

The Roman Catholic Community of Saint Joseph

16 East Somerset Street, Raritan, NJ 08869

We, the Catholic Community of St. Joseph, are committed to follow Jesus Christ. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we strive to be good stewards in our lives.

We pray for peace, forgiveness, and for one another as Christ loves us!

Baptisms

Baptisms are usually held on Saturday mornings anytime throughout the year (**with the exception of the Lenten Season**). Parents must be registered parishioners and complete a Baptismal Preparation class. It is required that godparents are no less than 16 years of age and have completed the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. If the godparents are a married couple, they need to have been married by the Catholic Church. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange for the class and the date of Baptism.

Sponsor Certificates

Sponsors (Godparents) for Baptism and Confirmation are required to verify their eligibility. They must be fully initiated Catholic who actively practice their faith and are in good standing with the Church. For more information please contact the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

If you are considering becoming Catholic, or desire to complete your sacraments, please contact the Parish Office for more information about RCIA.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Please call the rectory and let us know when a member of your family is in the hospital so a priest can arrange to visit them. Make sure you contact the Pastoral Care Office in the hospital so the Chaplain can bring you communion daily. **In the event of an emergency please call 908 392-7962 anytime of the day or night.**

Marriages

Please call the office to meet with the Pastor as soon as you become engaged and before any preparations are made. Arrangements should be made one year in advance. Couples preparing for marriage must attend required Pre-Cana sessions within the Diocese along with F.O.C.C.U.S. and sessions with your Parish Priest or Deacon.



Under the Pastoral Care of the Priests and brothers of the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri.

Very Rev. Jeffrey Calia, C.O., Provost

Rev. Kevin P. Kelly, C.O.Administrator
Nora MartinParish Office Manager
Anthony R. Nardino..... Director of Music & Liturgy
Ramon Salazar.....Multi-Parish Facilities Manager

The Lord's Day Mass Schedule

Saturday..... **St. Joseph 4 pm English**, Holy Trinity 5 pm

Sunday..... **St. Joseph 7:30 am Spanish**, St. Ann 7:30 am,
St. Joseph 9 am English, St. Ann 10:30 am,
Holy Trinity 10:30 am, Shrine of the Blessed
Sacrament 10:30 am (Latin EF)

St. Joseph 12:00 pm Spanish, St. Ann 12:00 pm,
St. Ann 5 pm

Holy Days

7:00 pm Vigil Mass—St. Joseph (English)

8am: St Ann, 12:15pm: Shrine Chapel, Holy Trinity

7:00 pm : St. Ann, Shrine Chapel (Latin EF), 7:30 pm St. Joseph (Spa.)

Weekday Masses

Monday through Friday..... 8 am St. Ann, 12:15 pm Shrine (E)

Friday 7 pm Holy Trinity (E)

Saturday..... 9 am St. Ann (E)

First Saturdays..... 9 am Shrine (Latin)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday..... St. Ann after the 9 am Mass
St. Joseph 3:00 –3:30 pm

Wednesday..... Holy Trinity 11 am –12 pm

Friday..... Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament 11 am –12 pm
or by appointment

Parish Office

Open Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (NEW)

908 725-0163 • parishoffice@sjraritan.org • www.sjraritan.org

Fr. Kevin Email.....padrekevin2024@gmail.com

Second Sunday of Lent, March 16, 2025



HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

INTENCIONES DE LA SANTA MISA



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

LECTURAS PARA LA STA. MISA ESTA SEMANA

Monday

Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday

Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Thursday

Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

Friday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a;
Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Saturday, Mar 15, 2025

4:00 pm +Joseph F. Minarovich R/o The Minarovich Family
Priest remembered today: Rev. Msgr. Eugene Prus

Sunday, Mar 16, 2025, Second Sunday of Lent

7:30 am* Pro-populo (for the people)

Priest remembered today: Rev. Msgr. Edward Puleo

9 am +Pauline Lesinski R/I The Minarovich Family

Priest remembered today: Rev. Roy Quesea

12 pm * +Irma Salas

Priest remembered today: Rev. Albert Roca

Wednesday, Mar 19, 2025, St. Joseph, Spouse of the Virgin Mary

7:30 pm (bilingual Mass) +Cristofer Calles

Saturday, Mar 22, 2025

4:00 pm +John Perna R/o Dennis & Ida Ciemniecki
Priest remembered today: Rev. Jorge H Arias, IMC

Sunday, Mar 23, 2025, Third Sunday of Lent

7:30 am* Pro-populo (for the people)

