St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church

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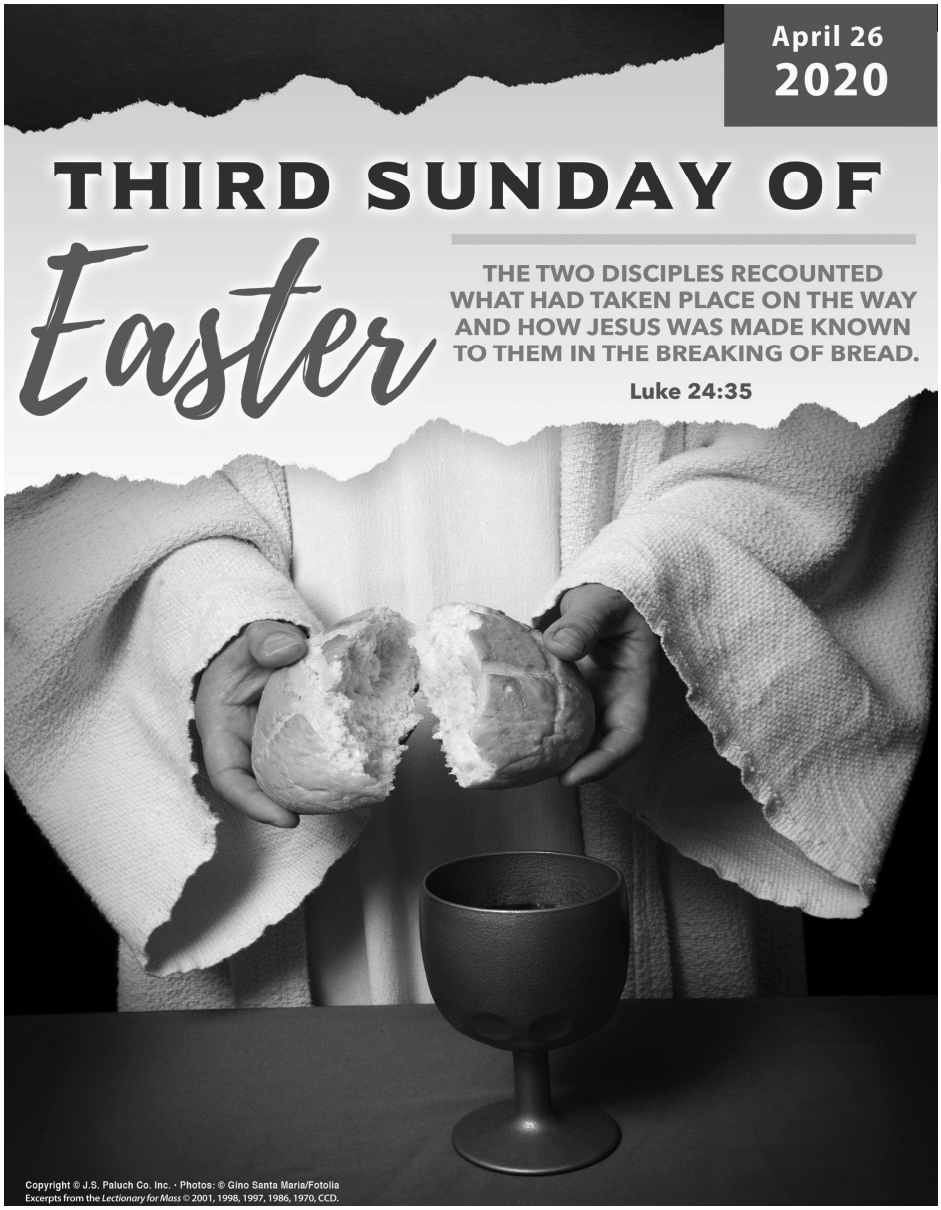
Rev. Jerzy (George) Gawlik, SVD *(Society of the Divine Word-Techny, IL)* ~ Pastor
Rev. Jesus Mata, SVD - Associate Pastor

