

The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

27th December 2020

Preparing the prayer space

Place a white or gold cloth on the table or floor (the colour for special days in our Church). Place a bible and a candle with a picture or a Christmas crib. Place some holy water if you have a little or a bowl with water as a reminder of our baptism. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Place any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

You tube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
Print out sheet if required

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver:

Today, we come together to celebrate Jesus' family. We ask God to help us today to be loving and kind members of our families.

Opening prayer: God of love and new life, help us to listen to your word in the Gospel story and to follow you closely. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (2:22, 39-40).

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, They brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord").

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the videos together

<https://youtu.be/-5lWK5l61c> (2:42 mins) Luke 2:22-40 <https://youtu.be/SswGxaRo3dw> (3:16 mins) Presentation in the Temple <https://youtu.be/xlXqXiZQWeM> (4:23mins) Jesus' childhood in Nazareth



<https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lc-simeon-anna/>

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder what part of the Holy Family you like the best...

I wonder what part of the Holy Family is the most important...

I wonder if there is any part of the Holy Family that we can take out and still have everything we need...

I wonder where you are in the Holy family or what part of the Holy Family is about you...

I wonder if the holy family is also our family and not just the family of Jesus...

I wonder what family means...

I wonder what makes a family Holy...

I wonder what makes us a Holy Family...

I wonder how we can show God's love in our family...

I wonder how we can show God's love to others...

I wonder how I can show others the holy side of our family...

I wonder what part of this story you liked the best...

I wonder what God is saying to you in this story...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

Yes Lord I Believe by John Burland <https://youtu.be/7MR2iGDyUtE> (3 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.
(We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer')

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Pat, all Church and world leaders: that they will be good leaders who bring the good news of Jesus to the world.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for families in our world who are suffering in any way at this time especially during this COVID-19 outbreak: that they know that they are deeply loved by God.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray for all families in our parishes and in our communities: that together, in the ups and downs of family life we can grow in love and bring peace to the world through our actions.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*) Lord, hear us **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for all people who have died recently and especially for people we know and love: that they will now be united with Jesus this Christmas.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

Closing prayer: God who calls us to be close, we believe in your love - you are the Creator of the world. We believe in your love – you sent Jesus to show us how to live a life of faith. We believe in your love – because of the Holy Spirit who breathes life through us and guides us. Amen.

Closing song: *Welcome to the Family-Small World Choir* <https://youtu.be/nABos6Dh-F8> (3.36mins)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook) and decorate.
- Go to <https://adelaide.catholic.org.au/files/f/25115/Christmas%20Vigil%20-%20children's%20drama.pdf> and act out the play as a family.
- Christmas scenes to colour: <https://www.bestcoloringpagesforkids.com/free-printable-nativity-coloring-pages-kids.html>