

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**Year C**

Sunday, December 30, 2018

Readings: 1) Jeremiah 33:14-16 2) 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 3) Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Sunday Liturgy

The focus for today is: Let us strive to imitate the Holy Family's mutual love and concern for one another.

By being born into a human family, the eternal Son of God has blessed every family, and so made marriage and family a pathway to holiness and eternal life. In the face of God's ever-flowing generosity, highlighted for us today in the blessing of family life, we become aware of our human shortcomings and our need for God's mercy and love.

Today we hear about the birth of Samuel and how his mother gives thanks in the Temple and dedicates her son to the Lord. John, in his letter, highlights our dignity and destiny – we are God's children now and are commanded to love one another. The Gospel from Luke relates the story of Jesus at the age of twelve remaining in the Temple after his family had departed, and the subsequent worry and searching for him that his parents experienced.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS**PRIEST:**

Let us humbly come before our heavenly Father and present our needs, trusting always in his love for us.

**For Pope Francis and all the clergy,
may the Lord inspire them in their ministry of love and mercy.**

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

**For all world leaders,
may they respect life from conception to natural death.**

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

For those who are sick in mind, body and spirit;

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

**For our beloved dead,
may they enter into eternal life with God who created them.**

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

For God's family gathered here, may we grow in love and charity.

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

For our own personal intentions.

We Pray to the Lord. Hear our prayer.

PRIEST:

**Father, we give thanks for the gift of marriage and family,
and we ask you to continue to pour out your many blessings upon us.
We ask this through your son, Christ our Lord.**