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## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 25, 2015

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### Pastor's Column

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#### **Pope Francis' Suggestions for the New Year**

When Pope Francis met before Christmas with Vatican employees, mostly lay people with families, he challenged them to do these things in order to find greater peace and joy:

“Take care of your spiritual life, your relationship with God, because this is the backbone of everything we do and everything we are.”

“Take care of your family life, giving your children and loved ones not just money, but most of all your time, attention, and love.”

“Take care of your relationships with others, transforming your faith into life and your words into good works, especially on behalf of the needy.”

“Be careful how you speak, purify your tongue of offensive words, vulgarity, and worldly decadence.”

“Heal wounds of the heart with the oil of forgiveness, forgiving those who have hurt us and medicating the wounds we have caused others.”

“Look after your work, doing it with enthusiasm, humility, competence, passion, and with a spirit that knows how to thank the Lord.”

“Be careful of envy, lust, hatred, and negative feelings that devour our interior peace and transform us into destroyed and destructive people.”

“Watch out for anger that can lead to vengeance; for laziness that leads to existential euthanasia; for pointing the finger at others, which leads to pride; and for complaining continually, which leads to desperation.”

“Take care of brothers and sisters who are weaker...the elderly, the sick, the hungry, the homeless, and strangers, because we will be judged on this.”

*Fr. Mike*