

(March 2019)

## THE JOY OF LOVE

### **Chapter 5 – Love Made Fruitful**

“Mothers are the strongest antidote to the spread of self-centered individualism. It is they who testify to the beauty of life. Certainly, a society without mothers would be dehumanized, for mothers are always, even in the worst of times, witnesses to tenderness, dedication and moral strength.” 174

“Growing up with brothers and sisters makes for a beautiful experience of caring for and helping one another... “having a brother or a sister who loves you is a profound, precious and unique experience”.” 195

#### *Prayer to the Holy Family*

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
in you we contemplate  
the splendour of true love;  
to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth,  
grant that our families too  
may be places of communion and prayer,  
authentic schools of the Gospel  
and small domestic churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth,  
may families never again experience  
violence, rejection and division;  
may all who have been hurt or scandalized  
find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth,  
make us once more mindful  
of the sacredness and inviolability of the family,  
and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
Graciously hear our prayer.  
Amen.