



**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

My dear brothers and sisters,

With another week upon us, I trust that you and your families are safe and well and of course in good spirits.

I must admit that it has been an interesting week whereby we celebrated our Feast Day of Christ the King online without the usual presence of our church family and yet in the press we are left waiting in a flummox of whether or not we should get together with our families have a Christmas and if so who should we meet up. There are lots of decisions to make for many of us.

So that you are clear, we shall all be celebrating Christmas regardless of what the news reports say. Do not be confused! Simply apply a dose of common sense and let no one suppress what brings you happiness. Between now and 25 December, I encourage you to stand firm and put yourselves first in search of your own happiness. You have it in you to make yourself happy! Ask and you will receive, seek and you will find and knock and the door shall be open. As always, I will leave you with a few wise words on happiness....

God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain. However, he did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, light for the way. Disappointments are like road bumps They slow you down a bit but you enjoy the smooth road afterwards. Don't stay on the humps too long. Move on!

When you feel down because you didn't get what you want, just sit tight and be happy because God is thinking of something better to give you. When something happens to you, good or bad, consider what it means there's a purpose to life's events. You can't make someone love you, all you can do is be someone who can be loved. The rest is up to the person to realize your worth the measure of love is when you love without measure. In life there are very rare chances that you'll meet someone you love and loves you in return so once you have it, take care of it - the chance might never come your way again. It's better to lose your pride to the one you love than to lose the one you love because of pride. We spend too much time looking for the right person to love or finding fault with those who love us, instead, we should be perfecting the love we give. When you truly care for someone, you don't look for faults, you don't look for answers, you don't look for mistakes. Instead, you correct the mistakes, you accept the faults and you overlook the excuses. Never abandon an old friend. You will never find one who can take his or her place.

What I am saying? True happiness is not found in materialistic things, houses, cars, jewellery, money etc. It is found in the warmth of a human being. When you have relationships with people you can trust and you love unreservedly, you have found the true meaning of happiness.

This week, I invite you to go in pursuit of that very thing! You remain in my heart and prayers and I dedicate this week to you all in prayer. We shall soon be reunited as one family.

Yours,

Rev Fr Nicholas Nwanzi