Every year on July 26th, the Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, parents of the Virgin Mary. According to the apocryphal Gospel of James from the 2nd century, Joachim and Anne were married for many years, but could not have a child for a long time. However, when they were elderly, God turned their pain into joy. As a reward for their patience and perseverance, God has chosen their daughter to become the mother of the Messiah. Dear fellow Branch Officers and Members of the Chicago District FCSLA, I am praying for us that we will be able to continually seek and accept God's will because He always knows what is best for us. St. Joachim and Anne patrons of all mothers and fathers, pray for us and our families!