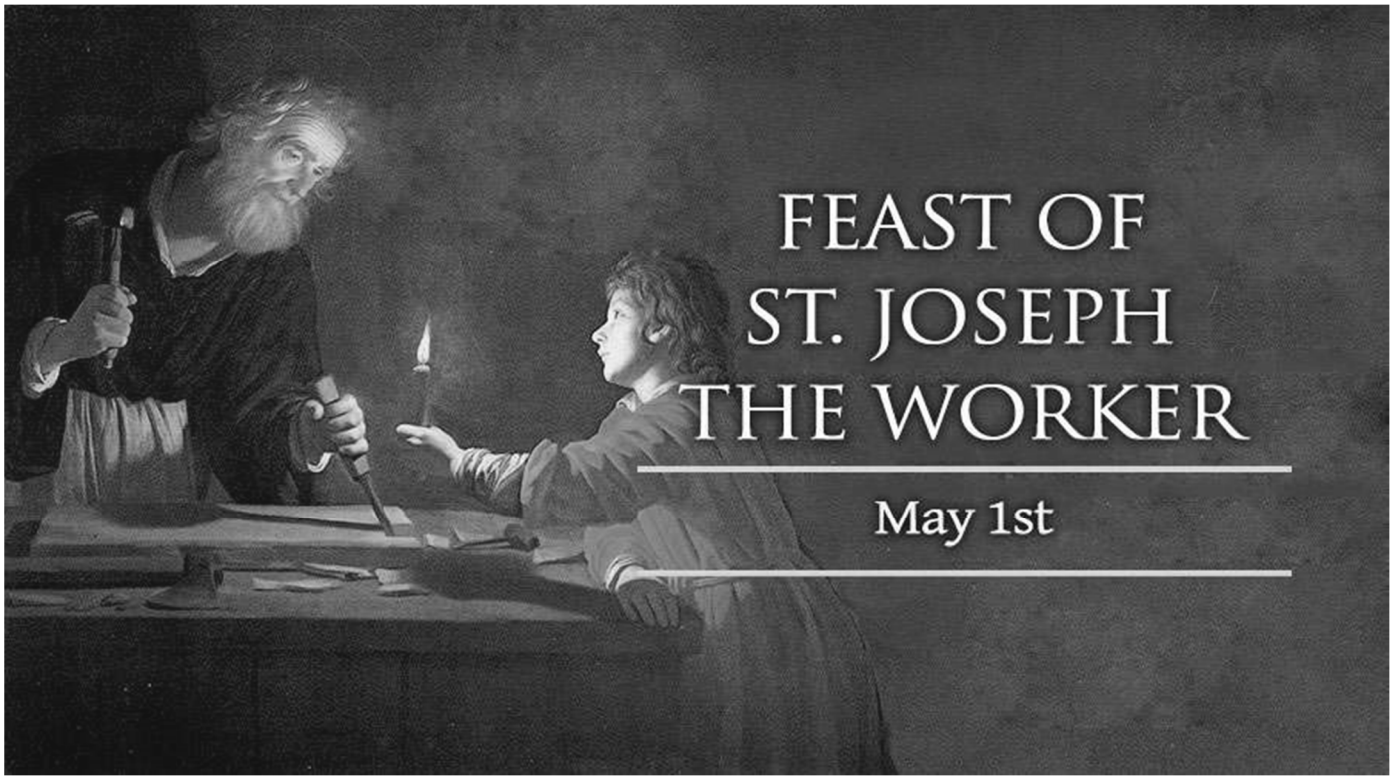


Parish Mission Statement

We, the parishioners of St. Joseph the Worker, commit ourselves to developing a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. We will joyfully celebrate Holy Mass and the sacraments and conduct our lives with the understanding that each of us is a temple of the Holy Spirit. We will increase our knowledge and practice of faith through study, word and action and help our families and others to do the same. We honor our namesake, St. Joseph the Worker, who is the patron saint of the universal Catholic Church and all workers. Our outreach will be to believers, doubters and unbelievers alike as we are all children of God. We will be an inviting and hospitable parish open to all people at whatever level of faith. Though we are made up of many ethnic groups, each with its special identity, we are all united in service to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

Feast day: May 01



St. Joseph has two feast days on the liturgical calendar. The first is March 19—Joseph, the Husband of Mary. The second is May 1—Joseph, the Worker.

“Saint Joseph is a man of great spirit. He is great in faith, not because he speaks his own words, but above all because he listens to the words of the Living God. He listens in silence. And his heart ceaselessly perseveres in the readiness to accept the Truth contained in the word of the Living God,” Pope John Paul II had once said.

There is very little about the life of Joseph in Scripture but still, we know that he was the chaste husband of Mary, the foster father of Jesus, a carpenter and a man who was not wealthy. We also know that he came from the royal lineage of King David.

We can see from his actions in scripture that Joseph was a compassionate man, and obedient to the will of God. He also loved Mary and Jesus and wanted to protect and provide for them.

Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe Joseph had probably died before Jesus entered public ministry.

