

A Letter from Fr. Patrick Kizza

December 28, 2025

My dear brothers and sisters, every year on 28 December, the Church remembers the Feast of the Holy Innocents, children who were brutally murdered by King Herod out of fear and jealousy. These infants were completely innocent, yet they became victims of violence and injustice. Their suffering reminds us that even today, many children continue to be denied their dignity and right to life, from conception to natural death. Whether through abortion, abuse, neglect, war, poverty, or exploitation, the cry of innocent children still rises to heaven. The Feast of the Holy Innocents challenges us to ask ourselves how we, as individuals and as a society, protect the most vulnerable among us.

Today, the Church places before us the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, a family that knew fear, danger, displacement, and uncertainty. In the Gospel, we see Joseph acting swiftly and courageously to protect the Child Jesus. Warned in a dream, he rises in the middle of the night, takes Mary and Jesus, and flees to Egypt. This was not a comfortable journey; it meant becoming refugees in a foreign land, leaving behind security, family, and familiarity. Joseph teaches us that true love is sacrificial and protective. Like him, parents and guardians today are called to place the safety, faith, and well-being of their children above convenience, comfort, or personal plans.

This Gospel also reminds us that God chooses to enter the world within a family. Jesus could have come in power and glory, but instead He came as a vulnerable child, dependent on the care of Mary and Joseph. The Holy Family shows us what family life is meant to be: a place of trust, obedience to God, mutual support, and protection of life. In our own families, we imitate the Holy Family when we create homes where children feel safe, loved, and guided in faith—where prayer is practiced, forgiveness is offered, and God's will is sought, even in difficult moments.

Finally, the journey of the Holy Family speaks to all who experience fear, displacement, or uncertainty today. Many families around the world are forced to flee violence, hunger, or injustice, much like Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. This Gospel calls us not only to admire the Holy Family but to defend life, support families in need, welcome the stranger, and stand up for the dignity of every child. By imitating the courage of Joseph, the faith of Mary, and the vulnerability of the Christ Child, we become living witnesses that God is still protecting life through loving and faithful families.

I am deeply grateful for the parishioners who generously give their time and talents by being involved in various organizations that support those in need. Your commitment, compassion, and spirit of service are a living witness to the Gospel and a true blessing to our parish and the wider community.