

AN ORDINARY FAMILY LIFE

A carpenter, a homemaker and a bright young son. It could be your family, your neighbor's or any family. In this case, we're speaking of Joseph, Mary and Jesus of Nazareth.

While Jesus was the Son of God, that didn't give his family any special status or privileges. Like most other families, they worked and toiled, they studied and learned, they spent time together, supported each other, and shared joys and sorrows.

They lived an ordinary life, and in that way, they demonstrated the honor of family life. They have shown us family life's simplicity, its importance and its challenges.

REVIEW ONLY

"The future of humanity passes by way of the family."
— Pope John Paul II

IMAGINE THEIR LIVES — Aside from the story of Jesus at age 12 in the temple, we know little about his early family years. Given what you've learned about Joseph and Mary, how do you think the Holy Family spent that those years from Jesus' birth in Bethlehem to his time at the temple?

**DO NOT SUBMIT
FOR PRINT**

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY — The Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's Day. If Christmas and New Year's fall on Sundays, the Feast is celebrated December 30.

CELEBRATING YOUR FAMILY —

Sure there are days when your little brother bugs too much or your big sister gets bossy. Or maybe you're an only child and have to take all your parents' nagging!

Whatever your family makeup, there are times when it's tough and times when you're so glad they're there.



the holy family