Priest remembered today: Rev. John Rozembajgier

9 am +Jeffrey A. Alvarez R/o Jose & Fatima Alvarez

Priest remembered today: Rev. Leonard Rusay

12 pm * +Ligia Chacón

Priest remembered today: Rev. Alberto Ruis, CMF

* En Español, in Spanish

SUNDAY MASS READING 3/16

God is my light and my salvation

First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

God told Abram that he would give him the land of Egypt and his descendants would become a great people. Abram then made sacrifices to God, cutting them in half. A torch passed between the pieces, as a visible sign to Abram of God's promise.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17—4:1

Paul urges the Philippians to avoid becoming too interested in material possessions. He reminds them that their most important wealth is their faith in Jesus, which will lead them to eternal life.

Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36

Jesus took Peter, John and James to a mountain to pray. When his clothes grew incredibly white, Moses and Elijah appeared. They spoke of the scripture he was to fulfill. Then a cloud came down and a voice said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him." The disciples who had seen Jesus' glory did not disclose this experience to anyone until much later.

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CANDLE INTENTIONS

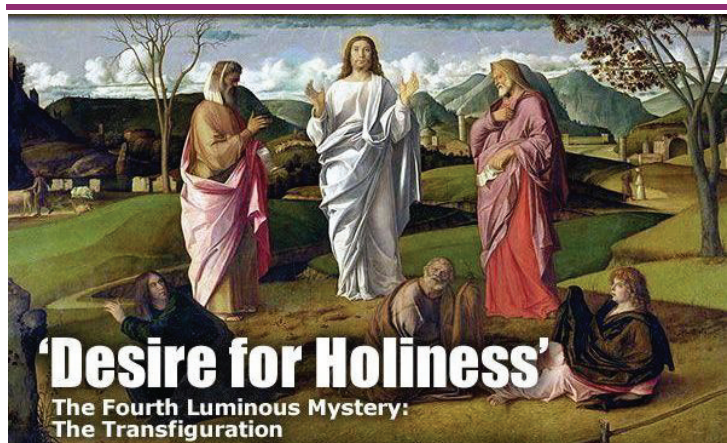
St. Joseph: +Joseph F. Minarovich
R/o Family

The Paschal Candle:

In Memory of
Lee & George Paulishak R/o Son, Bob

Pray for the Sick

George Riehman, Sr.	Arthur & Maryann
George Riehman, Jr.	Gosenski
Jennifer Rose	Mary Grande
Robert Valance	Donna Kelly
Thomas McGrath	Roseanne Kielar
Irene Sixt	Jerry Kovac
Annmarie Bizub	Antonia LaCorte
Joseph Carter	Ralph Lombardi
Jane Chiesa	Steve & Geri Max
Joan Chopay	Jack McElhinney
Elizabeth Anne Dwyer	Allsya Miller
Randy Fisher	Francis M. Mishak, Sr.
Tony & Sandy Franchi-	Pinzy & Rachel Petro-
no	ne



The Transfiguration

By Fr. Robert Vennetti, MIC, is the assistant rector at the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy.

In the Fourth Luminous Mystery, the apostles Peter, James, and John experience the Transfiguration of Jesus. This happens after Jesus makes a prediction about His upcoming Passion, death, and Resurrection, which the apostles do not understand.

The Transfiguration event is included in three Gospels - Matthew, Mark, and Luke (see Mt 17:1-9; Mk 9:2-10; Lk 9:28-36). **One of the fruits of this mystery is the desire for holiness, and this mystery shows us that a life of prayer is essential for this desire and for our life's journey.**

We are told that "Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While He was praying His face changed in appearance and His clothing became dazzling white" (Lk 9:28-29). He was transfigured and "His face shone like the sun" (Mt 17:2). Jesus chose these three apostles for this special encounter during prayer, but it is also meant to teach us to accept Jesus' invitation to pray with Him and to Him as our God. In this prayer encounter, the apostles got a glimpse of Jesus' Divinity. Jesus desired that they realize that in addition to Him being truly man, He is truly God - "God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God," as we profess in the Nicene Creed.

In this mystery, as we "contemplate with Mary the face of Christ" (*Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, Pope John Paul II), we see that our prayer is meant to be deeper than just us saying words to God. For prayer is meant to be a conversation with God, just as Moses and Elijah converse with Jesus (see Mt 17:3).

