



My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ! On this weekend between Christmas and New Year's, the Church celebrates ***Holy Family Sunday***! What a Family that is! On the one hand, it may seem very different from our family. It was so very small (just three!) and what's more, it was just about perfect. (St. Joseph was the imperfect one!). Yet, that Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is so very BIG and THE Model of perfection for all families. For in them, amidst the particular challenges of their day, we find such great love, learning, trust and respect – for God, Self and One Another. We find the meaning of Family.

Certainly our experience of family is VERY imperfect. But as imperfect our experience may be, Family is the place and means on this earth by which we all come to life. And it is in Family that we are meant to mature, grow and find our well-being. This was the case for Jesus, Mary and Joseph; And yes, they too did grow in perfection together, day-by-day, amidst all the particulars; learning how to love, respond to challenges and accept the Will of God. None of this was automatic for them, it required a real learning and a willingness to put the Will of God and one another first.

***What might our families look like if we did the same? If our family became intentional communities; places where we are not just born and live but where we mature, learn and discover God's Will?***

The coming Year offers an opportunity for that to happen. Not merely in a "New Year's Resolution" type way, i.e. in a **willful** way. But rather, by being **willing** to recognize that family is the training ground, the arena in which together with others, I learn the Way of Love.

Like you, I do not know what Calendar Year 2024 will bring and I will not offer a forecast.


But I do know what Christmas has brought into this world: **JESUS**. And He came through a family. He came as a baby to be loved, so as to grow, so as to mature, so as to teach, lead, guide and save. And all of that happened because His Family Loved.

Whatever is happening in our family, there is the opportunity to LOVE. And if that were to happen, if our families were to become arenas in which we were willing to learn Love, great things will happen!

May God grant us that wonderful grace!

Peace,

Fr. Rogers



**St. Patrick Parish**  
**Rosary**  
**Sunday Evenings**  
**7:00 PM**  
**via Zoom**

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**THERE WILL BE NO ZOOM ROSARY ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31. HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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**Join our Level 5 PREP Students & Families on Sunday, January 7, 2024.**

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION**

Friday, January 5, 2024  
7:00 PM  
All are welcome




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Although our regularly scheduled Adoration will be cancelled on Monday, January 1, there is still an opportunity to visit with our Eucharistic Lord next week. Please consider joining us for our First Friday Adoration of 2024!

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The Parish Office will be closed Monday, January 1 (No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament) and Tuesday, January 2. We will resume our normal hours on Wednesday, January 3. Happy New Year from your Parish Staff!

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