



## Liturgy of the Word for Families

### *Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

**Note:** *Prepare a prayer focus and light a candle.*

**SIGN OF THE CROSS:** **Ki te ingoa...**



Tēnā Koutou Katoa – Haere mai. Good morning and welcome everyone. Today is the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Family is a wonder of creation. Children spend years soaking up everything that occurs in their family. What they learn, they live out for the rest of their lives. In great wisdom, God chose to place Jesus in the heart of a human family. We are amazed by this.

Welcome! Let's sing together

**Once in royal David's City** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ze-Z3jomErs>

**READER:** E te Atua - God with us, through your goodness you have come to us and you dwell with us. You placed Jesus, your son, vulnerable and helpless as a baby, in the loving arms of Mary and Joseph. May we, your servants, imitate their love for you in all we do.

You came among us, vulnerable and helpless	Lord have mercy	<b>(All)</b> Lord have mercy
You placed yourself in the care of a human family	Christ have mercy	<b>(All)</b> Christ have mercy
You are the light of the world	Lord have mercy	<b>(All)</b> Lord have mercy

**OPENING PRAYER:** In this time of silence, we bring to mind all the things we want to pray for. *(Allow silence, 1 minute)*

O God, Father and Mother to all humankind, you give us the precious Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph. Grant that we might imitate their example of love and charity, of joyfulness and kindness, so that our homes will be places where your love dwells and your light shines. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

**ALL:** Amen

**FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 1:20-22,24-28**

A reading from the first book of Samuel  
In those days Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel, since she had asked the Lord for him.  
The next time her husband Elkanah was going up with the rest of his household to offer the customary sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfill his vows, Hannah did not go, explaining to her husband, "Once the child is weaned, I will take him to appear before the Lord and to remain there forever; I will offer him as a perpetual nazirite."  
Once Samuel was weaned, Hannah brought him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and presented him at the temple of the Lord in Shiloh.

Now I in turn give  
him to the Lord



After the boy's father had sacrificed the young bull,  
Hannah, his mother, approached Eli and said:  
"Pardon, my lord!  
As you live, my lord,  
I am the woman who stood near you here, praying to the Lord.  
I prayed for this child, and the Lord granted my request.  
Now I, in turn, give him to the Lord;  
as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the Lord."  
Hannah left Samuel there.  
Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord  
**ALL:** Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God

**Silence** – *Let's be quiet for a few moments and let God's Word find a place to rest inside us.*

**Discuss** - It is difficult in our culture to understand how a mother could give her child away. What was Hannah's motive?

**PSALM:** *Psalm 128 Blessed are those who fear the "Lord and walk in his ways.*  
*Kids* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzSl\\_eHIKyc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzSl_eHIKyc)  
*Youth* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQYhc164dTQ>  
*Adults* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URxg18QdEU0>

**Second Reading** 1 John 3:1-2,21-24

A reading from the first book of John

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us  
that we may be called the children of God.

And so we are.

The reason the world does not know us  
is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now;  
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,  
for we shall see him as he is.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us,  
we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we  
ask,

because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.  
And his commandment is this:

we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ,  
and love one another just as he commanded us.

Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in  
them,

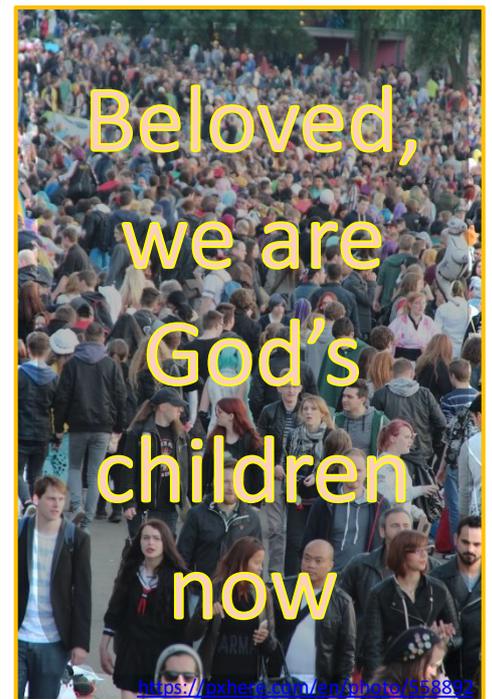
and the way we know that he remains in us  
is from the Spirit he gave us.

Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord

**ALL:** Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God

**Silence** - *Follow the reading with quiet thinking time.*

**Discussion** - In this reading, John calls the people he is writing to, 'beloved,' three times. Why do you think he does this and what does it imply?



**GOSPEL:** Luke 2:41-52

**Reader** Kia noho te Ariki - The Lord be with you

**All:** Ki tōu wairua anō hoki - And also with you

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover,

and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom.

After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day

and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him,

they returned to Jerusalem to look for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers,

listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers.

When his parents saw him, they were astonished,

and his mother said to him,

"Son, why have you done this to us?

Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety."

And he said to them,

"Why were you looking for me?

Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

But they did not understand what he said to them.

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them;

and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favour before God and man.

**Reader** Ko te rongopai a te Ariki – The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL:** Kia whakanuia rā koe, e te Ariki, e Hēhu Karaiti – Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



*After the reading -. Silence.*

→→→ **Kids Gospel** (note, this gospel uses the Year B Reading) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z88JKmoOyuM>

→→→ **Adults / Youth - Homily / Discussion** – 'His mother kept all these things in her heart.' What does this mean? What do you keep in your heart?

**Prayer of the Faithful:** *As God's people we pray for the needs of the whole world.*

**For the Church** – that the call of the Gospel will make us love-bearers, taking the love of God to those we live with and those we work with.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For our national and community leaders** – that in all their decisions, the needs of children and families will be given priority.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For every family** – that families be warm, loving, caring, providing fully for children as they grow to adulthood.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For people living in violent or abusive situations** – that domestic violence and abuse will end, that peace and pathways to healing will open.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For families unable to be together at this time** - that the strain of separation may be eased, knowing the loving bonds which unite a family are not broken by distance.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For those who are very ill or dying** – that they will be held and supported by the care and gentleness of loving friends and family.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For those grieving the loss of loved ones** – that the deep sense of loss felt at this festive time give way to peace and gratitude for the lives of loved ones.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

### **Other Intentions**

#### **Concluding Prayer:**

O God, you cradle us at the beginning of life and embrace us at journey's end. You are with us always. You entrusted your son to the care of Mary and Joseph, and did not spare them the pains that touch the life of every family. Teach us to be open to your word and rely on you in times of trial. May we live as Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in the love of the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit...**Amen.**

**READER:** And now let us pray together as Jesus taught us: Choose Māori or English

*The Lord's Prayer in Māori at this link <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/te-reo-in-the-liturgy/>  
Scroll down and open the button – ko to inoi a te Ariki (Words will show on the screen).*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

### **Reflection for the Feast of the Holy Family**

**Reader:** The Christ-toddler stumbles: a stone.

There are tears.

Mother Mary picks him up.

They hug.

The blood-red toe is washed.

They hug again.

Father Joseph took the stone and threw it far away.

In this way, the Christ-child grew

In wisdom age and favour.

The Holy Family, like so many families,

A holy ground where children grow,

Discover love, and how to care, forgive and laugh.

And so we pray, may every family be

A house of peace where wounds are healed,

A place where children discover love, and how to care, forgive and laugh

A place where every child can grow, in wisdom, age and favour.

**Reader:** It is the Feast day of the Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph. God has come to dwell in a human family. May the knowledge of Christ's nearness, Christ's presence with you and with your family, bring you peace. Thank you for your participation in this Liturgy of the Word. Thank you for your kindness and presence. Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou – Peace be with you.  
Let us go in peace, loving and serving God in all we do.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SONG:**

**Kids**                    Away in a Manger

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4Jcl\\_ax2OE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4Jcl_ax2OE)

**Youth Adults**        Away in a Manger

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbQpEdwGEXo>

communion  
participation  
mission



For a synodal Church

*Feedback to Auckland Diocese by 22/4/2022*

- The Diocese of Auckland: for more information on the Synod <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synod/>
- Printable PDF, with Synod information <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/SynodInformationBooklet.pdf>