Conversing with God, speaking with the God-man Jesus, is meant to lead us deeper into the mystery of who Jesus is. As we contemplate or gaze with awe at the person of

Jesus Christ, He leads us deeper into the mystery of the Holy Trinity. **Jesus wants to increase holiness in us by deepening our participation in the very life of the Holy Trinity, which we have freely been given through the Sacrament of Baptism.**

This mystery can help us realize that as we converse with God and gaze upon His goodness and beauty in prayer, we are to be transfigured, so to speak, so that our desires, thoughts, words, and actions become more united to Jesus, the always obedient Son of the Eternal Father. We then seek to do what the Father tells us, which is to follow Jesus, of whom the Father says, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him" (Mt 17:5).

After the Transfiguration, Jesus then led the apostles down the mountain (see Mt 17:5), thus showing the apostles - and us - that we are strengthened and transformed by God in prayer and the Sacraments. Then we can journey with Jesus into the world, empowered by the Holy Spirit, striving to make known God our Father "who is rich in mercy" (Eph 2:4) and Jesus Christ, the Divine Mercy, who gives us a glimpse of the glory of the resurrected life.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* mentions that we can gain a glimpse of heaven through the Transfiguration: "The Transfiguration gives us a foretaste of Christ's glorious coming, when He 'will change our lowly body to be like His glorious body.' But it also recalls that 'it is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God'" (556).

Jesus desires to increase our faith through prayer and contemplating this beautiful mystery of the Transfiguration. He assures us that He is with us, so we can "rise, and ... not be afraid" (Mt 17:7). For if we continue to contemplate the face of Christ with Mother Mary, to pray for the desire for holiness, to listen and follow Jesus, we will one day contemplate and praise our Triune God forever, as God changes our lowly body to be like Christ's glorious body (see Phil 3:21).

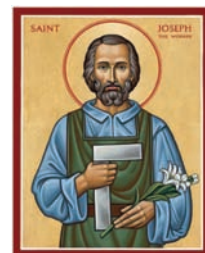
marian.org/articles/desire-holiness

THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

7:30 PM Bilingual Mass

*Followed by dinner in the
School Auditorium
All are welcome!*



In Difficult Days and Every Need, Go to St. Joseph!



By Br. Stephen J., MIC

One day in the fall of sophomore year, I was walking between buildings when I had the sudden urge to open my book of *Favorite Prayers to Saint Joseph*. As a student at Northeast Catholic College (now Magdalen College of the Liberal Arts), I lived in the men's dorm - "St. Joe's" - and, like most of that dorm's residents, was a member of the confraternity of St. Joseph, led by the college's president. I had received the prayerbook from him, and carried it everywhere in my backpack, but had never yet opened it outside of confraternity meetings. Suddenly, this day in October seemed a good time to do so. It was the beginning of my vocation, as I will explain later.

A practice that attracted me early in my growing devotion to St. Joseph was the prayers in honor of his Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys. During this season of Lent, it seems appropriate to meditate on the sorrows and joys of St. Joseph, and thus to draw interior strength from this watchful Guardian of the Holy Family for our own spiritual lives.

First Sorrow and First Joy:

The Doubt of St. Joseph - the Message of the Angel

In his book *Consecration to St. Joseph*, Fr. Donald Callo-way, MIC, describes the three possible motives for Joseph's decision to send Mary away, which he calls the Doubt Theory, the Stupefaction Theory, and the Reverence Theory. Needless to say, he prefers the last theory, according to which St. Joseph decided to leave Mary out of reverence for her Spirit-bestowed pregnancy. Though "a just man," he felt unworthy to be close to this mystery any further. God approved this humility by sending His angel to command Joseph in a dream to "take Mary your wife into your home." Joyfully, Joseph obeyed.

Second Sorrow and Second Joy: The Poverty of Jesus' Birth - the Birth of the Savior

Saint Joseph cared for his wife, but, **PAGE 4** when they arrived in Bethlehem, he could not provide a home for her in which to give birth. This must have troubled him greatly. The census came suddenly, so he hadn't had much time to plan. Further, walking from Galilee with a pregnant wife would put him among the last travelers to Bethlehem. Finally, he didn't know how many descendants of David would descend on David's city. His fatherly role to protect and provide for his family was frustrated by these obstacles. Nevertheless, what joy must have flooded his face upon seeing the infant Savior asleep on the hay!

