

Feast of the Holy Family

A Family Commitment Blessing

Leader: Father, we gather today as members of a family with a past history and a future hope. With your family, we celebrate and proclaim the sacredness of our family, even in its brokenness. We recommit ourselves to be a family which is willing to pray, love, forgive, and to share with one another and with all your people.

Each one of us can make a difference in our family this year, by undertaking the following promises. Please repeat each promise after me. *(Or statements may be phrased as questions, with family members responding "I do.")*

Promises

I promise through the intercession of the Holy Family, to help my family become a loving community for each member and the world in which we live. *(Repeat)*

I promise to do my best:

- . . . to pray with and for my family. *(Repeat)*
- . . . to share with my family through word and example. *(Repeat)*
- . . . to celebrate and preserve the rituals and traditions of my family. *(Repeat)*
- . . . to show love and affection through word and touch. *(Repeat)*
- . . . to forgive and to reconcile. *(Repeat)*
- . . . to communicate honestly and openly. *(Repeat)*
- . . . to freely share my time and treasures. *(Repeat)*
- . . . to do my share of the work. *(Repeat)*
- . . . to be hospitable to all who enter into our home. *(Repeat)*
- . . . and to always show respect for each family member. *(Repeat)*

Leader: Let us bow our heads and pray for our family. May the Holy Family strengthen our resolve to contribute to the strengthening of our family. May the Holy Family reconcile any broken relationships in our family. May the Holy Family give us the courage to be committed to help our family become a community of life and love. And may the peace of Jesus Christ be with us always.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us now offer one another a sign of peace to symbolize the commitments we have made to being life-giving members of this family.

As a sign of commitment to one another, family members may share a festive meal, with each family member contributing something to the meal (food, decoration, music, etc.).