Joseph is the patron of many things, including the universal Church, fathers, the dying and social justice.

https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/saint/feast-of-st-joseph-the-worker-471

We picture St. Joseph as a silent worker, as a craftsman, who suffered in silence as well. He did not complain, and he did not grow angry at God and say, "Why are you doing this, why do we have to flee to Egypt?" He was a man who accepted these things in silence. Imagine the kind of man Joseph was. God the Father picked Joseph out of the whole human race to be the man to raise his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Imagine entrusting your only child to the care of another person. That is why God chose the very best. He chose St. Joseph to be a great example even for a few hours. Joseph and Mary worked as a team. Remember TEAM spells "Together Everyone Achieves More."

Saint Joseph was a man of action, obeying God's will for him in the ordinary duties of daily life. He faithfully and tenderly loved, protected and provided for the Child Jesus and the Virgin Mary. He kept the Sabbath and went to the Temple in Jerusalem for the Passover. He did the ordinary things of everyday, ordinary life with love. By following Saint Joseph's example, we can find considerable peace of mind in knowing we are faithfully doing the ordinary, little things that God wants us to do.

What it must have been like for Joseph as he listened to the words of Simeon when he took Mary and the child Jesus to the temple for the ritual of purification. This child would be a light to the Gentiles and would bring glory to God's people Israel. What joy must have stirred in Joseph's heart? Simeon then follows with the words to Mary 'and a sword will pierce your heart' (Luke 2:29-35). Imagine the sharp pain that Joseph must have felt with these words. Joseph teaches us in this gospel story how to be present in the joys and sorrows of life.

Our world is currently going through similar realities which pull at our heart strings – the spread of the coronavirus. In these critical times Joseph teaches us how to remain steadfast when life throws up these difficult challenges and to live with integrity as he did, trusting in God. He also guides us in knowing how to sustain hope and to rejoice in the gifts of each day just as he delighted in seeing Jesus grow in wisdom and strength even amidst the challenges.

There have been many saints throughout the history of the church with strong devotion to the Protector of the Holy Family, including St. Teresa of Avila, St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Bernard. In the 16th century a young Spanish girl became ill and fell into a coma, so many took her for dead. When she awoke, she was paralyzed in her legs for three years. After entrusting herself to St. Joseph, she was healed. She later wrote that "*to this glorious Saint, I know by experience, He has given the power to help us in all. Our Lord would have us understand that as He was subject to St. Joseph on earth — for St. Joseph bearing the title of father and being His guardian, could command Him — so now in Heaven Our Lord grants us all his petitions*". You may know this girl. She became a Carmelite nun, mystic, and Doctor of the Church: St. Teresa of Avila. The intercession of St. Joseph is powerful!

Święty Józefie módl się z nami

Człowiek cichy i spokojny, nie zabiegający o własną chwałę, sprawiedliwy i roztropny, stający w cieniu, dbający o rodzinę i dom nie wydaje się być modelem mężczyzny na dzisiejsze czasy. Świat promuje ludzi o sile przebicia, supermena, przystojniaka, cwaniaka, mężczyznę roku. W porównaniu z tym obrazem święty Józef jawi się jako postać szara a nawet nijaka. Nawet Ewangelia o nim za wiele nie mówi. A przecież sam Bóg wybrał Józefa na przybranego ojca swojego Syna i opiekuna Maryi. Co Bóg w nim widział?

Podziwiamy Świętego Józefa w jego godności, w jego świętości i cnotach z tą świętością złączonych. W czym jednak możemy go najłatwiej i najkorzystniej naśladować? Myślę, że w tym, co jest codzienne i zwyczajne, co jest na pozór szare i proste, to jest w modlitwie i pracy.

Przyjrzyjmy się pracy Świętego Józefa. Pracował w obecności Boga; oczy jego wewnętrzne były skierowane ku Stwórcy, by pełnić Jego wolę. Nie narzekał ani na stan, ani na ubóstwo, ani na ciężkość samej pracy. Jego oczy spoczywały na Synu Bożym i na jego przybranym Synu, a także na Jego Najświętszej Matce. A więc pracował nie tylko dla Boga, ale z Bogiem, w Jego osobowej obecności. I choć pot wieńczył jego czoło, oczy z uśmiechem patrzyły na Boga. Ponadto pracował spokojnie i pogodnie. Gorączkowe przejęcie się psuje pracę, osłabia siły i odbiera radość. A przecież warunki pracy św. Józefa nie były dobre, były więcej niż twarde, kiedy zwłaszcza w Egipcie, jako obcy, wśród pogan, musiał pracować, może nie wiedział, czy jutro będzie miał pracę, czy na jutro starczy mu na chleb dla Rodziny. Pamiętał jednak zawsze, że najpierw Bóg a potem chleb, i dlatego nie tracił pogodnej ufności o jutro.

