



## Feast of The Holy Family

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

WRITTEN BY SISTER JOSEPHINE PATTI, GNSH

**First Reading:** Genesis [15:1-6](#); [21:1-3](#)

**Second Reading:** Hebrews [11:8](#), [11-12](#), [17-19](#)

**Psalm:** Psalms [105:1-2](#), [3-4](#), [5-6](#), [8-9](#)

**Gospel:** Luke [2:22-40](#)

As we hear almost daily reminders of murdered Israeli citizens and hostages; of fleeing Palestinian families trying to escape and hide from those looking for Hamas terrorists; for Ukrainian civilians and soldiers, and Russian soldiers; for those experiencing the effects of climate change and poverty, it takes our thoughts back thousands of years to the Holy Family.

*The Lord remembers his covenant forever...*

Two young boys played in the dirt in front of the house while a young woman, mother of one of the boys, watched with a smile on her face.

Soon she called to them and Jesus and his cousin, John, ran immediately to her side.

It was time for Jesus, Mary and Joseph to begin the long journey back to their own town of Nazareth from Egypt where they had sought refuge at fearsome news: Herod was sending men to kill young Jewish boys when he heard of the birth of another king.

*The Lord remembers his covenant forever...*

When the days for their purification were completed, Joseph and Mary took Jesus up to Jerusalem, according to the Law of Moses.

At that time, the Holy Spirit led Simeon and Anna to the temple and each prophesied about what the future held for this child.

Mary pondered these things in her heart as they returned to Nazareth; the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom and the favor of God was upon him.

*The Lord remembers his covenant forever...*

Let us pray to the Holy Family for those suffering anywhere in the world, especially in these current days of terror.