



The Family of the Trinity

The Feast of the Blessed Trinity reminds us that God is a family with three persons totally in love with each other and wanting to share this love with us.

In August 2018, Pope Francis will be coming to Dublin for the World Gathering of Families. We will be welcoming families from all over the world. It will be an opportunity for us to reflect on our own family life and on how we model ourselves on the family of God - the Blessed Trinity. Pope Francis wrote: "*The Joy of Love*" (*Amoris Laetitia*) on love in the Family. In it he tells us that three expressions are important in our family:

- Please
- Thank you
- I'm sorry

He also says that family prayer is a special way of expressing and strengthening our family. He suggests:

"a few minutes can be found each day to come together before the loving God:

- + *To tell him our worries;*
- + *To ask for the needs of our family*
- + *To pray for someone who is experiencing difficulty*
- + *To ask for help in showing love;*
- + *To give thanks for life and for its blessings;*
- + *And to ask Our Lady to protect us beneath her maternal mantle."*

Pope Francis concludes *"with a few simple words, this moment of prayer can do immense good for our families."* (318)

Our Parish is also a family. I am conscious that many people are living alone. I have included a "*Prayer for Those Living Alone*", but perhaps we as a family should be conscious of those living alone - they are part of our Parish Family.

Today's feast invites us to model our families on the Family of God - a family in love with each other and wanting to share this love with others.

God bless

Fr. Pat

A Prayer for Those Who Live Alone

*I live alone dear Lord, stay by my side,
In all my daily needs be Thou my guide.
Grant me good health, for that indeed I pray,
To carry on my work from day to day.
Keep pure my mind, my thoughts,
My every deed,
Let me be kind, unselfish,
In my neighbour's need.
Spare me from fire, from flood,
malicious tongues,
From thieves, from fear, and evil ones.
If sickness or an accident befall,
Then humbly, Lord, I pray,
Hear Thou my call.
And when I'm feeling low, or in despair,
Lift up my heart and help me in my prayer.
I live alone, dear Lord, yet have no fear,
Because I feel your presence, every near.
Amen.*