

DECEMBER 28, 2014



# FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH



SIRACH 3:2–6, 12–14 OR GENESIS 15:1–6:21:1–3

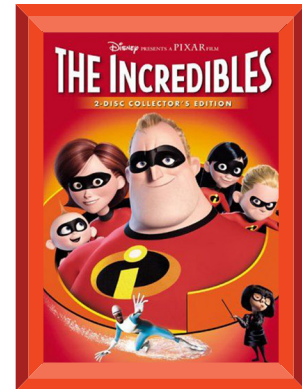
PSALM 128:1–2, 3, 4–5

COLOSSIANS 3:12–21 OR 3:12–17 OR HEBREWS 11:8, 11–12, 17–19

LUKE 2:22–40 OR 2:22, 39–40

## REFLECTION

In what ways are you most like your family? Do you have your grandmother's eyes? Are you tall like your uncle? Do you have your father's kindness or your mother's sense of humor? You may have the physical characteristics of relatives or personality quirks from the family you've grown up in. We already know that before they were parents, Mary and Joseph each had a close relationship with God. Today's Gospel shows Jesus's family as observant Jews keeping the traditions of their faith. Would you describe your own family as holy? Before you answer, read the first few sentences of the Second Reading. Even families that aren't really religious can give their kids a good start when it comes to holiness. Traits like mercy, kindness, humility, patience, forgiveness, and love are important foundations.



The movie *The Incredibles* (2004) is a lighthearted story with an important message. It shows a family that has problems but is able to help each member find and use their gifts when it really matters.

## ACTION

Interview someone in your family and find out what they think is the most important story about your family. What events, challenges, influences, or successes have had the biggest impact on your family?

## JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- Are there any traits or habits in your family that aren't good or maybe not good for you? What are some ways you can change those things in yourself?
- Write about a time or a trait connected to your family that you are grateful for.