



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: Sunday, Dec. 29

Today is the feast day of the Holy Family, but also every family's feast day, since the Holy Family is the patron and model of all Christian families. Today should be a huge family feast, since it is devoted entirely to the Holy Family as a model for the Christian family life. No family can ever hope to be as perfect as this one was, but every family must strive to imitate it if only from afar.

The Holy Family serves as a wonderful example of family for us to emulate in our own homes. Greeting pilgrims in St. Peter's Square on the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph on Dec. 26, 2021, Pope Francis called on us to remember our family roots and to realize that each day we learn how to be a family. God chose a humble and simple family to come into our midst. Pope Francis' complete reflection can be found at

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2021/documents/papa-francesco_angelus_20211226.html

Marriage is too often conceived as the sacrament which unites a man and a woman to form a couple. In reality, marriage establishes a family, and its purpose is to increase the number of the elect, through the union of the spouses. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops Office for Family & Life seeks to find creative ways to support the pastoral care of the family and promote the dignity of life from conception to natural death. Members may wish to subscribe to their quarterly newsletter "All Things New". To subscribe:

<https://mailchi.mp/82052302a242/5s5psm4psb>

The World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUCWO) has challenged Catholic families to join their device free family meals campaign and get to one another better. More information can be found at <https://www.cwl.ca/wucwo-device-free-family-meals-campaign/>

Last but not least, continue to pray for your families and all families in these difficult times. A rosary of the family is found at:

https://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/dam/laityfamilylife/amoris-laetitia/Rosario_Famiglia/EN_Rosario_famiglia_compressed.pdf

Submitted by Sue Lubowitz, OPC Service Chairperson