. For this we pray:

**ALL:** Lord, Hear our prayer.

**FAMILY MEMBER:** Father all-holy, the faithful one, you ask for and respond to fidelity to your covenant; fill with your blessing your servants who are remembering on this Day of Holy Family their Sacrament of Marriage. For this we pray.

**ALL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**FAMILY MEMBER:** Lord, as your Son was growing up, you placed him in the tender care of Mary and Joseph; grant that our children may grow to the full maturity of Christ. For this we pray:

**ALL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**FAMILY MEMBER:** let us also express the prayers we have in our hearts.....

**ALL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**PRAYER OF BLESSING OF CHILDREN BY PARENTS:**

**PARENTS:** Father, inexhaustible source of life and author of all good, we bless you and we thank you for brightening our communion of love by your gift of children. Grant that our children will find in the life of this family such inspiration that they will strive always for what is right and good and one day, by your grace, reach their home in heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

SONG.....

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY

Lord Jesus, Your hidden years with Your Blessed Mother and St. Joseph at Nazareth showed us the beauty of the community of life and love that the family is meant to be. You taught us the value of selfless love, humble obedience, and silent sacrifice. You showed us how to sanctify the daily give-and-take of family life. Today, we, the members of the \_\_\_\_\_ family, publicly acknowledge You as the true Head of our family and the King of our home. We pledge ourselves to model our family after the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph of Nazareth. We consecrate to You, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Your Mother, in union with St. Joseph, our work, our play, our sorrows, and our joys, along with our interior and exterior possessions, including the value of our good actions—past, present, and future. This is the covenant we make with You, Lord. In return, Lord Jesus, we ask You to bless and protect us, keeping us ever faithful to this covenant, and helping us to sanctify our lives by faithfully fulfilling the responsibility of each present moment only for Your glory. Jesus, King of Families, come and reign over our family! Mary, Queen of Families, take possession of our hearts! St. Joseph, Protector of Families, help us to be absorbed in and reflect the love of the Holy Family!

### FINAL BLESSING:

LEADER: Let's bow our heads and pray for God's Blessing.

LEADER: May God, the Almighty Father, give us all his JOY.

ALL: Amen.

LEADER: May the only Son of God have mercy on us and help us in good times and in bad.

ALL: Amen.

LEADER: May the Holy Spirit always fill our heart with his love.

ALL: Amen.

ALL: The Lord Bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

### BLESSING OF FOOD:

LEADER: Generous God, giver of all good gifts, we praise and thank you for our Parents: N & N, and for allowing us witness their love. May the joy of this gathering and the food we share be signs to us of your constant love. Bless us and the food we eat and give us grateful hearts to sing your praise now and for ever.

ALL: Amen.

**JOYFUL SONG, and getting ready for the family meal..... The parents can share with children how they met together, how their love started, as well advise children and grandchildren to take wise choices in their life. Everyone enjoy being together....**