



PASTORAL LETTER

My dear Little Flower,

What a weekend it has been for us at our parish! Last week, we had our second *Family Mass*, which we started in October. Every month, we invite everyone in our parish, starting with the Religious Faith Formation Families, to come to church, to worship and to celebrate our faith family. All individuals are invited and encouraged to bring their families to celebrate the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass with us.

In our spiritual journey and pilgrimage as a parish, I invite all families to three Es: **Engage, Encounter, Experience**. All families are invited to **engage** in the larger community of faith, so as to **encounter** Jesus Christ in one another, in the hope that the community **experiences** the loving and living God. ALL Families. In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we are reminded that our calling is to participate in “the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist” as “a testimony of **belonging** and of being faithful to Christ and to his Church” (CCC 2182). The family is a “communion of persons... a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit” (CCC 2205). In nourishing and educating our children to the faith by coming to Mass as a family, we reflect the Father’s work of creation - i.e., we continue God’s work as we journey through our pilgrim way in life.

Little Flower, I invite you to take every opportunity to do the work of God by **engaging** in our community of faith, to **encounter** Jesus Christ who knows and loves you, so as to **experience** the healing of God’s love and mercy through the invitation to participate in the mission of love - the mission of the Church.

Your parish priest,
Fr JC Merino