Mówi się, że praca, którą kochamy i idziemy do niej z radością jest prawdziwym błogosławieństwem. Święty Józef uczy nas jak naszą pracę taką właśnie uczynić. Święty Józef pracuje sumiennie, pogodnie i jego praca jest źródłem utrzymania Świętej Rodziny. Święty Józef pracuje z miłości do Jezusa i tak praca staje się dla niego źródłem uświęcenia. Święty Józef pracując nie myśli o sobie, lecz poświęca się dla swoich najdroższych, i to poświęcenie i ofiara ze siebie staje się źródłem zadowolenia.

Imię Józef po hebrajsku znaczy „Bóg da więcej”. To aluzja do Józefa egipskiego, jego poprzednika, który rozdał głodnym zboże, jakie miał w spichrzach. Módlmy się codziennie do Świętego Józefa, aby Bóg umocnił naszą wiarę, nadzieję i miłość, której dzisiaj tak bardzo potrzebujemy.

Queridos hermanos y hermanas, ¡buenos días!

Este, 1 de mayo, celebramos a san José obrero y comenzamos el mes tradicionalmente dedicado a la Virgen. En este encuentro nuestro, quisiera detenerme, con dos breves pensamientos, en estas dos figuras tan importantes en la vida de Jesús, de la Iglesia y en nuestra vida: el primero sobre el trabajo, el segundo sobre la contemplación de Jesús.

1. En el evangelio de san Mateo, en uno de los momentos que Jesús regresa a su pueblo, a Nazaret, y habla en la sinagoga, se pone de relieve el estupor de sus conciudadanos por su sabiduría, y la pregunta que se plantean: «¿No es el hijo del carpintero?» (13, 55). Jesús entra en nuestra historia, viene en medio de nosotros, naciendo de María por obra de Dios, pero con la presencia de san José, el padre legal que lo protege y le enseña también su trabajo. Jesús nace y vive en una familia, en la Sagrada Familia, aprendiendo de san José el oficio de carpintero, en el taller de Nazaret, compartiendo con él el trabajo, la fatiga, la satisfacción y también las dificultades de cada día.

Esto nos remite a la dignidad y a la importancia del trabajo. El libro del Génesis narra que Dios creó al hombre y a la mujer confiándoles la tarea de llenar la tierra y dominarla, lo que no significa explotarla, sino cultivarla y protegerla, cuidar de ella con el propio trabajo (cf. *Gn* 1, 28; 2, 15). El trabajo forma parte del plan de amor de Dios; nosotros estamos llamados a cultivar y custodiar todos los bienes de la creación, y de este modo participamos en la obra de la creación. El trabajo es un elemento fundamental para la dignidad de una persona. El trabajo, por usar una imagen, nos «unge» de dignidad, nos colma de dignidad; nos hace semejantes a Dios, que trabajó y trabaja, actúa siempre (cf. *Jn* 5, 17); da la capacidad de mantenerse a sí mismo, a la propia familia, y contribuir al crecimiento de la propia nación. Aquí pienso en las dificultades que, en varios países, encuentra el mundo del trabajo y de la empresa; pienso en cuantos, y no sólo los jóvenes, están desempleados, muchas veces por causa de una concepción economicista de la sociedad, que busca el beneficio egoísta, al margen de los parámetros de la justicia social.

Deseo dirigir a todos la invitación a la solidaridad, y a los responsables de la cuestión pública el aliento a esforzarse por dar nuevo empuje a la ocupación; esto significa preocuparse por la dignidad de la persona; pero sobre todo quiero decir que no se pierda la esperanza. También san José tuvo momentos difíciles, pero nunca perdió la confianza y supo superarlos, en la certeza de que Dios no nos abandona. Y luego quisiera dirigirme en especial a vosotros muchachos y muchachas, a vosotros jóvenes: comprometeos en vuestro deber cotidiano, en el estudio, en el trabajo, en la relaciones de amistad, en la ayuda hacia los demás. Vuestro futuro depende también del modo en el que sepáis vivir estos preciosos años de la vida. No tengáis miedo al compromiso, al sacrificio, y no miréis con miedo el futuro; mantened viva la esperanza: siempre hay una luz en el horizonte.

