

Pastor's Column

Family Day, Sunday, October 20 – Mass and Picnic



Annually, the Archdiocese Marriage and Family Office promotes a parish-wide celebration of Family Day for the purpose of “strengthening all families and the parish family. We celebrate the sacredness and gift of family and joyfully interact with one another at Sunday Mass and with the greater parish community.”

We will celebrate Family Day at St. Francis on Sunday, October 20, with weekend masses and a parish picnic from 1-4pm at Pontiff Park in Metairie. Last year, God gave us a picture-perfect day for our Family Day picnic. We are praying for a repeat of the cool weather and low humidity.

For history buffs, the word “picnic” derives from the 17th Century French words “picque” and “nique,” which mean “to pick something small.” Then as now, a picnic is an outdoor gathering centered around food and socializing.

This year’s picnic again will be a free event with BBQ pork loin and chicken (donated by Zuppardo’s Family Super Market), hot dogs for kids, drinks, Plum Street snowballs, a Pie-Eating Contest, a Pie-Baking Contest, a Cake Walk, and old-fashioned games like egg toss and the three-legged race.

Thanks to David and Sarah McDonald, the KCs, Daughters, Men’s Club, Home and School, Sharing Program and Hospitality Committee for their labors for this event. Please pray for good weather for Family Day. Bring a chair and come ready to picnic and enjoy good eats and fun with your SFX parish family! (PS, Sports Fans: The Saints play at Chicago at 3:25 pm that day).

Finally, please pray this blessing prayer in the coming week: “We bless Your Name, O Lord, for you sent your only Son to be part of a family so that, as he lived within it joys and sufferings, He could be present and provide new life to all families. Amen.”

God bless,
Fr. Joe