Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 26, 2021

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

During the course of the year, we celebrate many feast days: Christmas, Easter, Christ the King, different saints. But this Sunday is our feast day, the Feast of the Holy family. As parent or child of whatever age, this our feast.

In the Church we make use of the special term, "Vocation". Usually when we hear this word, "vocation," we think of the priesthood or the religious life. But that is a narrow use of the word. Parents and children, have a vocation too, the vocation to family life. Vocation means God's plan for you, and his plan for the vast majority of people is family life.

Fathers must have a job. It is their duty to support their families. Their job takes a lot of their time, their talent and their thought. But whatever job they have, no matter how important that job may be the welfare of others or even of society as a whole, their principal vocation is to be husband and father.

Mothers these days are often engaged in a lot of activities that take them out of the home. They may even have an outside job or career. But for them too, their principal vocation is to be a wife and mother.

Children and young adults look forward now, or soon will be looking forward, to becoming independent, going out on their own, getting a job, and eventually starting their own families, but right now their principal vocation is within their present families.

Today, there is a special need for this feast of family vocations. We all know that the family is under attack because of divorce, anti-child propaganda, and the pan sexualism of our age which tends to separate sex from marriage and true love. Some scientists even predicted that the day will come when husbands and wives will not be allowed by law to have children. Instead, sperm and ova banks will be set up. Children will be conceived artificially according to what some scientists think is the best possible combination of genes. The baby will then be a "test tube baby". After birth, he or she will not be brought up within a family, but by professional social workers. Then there will be no need for marriage or the family. So, the prediction goes, and what a sorry, tragic day it will be if they come to pass.

Family life is a full-time job, and a difficult one. That is why the Vatican Council stated that the family will fulfill its mission., not only "through mutual affection of its members," but also through "the common prayer they offer to God". Prayer is necessary and absolutely indispensable, both in the home and together in the church for Mass. Only from prayer and the Mass can a family derive the strength and help needed to fulfill its important vocation in our society. All of us must pray for the success of family life, even if we are living alone. Upon the success of family life depends the welfare of our whole society and the Church as well. And so, all of us must join together in praying for God's blessing upon family life.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**December 28**	**11:00AM**
Antonio Licad† (birthday/death anniv)		Lilibeth Licad
Wed.	**December 29**	**11:00AM**
Exaltacion Combong†		Ed & Mae
Thur.	**December 30**	**11:00AM**
Arcadio & Corazon Nicolas		Lilibeth Licad
Fri.	**December 31**	**4:30PM**
Simeon Rojo†		Imelda & Dolly
Sat.	**January 1**	**9:00AM**
People of the Parish		
		4:30PM
Teresa Del Rosario† & Alfredo Ilagan (healing)		Bob & Lydia
Sun.	**January 2**	**9:00AM**
People of the Parish		
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
Special Intentions		

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