**Presentation for the Second Week of Advent by Msgr. Joseph Hirsch**

**Joseph and Mary: A Holy Love Story**

**Questions for reflection:**

1.     As you listened to this reflection today what insights have you gained and how can you adapt this to your Advent preparation?

2.     Advent is a time of much stress and busyness. As you journey to your Bethlehem this Christmas, how can the example of Mary and Joseph help you to prepare for Christmas?

3.  It was foretold in the Old Testament that the Savior, Jesus, would be born in Bethlehem. Read aloud and reflect on the following Scripture passage which reveals the Providence of God in fulfilling these prophecies.   Is there a word or phrase that stands out for you?  Why?

“In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.  (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the City of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David to be enrolled with Mary his betrothed, who was with child” (*Luke* 2:1-5).

4.     For your spouse or your children, how do you give them the space that they need, so that they will learn to listen to the Lord?

5.     For those who are still unmarried, how can you live a life of prayer and discernment as a couple in preparation for your marriage?

6.     How do you live the call of spiritual fatherhood and motherhood in your family?

7. How can you promote the Sacrament of Marriage as a Call and Vocation in your family and with your friends this Advent?