



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



28th December 2025

NEW YEAR'S EVE: Wednesday 12noon.

NEW YEAR'S DAY: FEAST OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD MASS 12 noon

FRIDAY: 12noon

WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil: 7pm, Sunday: 10am

DECEASED: Kathleen McAuley, Cargan (Mother of Joanne Kerr)

ANNIVERSARIES: Charlie McKillop, Malachy Quinn, Lilia O'Connor, Mary O'Kane, Enneas Black, Alex Murray, Henry Doherty, Eamon Hartley

Thought for today ...

“ Your Children are the greatest gift God will give to you, and their souls are the heaviest responsibility He will place in your hands. Take time with them, teach them to have faith in God. Be a person in whom they can have faith. When you are old, nothing else you've done will have mattered as much.

(Lise Wingate)

“ Let us make one point, that we meet each other with a smile, when it is difficult to smile. Smile at each other and make time for each other in your family”

(St Teresa)

*Donal Neary SJ
Gospel Reflections
www.messenger.ie/bookshop/*

God is Not Fussy!

In the gospels Jesus' family life is hardly described. Like all of us family life would have been a big influence in his life. Because of its importance, the Church has always placed a great value on family.

A new reality now is that family life now very varied: divorced and separated parents, gay parents, widowed parents; while caring for all, the church proposes the family of mother and father where possible as the 'ideal.'

We commit ourselves as a church to solutions of homelessness and poverty in families. We need to be aware of the stresses of family life, to understand them and find funding for caring for them, especially the children. No matter what there are stresses in family life – the sacrament of marriage promises the help of God and the community.



The church encourages family prayer, like visiting the crib with children at Christmas, and making the most of religious occasions in the family. The gospel today is about the life of Jesus growing in humanity and wisdom. He was brought to the temple; Mary and Joseph taught him to pray.

There is a special presence of God in the family: in close love God is present. In all the aspects of family life.

God isn't very fussy where He lives and moves and has his being- so often it's in a wonderfully imperfect family!

*May the prayers of Mary and Joseph help us in our family life?
Bless us, o Lord, with the joy of love,
and strengthen all our families in your loving care.*