

A Parent's Prayer to The Holy Family

The Feast of the Holy Family is celebrated on the Sunday in the octave of Christmas

The month of February is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Family

With special focus on the virtue of faith

"I turn to you, dear parents, and implore you to imitate the Holy Family of Nazareth."

- St. John Vianney

O Holy Family of Nazareth, God so loved us that He sent his Only Son into our world . . . through a human family, your family! In your protective arms, Joseph and Mary, our Holy Redeemer was welcomed into this harsh world. And it was in your hearts that He was first loved by humanity. Our Sovereign God placed His beloved Son into your humble home where your deep faith and your devoted love to each other was richly constant. For thirty years, Jesus Our Savior grew and matured under your holy care and example. Those thirty years are sometimes called "Jesus' longest sermon." It was a sermon about family life -- where every person first learns to receive and give love. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, model for all families, help us to learn from that sermon. God has entrusted the care of some of His beloved children to me in this world. I ask you to watch over me and my family. Help us to grow in the faith, obedience, humility, and love that you so beautifully exemplified.



Holy St. Joseph, patron saint of fathers, guardian of the Redeemer, protector of Our Lady, spouse so chaste, patron saint of the universal church: You were a holy and righteous man. You were completely obedient to whatever God asked of you, without ever knowing where your obedient acts would take you or what the outcomes of your obedience would be. I implore your intercession today for my family, whom I love so much. Pray to our Heavenly Father that each member of my beloved family will follow your holy example of complete faith in and obedience to God's will, especially in difficult instances where God's commandments are viewed as outdated, absurd, or even "hateful" by our current culture, and when it is unclear where holy obedience will lead. Help me guide my family to follow God's ways and truths, no matter the earthly cost.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, Mother Most Pure, Mother Most Sorrowful, Queen of Families, most blessed among women, mankind's solitary boast: You have been crowned in Heaven by your beloved Son as our Queen of Peace. Mary, most powerful intercessor to Christ, ask your Son on behalf of my family to teach each of us to receive and give love **as He designs**, and to cherish Christ above all else, no matter the pain or sorrow this may sometimes bring as we obediently and faithfully persevere in this fallen world. Dear Blessed Mother, wrap your protective mantle around each of my children, for they live amongst many powers of evil. I implore your maternal protection over them, and I ask you to help me as their earthly parent to always direct them to Your Son, Who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and Who is the Prince of Peace.

And **Jesus, my Savior**, look graciously upon my family from Your throne in Heaven. Draw me, my spouse, and my children ever closer to You, because it is You who are the truest lover of each of our souls. Grant we all join You together someday in paradise, where we will look radiantly upon Your Holy Face in the fullness of salvation. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for my family, that we may all grow ever more deeply in the faith, obedience, humility, and love you so beautifully exemplified. Amen.