



28 December 2025

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Year A

The Family We All Dream Of

Our family is our “little world” – the place where we feel at home. It is the environment where we first feel loved and where we learn to love and care.

Unfortunately, in our days, in far too many cases, the dream of a happy and faithful family has been shattered by selfishness, jealousy, pride, irresponsibility . . .

Our celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family repropose to all of us both the attractiveness of the dream of a united and happy family and the means to make it a reality by living out the message of God’s Word. May the example of Mary Most Holy, Joseph and Jesus and the teaching of St. Paul be our inspiration in making our families what we dream of and what God wants them to be.



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger. (Lk 2:16)

Greeting

P –Grace and peace from God our Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit be with you.

All–And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

P –Coming together as God’s family, with confidence let us ask his forgiveness, especially for the sins against the members

of our own family. *(Pause)*

P –Lord Jesus, forgive our lack of patience, respect and care toward the other members of our family. Lord, have mercy.

All–Lord, have mercy.

P –Lord Jesus, forgive our neglecting to pray together with the other members of our family. Christ, have mercy.

All–Christ, have mercy.

P –Lord Jesus, forgive our lack of concern for the welfare and the peace of the greater family that is our parish. Lord, have mercy.

All–Lord, have mercy.

P –May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All–Amen.

Gloria

All–Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

28 December 2025

be fulfilled, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." Joseph rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazorean."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Profession of Faith

(Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed)

All—I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (*bow*)* **and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.*** For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father

and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

P —With confidence in the Lord who made us members of a Christian family and of the Church, let us pray in a special manner for all families in the world as we say:

All—Lord, make us one family.

C —For the great family of the Church: may its leaders and members enjoy the protection of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Let us pray. **R.**

C —For the immense family of humankind: may the peoples of all races and cultures learn to live in mutual respect and brotherly solidarity. Let us pray. **R.**

C —For all the Filipino families: may their Christian faith and the support of the whole community keep them united and in perfect harmony. Let us pray. **R.**

C —For the families of emigrants: may their members always treasure the values of faith, unity and religious faithfulness, in spite of the physical separation. Let us pray. **R.**

P —Lord God, bless all families throughout the world. Bring all the members of every family closer to You and to one another, and keep them in Your peace and love. Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST



Preparation of the Gifts

P —Pray, brethren . . .

All—May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

P —We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation, humbly asking that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph, you may establish our families firmly in your grace and your peace.

Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen.

Preface of Christmas II

P —The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit.

P —Lift up your hearts.

All—We lift them up to the Lord.

P —Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All—It is right and just.

P —It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For on the feast of this awe-filled mystery, though invisible in his own divine nature, he has appeared visibly in ours; and begotten before all ages, he has begun to exist in time; so that, raising up in himself all that was cast down, he might restore unity to all creation and call straying humanity back to the heavenly Kingdom.

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you, as in joyful celebration we acclaim:

All—Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation

P —The mystery of faith.

All—Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

COMMUNION RITE



All—Our Father . . .

P —Deliver us, Lord . . .

All—For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Sign of Peace

Breaking of the Bread

All—Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. (2×)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Communion

P —This is the Lord Jesus, who chose to become a member of a human family. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to his supper.

All—Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Communion Hymn is sung.)

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.
(Bar 3:38)

Prayer after Communion

P —Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family, so that, after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever.

Through Christ our Lord.
All—Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES



P —The Lord be with you.
All—And with your spirit.

P —Bow down for the blessing.
(Pause)

—May the Lord of all love keep your families united in peace and mutual service.

All—Amen.

P —May he enable you to support one another, especially in moments of trial.

All—Amen.

P —May he give you and all the members of your family good health, financial stability, and holiness of life.

All—Amen.

P —May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the

Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All—Amen.

P —Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, especially in the members of your own family.

All—Thanks be to God.

The Holy Family: A Model of Love and Faith

by Jess P. Balon

The family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph lived an ordinary life in Nazareth. They worked hard, faced poverty, rejection, and suffering, yet remained united through love, patience, and trust in God. What made them extraordinary was not comfort or status, but their **deep love for one another, rooted in their love for God.**

God was the center of their home — their strength, their peace, and their guiding light. Because they lived in His presence, their family radiated faith, humility, and compassion.

Many families today struggle to keep that same unity. Conflicts, jealousy, and selfishness often take the place of understanding and forgiveness. Too often, God is no longer part of family life — prayer forgotten, faith neglected, and relationships weakened.

Yet, there is always hope. Families that turn to God, pray together, and renew their love daily find healing and peace. When a family prays, listens to God's Word, and forgives one another, it becomes a true "little Church" — a home where God dwells and love endures.

The Holy Family reminds us that holiness is found in **everyday faithfulness** — in patience, kindness, and mutual care. Their example encourages us to make our homes places of peace, respect, and love — reflections of God's own presence.

To honor the Holy Family is to strive to make our families like theirs: **simple, faithful, united, and centered on God.**



**WORD AND LIFE
PUBLICATIONS**

Don Bosco Compound, A. Arnaiz Ave. cor. Chino Roces Ave., Makati, Metro Manila

Postal Address: P.O. Box 1820, MCPO, 1258 Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines

Tel. Nos. 8894-5401; 8475-8945 • **Website:** www.wordandlife.org

• **E-mail:** wordandlifepublications@gmail.com • **FB:** Word And Life Publications

• **Editorial Team:** Fr. R. De Guzman, V. David, R. Molomog, D. Daguio

• **Illustrations:** A. Sarmiento, B. Cleofe • **Circulation:** R. Saldua