



"The Blended Family" – September 2024

Thoughts to Ponder

1. For many folks the word "family" conjures up images that disappeared with black and white television sets.
 - a. Describe the ways in which families today differ from the family in which you were raised.
 - b. When you hear the word "family," do you have positive or negative feelings? Please explain.
2. The Church of the Cross is becoming a great blended family.
 - a. What is a blended family and what experience have you had with blended families?
 - b. Describe the special challenges you think members of a blended family might have to deal with.
3. All marriages start out with high expectations for the future.
 - a. What expectations did you have when you joined this congregation?
 - b. Over time, have some of your expectations proven to be unrealistic?
4. "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." (Colossians 3:12)
 - a. Think about your relationships with others and give examples of those that fractured because you failed to embody these virtues.
 - b. Those who gather around the Lord's Table are a motley collection of Christ wannabes. How does this statement apply to you?
5. "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which

binds them all together in perfect unity.” (Colossians 3:13-14). How would your life be different today if you had consistently embraced this guidance from St. Paul?

