

From the Pastor's Desk



Today is Holy Family Sunday, the **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.**

The Feast of the Holy Family always falls on the first Sunday after the Feast of Christmas. Today we look to the example of the Holy Family to give us courage to live in the midst of difficulties, of challenges that the world will present to us each and every day. On Christmas we focus on the fact that God loved the world so much that He sent us His only Son. The Incarnation (the Word becoming Flesh) makes possible Jesus' life, death and resurrection so that we may be saved. It is this life of the God-man that Mary and Joseph guide and nurture.

When we think of the Blessed Mother, we probably think of images of gentleness, love, caring, and wisdom. With St. Joseph, perhaps we envision his quiet strength, his wisdom and experience, his courage, and his silence.

Let us look within our own families, asking God for his strength. Perhaps we need healing. Let us ask Jesus Christ who is the Son of God but also the son of Joseph and Mary of Nazareth to be with us, to help us, and to comfort us. Sometimes as families grow, parents realize their children may be on their own, but we can still pray for them even when they grow up and are on their own. Why not ask the Holy Family to help them in their families, in their relationships, even here in the greater family of St. Rosalie's parish, why not let us ask the Holy Family to help and assist us?

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God:

January first is the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God. When it falls on a Saturday or Monday, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation, but we still encourage people to celebrate the Holy Day. There is no anticipated Vigil Mass because it is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year on December 31. On New Year's Day Masses are at 9 and 11 a.m.; Spanish Mass at 4 p.m.; Mass in East Quogue at 9 a.m. This is East Quogue's final Mass, It will be closed until Palm Sunday, March 25, as is our usual custom.

March for Life

January 22 is the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. The March for Life this year will be on Friday, January 19. More details to follow.

We, the parishioners of St. Rosalie's, call upon the Blessed Mother to intercede for us to ask the Prince of Peace, her Son, to bring us tidings of joy and peace this Christmas and New Year!

*A Blessed and Peaceful New Year to All,
Father Ed*