Agrego una palabra sobre otra particular situación de trabajo que me preocupa: me refiero a lo que podríamos definir como el «trabajo esclavo», el trabajo que esclaviza. Cuántas personas, en todo el mundo, son víctimas de este tipo de esclavitud, en la que es la persona quien sirve al trabajo, mientras que debe ser el trabajo quien ofrezca un servicio a las personas para que tengan dignidad. Pido a los hermanos y hermanas en la fe y a todos los hombres y mujeres de buena voluntad una decidida opción contra la trata de personas, en el seno de la cual se cuenta el «trabajo esclavo».

2. Me refiero al segundo pensamiento: en el silencio del obrar cotidiano, san José, juntamente con María, tienen un solo centro común de atención: Jesús. Ellos acompañan y custodian, con dedicación y ternura, el crecimiento del Hijo de Dios hecho hombre por nosotros, reflexionando acerca de todo lo que sucedía. En los evangelios, san Lucas destaca dos veces la actitud de María, que es también la actitud de san José: «Conservaba todas estas cosas, meditándolas en su corazón» (2, 19.51). Para escuchar al Señor, es necesario aprender a contemplarlo, a percibir su presencia constante en nuestra vida; es necesario detenerse a dialogar con Él, dejarle espacio en la oración. Cada uno de nosotros, también vosotros muchachos, muchachas, jóvenes, tan numerosos esta mañana, debería preguntarse: ¿qué espacio dejo al Señor? ¿Me detengo a dialogar con Él? Desde que éramos pequeños, nuestros padres nos acostumbraron a iniciar y a terminar el día con una oración, para educarnos a sentir que la amistad y el amor de Dios nos acompañan. Recordemos más al Señor en nuestras jornadas.

Y en este mes de mayo, desearía recordar la importancia y la belleza de la oración del santo Rosario. Recitando el Avemaría, se nos conduce a contemplar los misterios de Jesús, a reflexionar sobre los momentos centrales de su vida, para que, como para María y san José, Él sea el centro de nuestros pensamientos, de nuestras atenciones y acciones. Sería hermoso si, sobre todo en este mes de mayo, se recitara el santo rosario o alguna oración a la Virgen María juntos en familia, con los amigos, en la parroquia. La oración que se hace juntos es un momento precioso para hacer aún más sólida la vida familiar, la amistad. Aprendamos a rezar más en familia y como familia.

Queridos hermanos y hermanas, pidamos a san José y a la Virgen María que nos enseñen a ser fieles a nuestros compromisos cotidianos, a vivir nuestra fe en las acciones de cada día y a dejar más espacio al Señor en nuestra vida, a detenernos para contemplar su rostro. Gracias.

Papa Francisco

http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/es/audiences/2013/documents/papa-francesco_20130501_udienza-generale.html

Pray For the Sick ...

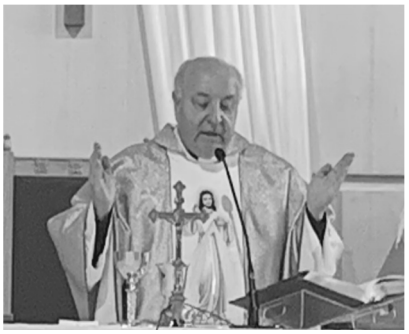
The Benz Family
Regina Berman
Jack & Jim Bonner
Winifred Boyack
Dan Brackett
Yolanda Burch
Joseph Flanagan
Michelangelo Gondolfi
Pat Hembd
Tim Kickel
Tim Koller
Ruth Lance
Joan Lutz
William T. Lyman
Angeline Mabeley
Bonnie Miley
Kristi Mogley
Javier Monroy & Family
Brian Moore
Ethan Moore
Thomas Mueller
Cheryl Murray
Kathleen O'Rourke
Noah Palzet
Pedro Perez
Michael Perrela
Amanda Rakers
Beth Ramos
Ava Rodriguez
Chester Salzmann
Chris Scanlon
Denis Siena
Deana Skulemowski
Rick Stolfa
Jean Storey
Melissa Stoutamire
Dave & Mark Sykes
Anna Marie Tarsitano
Fran Theriault
Dale Thuet
Evelyn Torres
Bill Trnka
Jerry Vanderberg
Ed Witecha
Matt Wzerick
Rose Mary Zambuto
Kathy Zeivel
Joan Early
Rosemary Bartlett
Sharon Sylvester
Thuy & Bob Schuster
Eileen, Michael & Patrick Peluso
Maria & Stanislaw Lichaj
Mieczysław & Danuta Kowalik
Arthur Galvan
Kathy Yoshida
Kevin Clark
Dave Bunda
Ethel Beaudette
Linda Krubeck
Sheila Schultz
Janet Schaeff
Nick Rode
Annette Gromow
Maria A. Garcia
Edward Calderon
Ray Winiecki Jr
Don Brayer
Fran Vetter
Ryan Schofield
Rayappan Packiam

The names on the Prayer List will appear for 6 weeks unless otherwise noted. Please call the office if you would like to add/remove someone.

