FAMILY PERSPECTIVES

February 2, 2020 **Presentation of the Lord**	**February 9, 2020** **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
In today's Gospel, Mary and Joseph present Jesus in the temple where he is consecrated or set apart to serve the Lord. Each of us is consecrated in our baptism to serve God's purpose and then molded by God in our family. Take time to talk and pray together about seeking and following God in our homes and lives.	Relationships die from neglect or harsh criticism. They need at least five positive to each negative interaction. *Be light and salt in your marriage* by saying that kind word with a note or flowers. Go the extra mile in helping with family chores. Give encouragement rather than criticism. Let those you love hear and see that love! *Let your light shine through good deeds.*

February 16, 2020 **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	**February 23, 2020** **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Today's Gospel is from the "Sermon on the Mount." Jesus gives strong and lofty ideals to inspire and guide our living. For family life we are reminded that ideal families are not lived on lofty mountaintops, but in the nitty-gritty of everyday life. In their love, mutual sharing and forgiveness, families give us a glimpse of the Kingdom of Heaven.	Jesus challenges us to be *generous* in our love. Keeping score, getting even, holding grudges, being resistant and hating enemies are not routes to holiness and the fulfilling life. Draw on God's limitless love for you to go the extra mile, seek the great good, love your enemies and see what miracles God can work in your life! You cannot out give God!

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

February 2, 2020	That all family members – single, married, divorced, widowed and remarried – will feel welcomed and inspired by our parish community to live a holy God-centered life. Let us pray to the Lord.
February 9, 2020	For God's gracious blessing on all engaged and married couples. Let us pray to the Lord.
February 16, 2020	For the grace to put God in first place above our worries and before our wants; to seek first his ways. Let us pray to the Lord.
February 23, 2020	We pray for generous hearts and the willingness to go the extra mile and seek the greater good. Let us pray to the Lord.