



## The Holy Family

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. Much of what we hear today regarding families seems to involve violence, greed and lack of communication. Our media often does not report the good things that happen in our families. I have come to know many families here at St. James the Apostle Parish over the years and can truly say that many good things indeed are happening in our families. I can often see how much parents love their children and how the children come to respect their parents. Certainty, no family has a perfect life. Human nature seems to dictate that there will be conflicts at times, but overall family life is doing well. One thing we must make sure of is that the quality of our family life does not diminish. We must always be on guard to insure that open communication, understanding, forgiveness and above all, love, are a part of everyday family living.

Today, we look at the life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph together as a family. We see the virtues that they exhibited and try to make them a part of our own family life. Respect, love and obedience are highlighted in the Gospel regarding the Holy Family. Let us strive to make those virtues a reality in our own families not just at this time of year, but every day of our lives.

On behalf of the parish staff, I would like to wish all of you a Blessed and Happy New Year! May 2018 be a year of peace, happiness and love as we go forth to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed.

*Father David*

## Thank You!

A sincere "Thank You" goes out to all who helped in any way to make our Christmas celebrations truly prayerful and inspiring. Whether you helped decorate, participated in one of the liturgical ministries, or supported the parish in some other way, including your generous financial gifts to the parish, I sincerely thank you!

A "Thank You" also goes out to Williams-Kampp Funeral Home, Borter Heating and Air Conditioning, Bob Bollweg Plumbing and Bertacchi and Sons Memorials for supplying the parish with the beautiful religious art calendars for 2018. May God bless them for their generosity!

*Father David*