Please pray for peace and for the Men and Women serving in the military.

- LCPL DeShaun Richard, USMC
- Staff Sergeant Christopher Olszewski, USAF
- Sergeant Joseph J. Zimmerman, III USMC

PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY
Weekly offering for April 19, 2020
Online Collection: (4/9-4/15) $ 2,285.00
Budget for Collection: $ 10,200.00
Thank you for your generous support of our parish. Please consider donating online. Visit www.stjosephworker.com or contact the parish office.



Congratulations, Fr. George, on your 39th Anniversary of Ordination of the Priesthood. Thank you for being a great Pastor. May God bless you always.

'Conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning.' Now that Christ is raised from the dead, our actions must be changed to reveal this great gift to the world.

'"Conduértense con reverencia durante el tiempo de su est ancia." Ahora que Cristo es resucitado de entre los muertos, nuestras acciones deben ser cambiadas para revelar este gran don al mundo.

DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES
SISTER SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
800-553-3321

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Third Sunday of Easter
Tuesday:	St. Peter Chanel; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort
Wednesday:	St. Catherine of Siena
Thursday:	St. Pius V
Friday:	St. Joseph the Worker; First Friday
Saturday:	St. Athanasius; First Saturday

HELP OUT OUR ADVERTISERS

Our Sunday bulletin is an important way for us to communicate with you, especially during these days of the Coronavirus pandemic. It might be the only way that we can reach some of you. Every bulletin that you receive is paid for through the generosity of the businesses that you see advertised on the back cover. Most of these advertisers are members of our local community, and many belong to our parish. We urge you to think of them when you decide to have a meal or other item delivered to your door. Tell the business owners that you appreciate their support of our parish through their advertisements in the bulletin. This is one small way that we can work within our own community to weather the challenges that we face. Together we can help each other make it through.

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5 Lesser-known (but totally amazing) Marian Apparitions

Pixabay - PD | *Tommy Tighe* | *Sep 08, 2016*

Most people have heard of the "big three" — Mexico City, Lourdes and Fatima — but have you heard of these?

Most Catholics, and non-Catholics for that matter, have heard of the "big three" Marian apparitions. The visions of the Blessed Mother at Tepeyac Hill in Mexico City, Lourdes in France, and Fatima in Portugal are well known and recognized for their importance.

But those aren't the only times Mary has stopped by to visit this valley of tears. Here are five of her lesser-known visits:

GO60 - PD

1. Our Lady of Pontmain, January 17, 1871, in Portmain, France

Known as *Our Lady of Hope*, this apparition was recognized by Pope Pius IX in 1872. On the afternoon of January 17, 1871, during the height of the Franco-Prussian War, two young village boys were helping their father work at the barn when they saw a beautiful woman smiling at them.

When the boys alerted their parents, the adults saw nothing. Similarly, a religious sister from the local school came and saw nothing. However, two young girls were brought over without being told anything about what was happening and instantly saw and perfectly described the same beautiful woman wearing a blue gown covered with golden stars, and a black veil under a golden crown.

As word spread, many from around the village gathered to pray, and the children saw a banner unfurl under the woman with a message that read:
"But pray, my children. God will hear you in time. My Son allows Himself to be touched."

Upon hearing the message read aloud, the crowd spontaneously began to sing hymns, and as they sang, Our Lady laughed and joined in the singing.

That same evening the Prussian forces inexplicably abandoned their advance.

Alexandr Ivanov - PD

2. Our Lady of Knock, *August 21, 1879, in Knock, Ireland*

At about 8 p.m. on the night of August 21, 1879, people ranging in age from 5 to 75 saw an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, and St. John the Evangelist at the south end of the

parish church. Behind the figures there was a plain altar with a cross and a lamb.

Bridget Trench, one of the 15 seeing the apparition, stated that she "went in immediately to kiss, as I thought, the feet of the Blessed Virgin; but I felt nothing in the embrace but the wall, and I wondered why I could not feel with my hands the figures which I had so plainly and so distinctly seen."

The group stood and prayed the rosary in the pouring rain, and afterward noted the area under the apparition was completely dry.

The apparition at Knock has received multiple papal blessings, including from Pius XII, John XXIII, Paul VI, John Paul II.