Third Sorrow and Third Joy:

The Circumcision - the Holy Name of Jesus

The Circumcision of Jesus is the first shedding of His Precious Blood. This painful moment foretells to Joseph and Mary their Son's future Passion and Death. But by His suffering He would redeem us. At His first bloodshed, He receives from Joseph the holy name of Jesus, which means "God saves." The angel requested this name for Him "because he will save his people from their sins" (Mt 1:21). Only to Joseph, the legal father of Jesus, was given the task of bestowing the Name that is above every name upon the Son of the Living God (see Phil 2:9, Mt 16:16).

Fourth Sorrow and Fourth Joy:

The Prophecy of Simeon - the Effects of the Redemption

Simeon's prophecy to Mary - that "a sword will pierce through [her] soul" (Lk 2:35a) - is first among the Seven Sorrows of Mary. However, Joseph too heard these words. Though speaking of Jesus' Passion, Simeon also implies Joseph's death, since he could not defend Mary from the sword. In his helplessness, Joseph must have been soothed by Simeon's later words: "so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Lk 2:35b). Indeed, Jesus' Passion and Mary's compassion have revealed the thoughts of many hearts, both for and against His Cross. Those who embrace Jesus' Cross in faith, however, experience His salvation.

Fifth Sorrow and Fifth Joy:

The Flight into Egypt - Overthrow of the Idols in Egypt

The journey to Bethlehem was taxing; the flight into Egypt was terrifying. The young Holy Family had to walk across miles of wilderness, braving weather and possibly bandits. When they reached Egypt, as mystics record, idols fell down before the newborn King. This can also be inferred from Isaiah 19:1: "the Lord ... comes to Egypt; and the idols of Egypt will tremble at his presence." If Dagon fell before the Ark of the Covenant (see 1 Sam 5:3-4), how many more Egyptian idols must have fallen before Mary, the Ark of the New Covenant, carrying her infant Lord?

Sixth Sorrow and Sixth Joy: The Return from Egypt - Life with Jesus and Mary in Nazareth

Although life in Egypt could not have been easy for a family whose coming was associated with the fall of their idols, the return was also difficult. Again, the hardships of traveling through the wilderness on foot were far greater than most people in modern, developed countries can imagine. Furthermore, Joseph feared returning to Bethlehem, since Herod's son Archelaus then ruled the territory. Joseph chose instead to go to the small town of Nazareth in Galilee. Life in Nazareth must have been deeply joyful, since he spent it with Mary, the Immaculate Conception, and Jesus, the King of Kings.

Seventh Sorrow and Seventh Joy: Losing Jesus in Jerusalem - Finding Him in the Temple

This is the last mention of Joseph during his lifetime in the Bible. The Holy Family now traveled to Jerusalem in a caravan, and Jesus, at age 12, moved easily among relatives and friends. When they did not find Him on their return journey, how anxious His parents must have been! Every hour of that three-day search must have seemed an eternity. Upon finding Him in the Temple, their anxiety turned into joy. He was safe! They were perplexed at His teaching so young, but we can imagine that Joseph was proud of Him. Additionally, the elders likely honored Joseph as the Child's father and teacher.

Joseph is honored in the Church with *protodulia* (honor as the first among the saints), second only to the *hyperdulia* (the highest degree of reverence) reserved for the Blessed Virgin. Devotion to him has spread throughout the Church in our time, with immeasurable benefit to souls. The great apostle of Eucharistic devotion, St. Peter Julian Eymard, once said, "Devotion to St. Joseph is one of the choicest graces that God can give to a soul, for it is tantamount to revealing the entire treasury of our Lord's graces. When God wishes to raise a soul to greater heights, he unites it to St. Joseph by giving it a strong love for the good saint."

The devotion to St. Joseph that began for me that day in October led me almost immediately to discover consecration to Mary, which stoked my desire and resolve to become holy. That, in turn, led me to the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception, in which I have happily been under vows for almost five years. Since then, I have met many others who have similarly learned Marian devotion through St. Joseph, or devotion to St. Joseph through Mary.

