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Dear Families of Little Flower Parish,

On this Feast of the Holy Family - Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I write to you with a heart full of joy and gratitude for the gift of family life, which is at the very heart of our faith community.

The Holy Family stands as a model of love, unity, and trust in God's plan. Despite facing trials, uncertainties, and challenges, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph remained steadfast in their love for one another and their faithfulness to God. Their example inspires us to embrace our own family life with the same spirit of humility, patience, and sacrificial love.

In a world often marked by division and busyness, the Holy Family calls us back home to the beauty of simple, intentional living—where love is prioritized, faith is nurtured, and forgiveness is generously given. They remind us that holiness is found not in perfection, but in the daily acts of care and kindness shared around the family unit.

As we celebrate this feast, I encourage each family in our parish to reflect on the ways you can grow closer to God and to one another, through God's gift of family. Perhaps it's through praying together as a family, finding time to share meals, or offering words of encouragement and support during difficult moments. Let us entrust our families to the care of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, asking them to strengthen us with their intercession and guidance.

This feast also reminds us that we, as a parish, are a family. At Little Flower, we strive to create a spiritual home where every person feels valued and supported. Together, we share in the joys and burdens of life, united in Christ's love and mercy.

Considering this great Church feast, our parish is blessed to uphold a cherished tradition—celebrating Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist through the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a solemn blessing at the conclusion of our weekend Masses. This beautiful practice reminds us that Jesus, who shared in the joys and struggles of family life in Nazareth, remains with us today, offering Himself as our spiritual nourishment and strength. The Holy Eucharist is the heart of our faith and the wellspring of grace for our families, uniting us to Christ and one another. I encourage all families to embrace this moment of reverence and adoration. Let us bring our joys, sorrows, and hopes before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, asking Him to bless our homes with the virtues of the Holy Family—love, patience, and a deep trust in God's providence.

Please know of my prayers for each of you. May this season of Christmas bring abundant blessings to your hearts and homes and may the example of the Holy Family inspire you to draw ever closer to one another and to God.

Your parish priest, Fr JC Merino