SICDAMNOME - CC

3. Our Lady of Akita, 1973-1979 in Yuzawadai, Japan

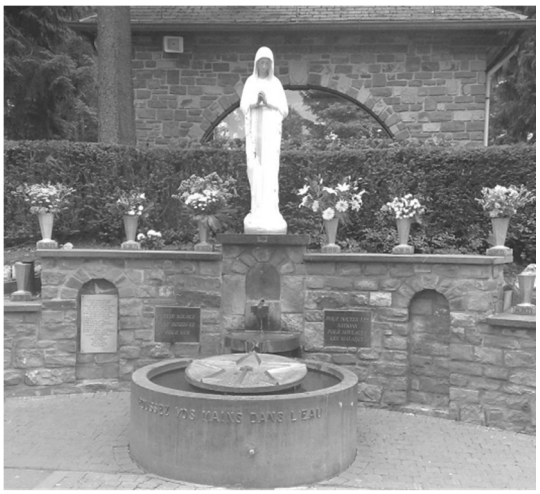
In 1973, Sister Agnes Katsuko Sasagawa, who had received healing from multiple health problems after drinking water from Lourdes, went to live with a group of religious sisters in the remote area of Yuzawadai, Japan.

Sasagawa, who was completely deaf at this time, reported apparitions, stigmata, and tears streaming from the face of a wooden statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, claims which were corroborated by other sisters in the community Sister Agnes reported hearing the Blessed Virgin Mary call to her and offer her messages such as, "Pray very much the prayers of the Rosary. I alone am able still to save you from the calamities which approach," and "Many men in this world afflict the Lord. I desire souls to console Him to soften the anger of the Heavenly Father. I wish, with my Son, for souls who will repair by their suffering and their poverty for the sinners and ingrates."

In addition to the messages, the weeping statue was broadcast on TV Tokyo Channel 12.

By June of 1982, Sasagawa, who had been diagnosed as incurably deaf, had her hearing completely restored. In addition, a Korean woman, Teresa Chun Sun Ho, prayed for healing from a brain tumor through the intercession of Our Lady of Akita and received both visions of Our Lady and a complete healing.

The local ordinary, Bishop John Shojiro, authorized "the veneration of the Holy Mother of Akita" in 1984, pending definitive judgment from the Holy See.



Johfrael - CC

4. Our Lady of Banneux, January 15 – March 2, 1933, in Banneux, Belgium

Also known as *Our Lady of the Poor*, this apparition was reported by a girl named Mariette Beco, who told her parish priest she saw a lady in white who declared herself to be the "Virgin of the Poor," and said, "I come to relieve suffering" and "Believe in me and I will believe in you."

When Mariette was just 12 years old, she saw a vision of a beautiful lady outside of her kitchen window. The lady asked her to plunge her hands into a small spring, telling her the spring was for healing and "for all nations." Over time the site drew many pilgrims. Today, the small spring yields about 2,000 gallons of water per day with many reports of miraculous healings.

After the apparitions, Mariette lived a private life. In 2008 she made a final statement about her role in the apparitions: "I was no more than a postman who delivers the mail. Once this has been done, the postman is of no importance any more." Mariette

died in 2011 at age 90.

In May 1942, Bishop Louis-Joseph Kerkhofs approved the veneration of Mary under the title of *Our Lady of the Poor*. In 1947, approval for the apparitions came from the Holy See.

Anthonyb - CC

5. Our Lady of Laus, 1664 – 1718 in Saint-Etienne-le-Laus, France

In May of 1664, a 17-year-old by the name of Benoite Rencurel saw an apparition of St. Maurice, a 3rd-century martyr locally venerated. In this apparition, St. Maurice told the shepherdess to go to the Valley of Kilns, above Saint-Etienne, where she would see the Mother of God. On May 16, Benoite took her sheep to the small grotto described to her by St. Maurice, and saw the Blessed Virgin Mary holding Jesus in her arms.

For about four months, Our Lady appeared in the same spot every day.

Mary directed Benoite to a nearby chapel, leading her by an overwhelming scent of a beautiful perfume, and told her the chapel would become a place of conversion for sinners and a site of frequent apparitions. She also told Benoite the oil from the sanctuary lamp would work miracles with the infirm if they received the anointing with faith in her intercession.

At the heart of the message given to Benoite is a conversion of souls, which aims to bring full reconciliation with oneself, with others, and with God.