This Solemnity of St. Joseph, I recommend you ask St. Joseph to guide you in all of your ways, just as he guided the Child Jesus who "was obedient to [him]" and thus "advanced [in] wisdom and age and favor before God and man" (Lk. 2:51-2).

marian.org

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS PAGE 5

9-Mar-25	Collection	Online G	Total
Offertory *	\$4,302.00	\$1,020.00	\$5,322.00
Ash Wed*	\$418.00	\$10.00	\$428.00
			\$5,750.00

* For Parish operation

Thank you and God bless you for supporting the mission of the church and the ministry of St. Joseph. St Joseph's offers **Online Giving thru ParishSoft**; an easy option for donating to the Sunday Collection. It's simple! Just visit our website and follow the registration steps for recurrent or one time donations sjraritan.org



STATIONS OF THE CROSS WEDNESDAYS

ST. JOSEPH—12:00 PM in English

FRIDAYS

Holy Trinity—following 7pm Mass
ST. ANN—7:00 PM

ST. JOSEPH—7:30 PM in Spanish



The Raritan Oratory of St Philip Neri
Presents

Pilgrims of Hope
2025 Lenten Reflection Series
Wednesdays at 7:00 PM



March 12

Very Rev. Jeffrey M. Calia,
C.O.

Provost of the Raritan Oratory

April 2

Sister Christine Quense,
SJH

Community Sister Servant,
Sisters of Jesus Our Hope

March 26

Rev. Derek Cross, C.O.
Of the Toronto Oratory

April 9

Rev. Steven J. Bolton, C.O.
Of the Raritan Oratory

St. Joseph Parish Hall, 16 E. Somerset St. Raritan, NJ

www.raritanoratory.org

LECTURAS DEL DOMINGO

Primera Lectura: Génesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Dios dice a Abram que le dará la tierra de Egipto y que sus descendientes se convertirán en un gran pueblo. Abram entonces hace sacrificios de animales a Dios, cortándolos a la mitad. Una antorcha fué pasada entre los pedazos, como una señal a Abram de la promesa de Dios.

Segunda Lectura: Filipenses 3:17—4:1

Pablo dice a los filipenses que eviten interesarse demasiado en posesiones materiales. Les recuerda que el mayor tesoro es su fé en Jesús, que los guiará a la vida eterna.

Evangelio: San Lucas 9:28b-36

Jesús subió al cerro a orar, acompañado de Pedro, Juan y Santiago. Cuando las vestiduras de Jesús se tornaron muy blancas, Moisés y Elías se le aparecieron. Hablaron de la escritura que pronto se cumpliría. Entonces una nube bajó y una voz dijo: “Este es mi Hijo, mi elegido. Escúchenlo.” Los discípulos que vieron la Gloria de Jesús no le comunicaron este hecho a nadie sino hasta mucho después.

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El Misterio de la Transfiguración



El segundo domingo de Cuaresma nos lleva a contemplar a Jesús transfigurado. Tras el doloroso y desconcertante primer anuncio de la pasión y la

llamada de Jesús a seguirle por el camino de la cruz (8,31-38), se hace necesario alentar a los discípulos abatidos.

Por un instante se desvela la cruz de Cristo para volver a ocultarse de nuevo. Sólo cuando Jesús resucite de entre los muertos será posible entender todo lo que encerraba el misterio de la transfiguración.

Escuchadle

En pleno camino cuaresmal de esfuerzo y sacrificio, también a nosotros se dirige la voz del Padre con un mandato único y preciso: «Escuchadle», es decir,

obedeced sus palabras, haced lo que Él os diga, aunque os introduzca por caminos de cruz. Toda la vida de Cristo fue una vida de humillación, de incompreensión, de persecución, de rechazo. No otro camino nos espera a quienes deseamos seguir sus huellas.

Siempre el hombre ha sentido la tentación que ya entonces surgió en la misma colina del Calvario: “bájate de la cruz”. Rehuimos sufrir, nos da alergia. No hemos comprendido aún la sabiduría que encierra la cruz de Cristo, “escándalo para los judíos, necedad para los gentiles”, pero para los llamados, fuerza de Dios.

Como dice el Kempis: “Jesucristo tiene ahora muchos amadores de su reino celestial, mas muy pocos que lleven su cruz. Tiene muchos que desean la consolación, y muy pocos que quieran la tribulación. Todos quieren gozar con Él, mas pocos quieren sufrir algo por Él. Muchos aman a Jesús, cuando no hay adversidades. Muchos le alaban y bendicen en el tiempo que reciben de Él algunas consolaciones: mas si Jesús se escondiese y los dejase un poco, luego de quejarían o desesperarían mucho. Mas los que aman a Jesús, por el mismo Jesús, y no por alguna propia consolación suya, le bendicen en toda tribulación y angustia del corazón, tan bien como en consolación.”



