

BLESSING OF FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

(Could be given during the Sunday Liturgy on the Feast of the Holy Family or on any other appropriate occasion.)

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

Women and girls, may God make all men, young and old, a blessing for you, to cherish you and fill you with joy as you love and care for others! May the Holy Trinity immerse you in love, so that in pain or in joy, troubled or at peace, abused or appreciated, alone or embraced, sick or in health, you may find in Jesus our Savior comfort, strength, love, and hope your whole life long, and at the end of a long life, eternal happiness! **Amen!**

Men and boys, may our Father grant you to value the gift of life and be grateful to God in Jesus – and in the face of your own weakness may our Father grant you courage under trial, faith in doubt, and confident trust in God even in defeat; so that you may offer care and stability to your family and people in need, faithfully form your children together with their mothers, and show by your kindness, fidelity, and presence that they are all loved! **Amen!**

Parents, may the Holy Trinity, model and source of Family, grant you to be generously and gladly present to your family, and help single parents as they need. May the Holy Spirit give you wisdom to form your children with kindness, to blend chores into the fun of family life, and to draw your children into prayer by praying with them. May you give your children – even if you are separated – a father and mother who love each other and a family that is kind to each person even when times are difficult. **Amen!**

Young Men and Women, Boys and Girls

Young men and young women, boys and girls, may you be grateful for the gift of life God gives you, and honour your mother and father, or their memory; so that you may find inner peace and assurance of your place in this world and in God's kingdom. As you notice your parents' faults and God teaches you valuable life lessons, may you admit your own faults, may you seek and find forgiveness in Jesus, may you gladly grow as a child of God, be a faithful disciple of Jesus, and in the power of the Holy Spirit, make of your life a gift of love for others. **Amen!**

May Almighty God bless you, the Father, and + the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

Go in peace, glorifying God by your life! **Thanks be to God!**

(Appropriate greeting according to the liturgical season or civil observance)