

## **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (End of the Jubilee Year) 28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Good evening/morning and welcome to St Joseph's Church on this, the Feast of the Holy Family. As always, we extend a special welcome to visitors to our church today.

We deeply respect this land and its traditional custodians, the Bunurong and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation.

We also re-commit ourselves to the ongoing safeguarding of the young and vulnerable in our community.

As we conclude the **Jubilee Year of 2025** as Pilgrims of Hope, we are reminded through the Gospel of the drama and grave dangers faced by the Holy Family on their journeys. Such experiences are not remote from the lives of some of our parish community, and certainly many in the wider world where challenges to family life and culture are an everyday reality. Our celebrant today is .....

(Following the 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's this weekend we will officially place our Parish Time Capsule in the wall cavity provided in our church sacristy bringing to a close our own parish Jubilee Year)

Please stand for our entrance hymn:

No..... Title.....

**FIRST READING** Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14

This book is also called Sirach, after its author. We are reminded to honour our parents, even when they become old and frail.

(Commentator pauses after the reading is finished)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

(Commentator pauses after the psalm is finished).

**SECOND READING** Letter of St Paul to the Colossians 3:12-21

This meditative reading reminds us that we are God's chosen race and Christ's peace flows to others in our family relationships.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** On the Bulletin if not sung

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### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**Celebrant:** Sisters and brothers, as on this Feast of the Holy Family the Jubilee of Hope comes to an end across the Universal Church, let us pray for our own families, our parish and church families, and all families around the world.

- 1 For the family of the Church as it marks the conclusion of the Jubilee of Hope, that it will continue to be sustained in hope, grow in unity and witness to Jesus Christ. Let us pray to the Lord.
- 2 For the family of nations: that each may share the responsibility of creating a world where peace is made real for everyone. Let us pray to the Lord.
3. For our own families: For our own families: that they will grow *in kindness, humility, gentleness and patience* in the good times and when facing difficulties. Let us pray to the Lord.
4. For families enduring great hardship: because of religious persecution, war, terrorism, because of extreme weather, that we will hold them up to God in prayer. Let us pray to the Lord.
5. For a deep reverence for human life, from the moment of conception, through every stage of development, to natural death, that the dignity of all may be respected. Let us pray to the Lord.
6. That all those who travel this holiday period may do so safely and be refreshed by spending meaningful time with family and friends: Let us pray to the Lord.
7. For all the departed members of our families, those recently deceased ..... and those we remember with gratitude at this time ..... that they may find eternal happiness in God. Let us pray to the Lord.

**Celebrant:** Heavenly Father, source of life and love for every family, help us to see in the life, unity and love of the earthly family of your Son, Jesus, the hopes you place in us and our families. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.