REINADODEMARIA.ORG

SOLEMNIDAD DE SAN JOSE ¡NUESTRO PATRONO! Miércoles, 19 de marzo de 2025

7:30 PM SANTA MISA BILINGUE
Seguida por una fiesta en el
Auditorio del colegio

*Santo Via Crucis*

VIERNES

San Jose—7:30 PM en español
H.Trinity después de la Misa de las
7pm | ST. ANN 7:00 PM (ing)

MIERCOLES

San Jose—12:00 PM en ingles



Guía para la Sagrada Comunión

Para que un católico reciba la comunión, se requiere:

- Estar en estado de gracia; es decir, libre de cualquier pecado mortal no confesado.
- Abstenerse durante al menos una hora antes de la Sagrada Comunión de cualquier alimento o bebida, a excepción de agua y medicinas.
- Saber a Quien se recibe y acercarse al altar con devoción.

“Por la actitud corporal (gestos, vestido) se manifiesta el respeto, la solemnidad, el gozo de ese momento en que Cristo se hace nuestro huésped”. (Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica 1387)

No Católicos: Les damos la bienvenida a unirse a nosotros en la Santa Misa y nos alegramos de que estén aquí. Por favor, siéntase libre de participar cantando, de pie, de rodillas, etc. **Sin embargo, la recepción de la Sagrada Comunión está reservada únicamente a los católicos en estado de gracia.** En el momento de la Comunión, por favor, siéntase libre de pasar al frente con los brazos cruzados sobre el pecho para una bendición o permanecer en el banco.

(Fuente: “Orientaciones para la recepción de la Comunión”, p. 836 del “Source & Summit Missal 2025”).

Solemnidad de San José, esposo de la Virgen 19 de Marzo

«El ángel Gabriel fue enviado por Dios a una ciudad de Galilea, llamada Nazaret, a una Virgen, desposada con un hombre llamado José, de la estirpe de David; la Virgen se llamaba María» (Lc 1, 26-27). **En el relato de la Anunciación, al lado de la Virgen Santísima aparece su esposo, José.**

Dada la grandeza de su vocación en la protección, sustento y cuidado de Jesús y Nuestra Madre Santísima, como cabeza de la Sagrada Familia, podemos pensar que Dios dotó a San José de una gracia proporcionalmente extraordinaria para llevar a cabo tan noble misión.

Si fijamos la mirada en la vida de cualquier otro santo, siempre encontraremos hechos poco comunes. Sin embargo, en San José, nada destaca en particular. Su vida estaba oculta en Dios. El marco de su vida era lo corriente, lo sencillo, lo de cada día. Vivió cumpliendo con fidelidad y rectitud el deber de cada día. ¿Sabes cuál fue el apostolado de San José? Amar, amar mucho.

Y así se hizo merecedor de muchos títulos:

San José, el esposo de María, el **Vicario del Padre Dios** para con Jesús.

San José, el **hombre «justo»** (Mt 1, 19), que en laborioso silencio provee a las necesidades de toda la familia.

San José, en quien la Tradición ha visto al **Patrón y Protector de la Iglesia**, a la que acompaña y protege, la defiende de los peligros y la sostiene en las luchas y sufrimientos.

San José, modelo incomparable, después de Jesús, de la santificación del trabajo corporal. La Iglesia lo presenta como **prototipo sublime de los trabajadores manuales**.

San José, **Defensor de la Vida:** Lo encontramos en los orígenes junto a la cuna del Niño Dios y en la huida a Egipto. Y lo encontramos en nuestra cabecera a la hora de la muerte: San José, **Patrón de la buena muerte**.

Acerquémonos confiados al Santo Patriarca porque en sus manos está la Gracia de todo bien: Jesús.

De la mano de María



A la cabeza de este reducido número de verdaderos amadores podemos contemplar a María, quien permaneció firme en los momentos cruciales de la vida de Cristo. María no aparece en los contados triunfos de su Hijo. No la vemos cuando querían aclamar a Jesús por Rey, ni en los múltiples milagros que atraían multitudes, ni el domingo de Ramos cuando Jesús entra triunfante en la ciudad. Sin embargo San Juan nos la presenta de pie junto a la cruz. Padeciendo y corredimiendo con Él.

El camino cuaresmal nos introduce en el misterio del dolor que salva. No es un dolor por masoquismo, sino que tiene su fundamento en el amor de todo un Dios ha amado tanto al mundo que le ha entregado a su Hijo único... (Cf. Jn 3,16) para expiar nuestros pecados y abrírnos las puertas del cielo.

Caminemos pues, de la mano de María, hacia el Calvario, donde nos espera Cristo, porque quien esté dispuesto a morir por Él, también triunfará con Él.

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