

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,
June 20, 2021**

A FATHER'S HEART



This Sunday we celebrate Father's Day in the United States, an appropriate time to recognize and express our gratitude to those men who have cared, supported and instructed us in our lives. In the universal calendar of the Church, Father's Day is the feast of St. Joseph the father of Jesus on March 19.

Joseph's mission is certainly unique and unrepeatable, because Jesus is absolutely unique. And yet, in his guardianship of Jesus, forming him to grow in age, wisdom and grace, he is a model for every educator, especially every father. St Joseph is the model of the educator and the dad, the father. As fathers, our fathers' also have a unique role in raising their own children.

We, entrust to his protection, all parents, priests — who are fathers — and those who have an educational role in the Church and in society. We ask for you the grace to be ever closer to your children, allow them to grow, but be close, close! They need you, your presence, your closeness, your love. May you be for them as St Joseph was: guardians of their growth in age, wisdom and grace. May you guard them on their journey: be educators and walk with them. And by this closeness you will be true ducators.

Thank you for all you do for your children: thank you. Best wishes to you, and a Happy Father's Day,

Father John Carlos