READINGS FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY 28TH DECEMBER 2025

First Reading **Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14**

The Lord honoured the father above the children,
and he confirmed the judgement of the mother over her sons.
Whoever honours his father atones for sins,
and whoever glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure.
Whoever honours his father will be gladdened by his own children,
and when he prays he will be heard.
Whoever glorifies his father will have long life,
and whoever obeys the Lord will refresh his mother.
O son, help your father in his old age
and do not grieve him as long as he lives;
even if he is lacking in understanding, show indulgence;
in all your strength do not despise him.
For kindness to a father will not be forgotten,
and against your sins it will be credited to you.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.

Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper.

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive
around your table.

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the husband who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper
all the days of your life!

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.

Second Reading **Colossians 3:12-17**

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts;
let the message of Christ find a home with you.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL **Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23**

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to send her away quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.'

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:
'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Emmanuel' —
which means, God with us.
When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