On May 5, 2008, Bishop Jean-Michel de Falco Leandri announced the Holy See's recognition of the apparitions as Our Lady of Laus, Refuge of Sinners.

https://aleteia.org/2016/09/08/5-lesser-known-but-totally-amazing-marian-apparitions/

GOD'S PLAN

Saint Peter speaks to us twice today. In the first reading, we hear an excerpt from his sermon on Pentecost; in the second, part of his first letter. Once a frightened, uneducated fisherman who often said just the wrong thing, now Peter is speaking what he knows to be true. Everything Jesus had said now makes sense. His death and rising were all part of God's plan, and our faith and hope can be centered on God.

Today's Gospel tells the story of Jesus' walk to Emmaus with two of the disciples. Frightened, sad, and confused, the two of them don't recognize Jesus, who tells them what we heard Peter say above: All this had to happen as part of God's plan. In the end, these disciples recognize Jesus as we are to recognize him—in the breaking of the bread.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday:	Acts 7:51 — 8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab; Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday:	Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a; Jn 6:35-40
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59, or, for the memorial, Gn 1:26 — 2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69
Sunday:	Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23:1-6; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

Emmaus Amazement

Today's Gospel has some surprises for the disciples going to Emmaus. The first is that Luke tells us Jesus appeared to them, "but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him" (Luke 24:16). More likely, they were prevented by their lack of faith. They knew that Jesus had died, so this man who looked familiar couldn't be him. All they had heard was that Jesus' body was missing from the tomb.

That leads to the second point. They were amazed at how Jesus explained the scriptures. Even the disciples had not thought of them as predicting Jesus' suffering and death. Yet they seem to know the truth of what Jesus was saying. Their story can help us, too.

If you find you are not always able to see Jesus in the people or events of your life, you may need to stretch your faith. One way to do that is to discuss it with others. The two disciples were stretching their faith as they discussed what they had heard. Your faith will grow as you learn to express it. Another way to stretch your faith is to read and pray over the scriptures. Ask what God is trying to tell you in them. The disciples on the way to Emmaus began to see how Jesus fulfilled the promises found there.

Ask God to help you see Jesus in other people. Receive Jesus in Communion as often as you can (at least once a week). Trust him and expect to see Jesus both in people around you and in the changes that come into your life. The more you look for Jesus, the easier it is to see him.

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Parish Information

Deacon: Martin Carrillo

English/Spanish Religious Education:
Deacon Martin Carrillo, SFO Director

Polish School:
Renata Rudnicki Principal

Music Ministry:
Maria Bialkowski English/Polish Mass
Fr Jesus Mata Spanish Mass
Zbigniew Blicharz Polish Mass

Administrative Staff:
Elaine Simpson Business Manager
Mercedes Gwinn Parish Secretary
Van Nguyen Bulletin Editor

Social Hall Business Hours

Fridays 6:30—8:30 pm; Saturdays 2—6 pm; Sundays by Appointment only. Walk-ins welcome For more info, please contact info: Lupita 224-900-0399; Lupita.gomez1984@gmail.com or 847-537-2740 during normal business hour.

All are welcome to worship at St. Joseph the Worker. To become an active member of the parish, please complete the registration form or stop by the office.

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Sacramental Celebration

Baptism Preparation:
English: By appointment only
Spanish: First Saturdays: 6:00 pm in Room 1

Sacrament of Baptism:
Parents and Godparents play an important role in the faith life of your child. Please be aware that godparents must also be practicing Catholics. You must attend the preparation class and register your child for the sacrament. Please call the office more information.
English: First, third Sundays: 2:30 p.m.
Spanish: First & third Saturdays: 9:15 a.m.
Polish: First Saturday: 10:30 a.m.;
First & third Sundays: 4:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Matrimony:
Congratulations on your Engagement! A minimum of four months advanced preparation is required. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults):
Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith is invited to call the office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
A child must be in the religious education program for **TWO YEARS** prior to receiving the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist or Confirmation. Must present a Baptismal Certificate at time of registration.
Office Hours: Please call for hours
English Classes: Mondays, 6:30 - 7:45 pm All Grades
Spanish Classes: Wednesdays, 6:30 pm - Confirmation; Sundays, 10:30 am - All other grades
Contact: Deacon Martin at 847-537-4182 or email deacon_martin@stjosephworker.com

Communion for the Sick/Homebound:
Ministers of Care visit and bring the Eucharist to the sick, homebound or hospitalized. Please call the parish office to arrange a visit.

Bulletin articles: Submission deadline is Saturday before 2PM. Deliver copy to the parish office or email articles, comments or suggestions to vann@stjosephworker. Com

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