

## The Most Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph

"The Lord sets a father in  
honor over his children;  
A mother's authority he  
confirms over her sons.  
He who honors his father  
atones for sins;  
He stores up riches who  
reveres his mother."  
Sirach 3:2-6,12-14



CHILDRENS LITURGY LESSON PLAN  
DECEMBER 29 ,2019

### THEME: THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY AND JOSEPH

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

When the magi had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him. "Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, *Out of Egypt I called my son*. When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, *He shall be called a Nazorean*

## ENTERING AND WELCOMING

- \*Make the children to stand in a circle and hold their hands together.
- \*Bring to their mind that Jesus is standing in middle of the circle. Wish Him. Prompt them to close eyes for talking to Jesus in prayer.
- \*Say a prayer in children's own words or do '**Our father**' and '**Hail Mary**' together
- \* **The Sorry Prayer: (Optional)**  
Ask the Children to reflect on the past week and reflect on whether they would like to say sorry for anything they have done or said to someone, that must have hurt Lord Jesus.  
(After each prayer, respond: Lord have mercy.)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### WELCOMING THE GOSPEL: ALLELUIA

### A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW

#### ST. MATTHEW 2:13-15,19-23

Response: Glory to you, O Lord

#### READ THE GOSPEL (given in the side)

The gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

**ACTIVITY: Trust in Lord directions and walk, you will be blessed and saved- Blind Fold**

**Assuring of the safety of the place and the help provided from liturgy leaders, children are blind folded, one at a time.**

**They are asked to walk to a destination that will be shown before blind folding them. At first the Child is asked to walk without directions and if she/he need directions, they must raise their hands. Then the liturgy leader gives directions accordingly to lead the child to destination.**

**At the end of the game, a message is given that lord directs all of us to the right and safe path to reach our destinations, we have to trust him and obey his messages and directions otherwise we will get lost in dark and loose our way. Entrust our family to the directions and plans of the lord.**

**'Blessed are those who fear the lord and walk in his ways' (Psalms 128:1)**

## **GOSPEL REFLECTIONS**

Last week, in the Gospel we heard about the Birth of Messiah- Jesus and about the visit of Lords angel in Joseph's dream who cleared doubts of Joseph and he accepted Mary as his wife.

**Prompt children to speak about their Family and activities they do together as a family.**

**Prompt them with a question like 'do you pray together as family?'**

In today's gospel, we hear the story of how the Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph was protected by the Lord from the traps set by King Herod who was trying to destroy baby Jesus. The Lord send His angel to warn Joseph, the Father of Baby Jesus regarding Herod's evil plans and Joseph trusted the Lord and His plans and obeyed accordingly as the lord spoke through the angel in his dreams and led the Holy Family to safety.

Joseph assured by God's message through the angel, accepted Mary as his wife. Now Joseph is getting a big responsibility of a family. A family formed by the direction and assurance of lord in heaven. Fathering the son of God.

Joseph was still guarded by the angel of the lord who gave directions to protect the Holy Family from the traps of evil. King Herod hearing the news of birth of JESUS, was disturbed and ordered all baby boys to be killed. God send his angel again to Joseph in his dreams and asked him to take the child and mother and flee to Egypt. The holy family stayed there till Herod died.

Again, the angel was sent to Joseph by the lord directing him to return back to Israel as the king Herod is dead. Joseph returned back to Nazareth in Galilee and hence Jesus is called the Nazaraen. All that took place were predicted in the prophetic books of the Old Testament.

Josephs obedience and consultation with heaven always led the Holy Family in safety. Today, as we celebrate the Holy Family, let us also pray for our families to be built like the holy family. Let us pray for our fathers to always be like St Joseph, consulting and obeying the direction of heaven to form and father our families leading it to safety. Let us pray for our mothers to be filled with grace and holy spirit like Mother Mary, humbling and pondering and saying yes to the heaven's plans. Pray for ourselves and siblings to be molded into Jesus filling in power Holy Spirit, grace and wisdom.

Everyday let us join like the Holy Family and pray together. A family that prays together stays together. When we pray together the heavens

will join us and our house will be house of God guided by Angels from all evil, fulfilling always the word of God. As we pray together, the heavens come and reside with us and we will be encamped by heavenly angels protecting us and delivering us from all evil.

Like St. Joseph God has given our Father to us. We children must pray for our father and mother so that they are able to submit our families to lord and get directions for the lord to lead the family to safety, escaping from all evil and fulfilling Lords plans.

## **VERSES TO REMEMBER (WRITTEN ON THE WHITE BOARD):**

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***“Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.”- (Psalms 128:1)***

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## **INTERCESSION PRAYERS:**

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If children have any personal prayer intentions, we pray for them.

And in response we pray: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.**

**Today let us intercede for Families, Parents and church.**

## **FINAL PRAYER:**

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Dear lord, thank you for joining us together as family. Jesus be king in our families and make our family as Holy Family filling with your grace love and wisdom. We pray for our father and mother so that they are able to submit our families to you and get directions from you to lead the family to safety, escaping from all evil and fulfilling Lords plans. We consecrate our families to sacred heart of Jesus. In Jesus name we pray, amen.

**Children re-join the Holy Mass.**