

They should consider reviving or starting the Christian Family Movements in their parishes and providing them with the needed pastoral care to develop inter-family relationships and reciprocal spiritual and material assistance (*Familiaris Consortio* no.6).

Zeal for the family apostolate and home visitation of parishioners, in particular, has been on the decline and needs to be revived if we are ever to get to know and draw closer to those families in difficulty.

To our lay faithful, men and women religious in the parishes, let us also open our eyes and reach with concrete love and action to those families who are likely to miss out the joy of the family feast of Christmas because of the difficult situations and circumstance in which they find themselves. “Faith without works is dead” (Jam 2,14).

CONCLUSION

In the midst of all these there is need for us to reassure ourselves of God’s abiding presence and trust in him. The example of the Holy Family should remind us that there is need to allow Christ into our homes to become the rock upon which we found our unions (Mtt 7:21-29).

I commit all marriages and families going through difficult times in the diocese, especially during this period of advent, to the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Wishing all families, a blessed advent and a joyous Christmas celebration.

Most Rev. Alfred Agyenta

(Catholic Bishop, Navrongo-Bolgatanga Diocese)



cc. All Parishes, Rectorates, Chaplaincies, Religious Houses