



Reflection on the Patron Saints of Grandparents

When we look at a person's qualities, we often link the person to his or her family. We say that the person comes from a good family or that the person had good parents who taught him or her the difference between right and wrong. We say that the person's family had good values. To an extent, our linking of the person to the family he or she grew up in is legitimate. We learn about our faith by word and example. Our parents taught us about God and how we are to live our lives so as to please Him.

On Tuesday, July 26, we honor the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joachim and St. Anne. When you look at Mary and see her many qualities, you cannot help but say, "Yes, she came from a good family. Her parents, Joachim and Anne, must have really loved her. They taught her well, and handed on to her great faith and love." For a moment, let us look at some of the qualities of Mary: the strong character she displayed in making decisions, her continuous practice of prayer, her devotion to the laws of her faith, her steadiness at moments of crises and her devotion to her relatives. These qualities indicate that Mary, coming from a close knit, loving family prepared her for the role she would play as the mother of Jesus. St. Joachim and St. Anne represent those generations of people who faithfully performed their duties, practiced their faith and established an atmosphere for the coming of the Messiah.

Because St. Joachim and St. Anne were the grandparents of Jesus, July 26th is the day we honor grandparents. It reminds grandparents of their responsibility to establish a tone for generations to come. They must try to keep important and beautiful traditions alive and offer them as a promise to their grandchildren. The feast also has a message for the younger generations as well. It reminds the young that their elders' perspective, their depth of experience and their appreciation of life's great mysteries, are all part of a wisdom not to be taken lightly.

On this feast of St. Joachim and St. Anne, let us pray for all of our families and celebrate the love that we have. Let us also pray for our grandparents, both living and deceased, and thank the Lord for all that we have received from them.

Father David

Capital Campaign Update

As of July 16, we have collected \$126,966 for our Capital Campaign. We have passed the 50% mark! I thank all those who have supported the campaign thus far and ask those who have not yet responded to prayerfully consider what you are able to give to this important campaign to ensure that our buildings are beautiful and worthy of the many things we do in the parish complex. The asbestos removal is now finished and we hope to begin work on the paving of the parking lot in early August. Thank you!

Fr. David