



## **Consecration to the Holy Family**

On December 8<sup>th</sup>, Pope Francis declared the Year of St. Joseph recalling the 150 years since St. Joseph was declared the Patron of the Universal Church. Our patron, saint who when faced with the prospect putting Mary away quietly because she was with child, followed God's will rather than his own inclinations and became the guardian of Jesus and Mary. As a way of honoring St. Joseph and the Holy Family, the Knights of Columbus are fostering the Consecration to the Holy Family and encourage each of our parish's families to join with the Knights in the Consecration on the weekend of January 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>.

The Holy Family showed us, by example, their deep love for one another and that with fortitude, perseverance and trust in God they countered the forces that wanted to do them harm. Families today are also confronted by cultural forces that diminish rather than strengthen family life. What better way to overcome these forces than to join ourselves to the Holy Family through Consecration?

The Knights of Columbus Council is promoting the Consecration to help our parish families model the ideal of familial love set by Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and to place our families under the protection of the Holy Family.

Beginning the weekend of January 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, we ask each family to prepare for the consecration which will culminate on January 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> when the Consecration prayer will be recited at all Masses.

In preparation we ask that:

- Each family pray together each day for a week.
- Each family fast from something to help discipline our minds and hearts
- Each family go to confession before the Consecration.

A holy family is one in which the members help one another on the path of holiness and recognize that the challenges of family life are opportunities for holiness. Please join with the Knights in this Consecration to the Holy Family.