

# Year of Saint Joseph



Guardian  
of the  
Redeemer  
&  
Patron  
of the  
Universal  
Church

On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis declared a special Year of St. Joseph to run through December 8, 2021. This marks the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX. Pope Francis began the year with a new Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris Corde* (With a Father's Heart).

Pope Francis said he was establishing the year so that "every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will."

Pope Francis said the coronavirus pandemic has heightened his desire to reflect on St. Joseph, as so many people during the pandemic have made hidden sacrifices to protect others, just as St. Joseph quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus. "Each of us can discover in Joseph -- the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence -- an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble," the pope wrote.

He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph's role as a father who served his family with charity and humility, adding, "Our world today needs fathers."

## *Prayer for Fathers*

St. Joseph, guardian of Jesus and chaste husband of Mary, you passed your life in loving fulfillment of duty. You supported the holy family of Nazareth with the work of your hands. Kindly protect those who trustingly come to you. You know their aspirations, their hardships, their hopes. They look to you because they know you will understand and protect them. You too knew trial, labor and weariness. But amid the worries of material life your soul was full of deep peace and sang out in true joy through intimacy with God's Son entrusted to you and with Mary, his tender Mother. Assure those you protect that they do not labor alone. Teach them to find Jesus near them and to watch over him faithfully as you have done. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Saint John XXIII

*"Whoever fails to find a  
Master to teach him how to pray,  
should choose this glorious Saint, and  
he will not go astray."*

- SAINT TERESA OF AVILA

# Saint Joseph, Pray for us.

*“Go to Joseph! Have recourse with special confidence to St. Joseph, for his protection is most powerful, as he is the patron of the universal Church.”*  
– Blessed Pope Pius IX

## *A Novena Prayer to Saint Joseph*

(March 10-18)

O glorious Saint Joseph, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, to we raise our hearts and hands, to implore your powerful intercession, to obtain from the gentle heart of Jesus all the help and graces necessary for our spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death.

O guardian of the word incarnate we feel animated with confidence that your prayers on our behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God.

## *Daily Novena Prayer to Saint Joseph*

O Saint Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

O Saint Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, so that having experienced here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers.

O Saint Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Hold Him close in my name and kiss His fine head from me, and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.

## *Prayer of Consecration to Saint Joseph*

O dearest St. Joseph, I consecrate myself to your honor and give myself to you, that you may always be my father, my protector, and my guide in the way of salvation. Obtain for me a great purity of heart and a fervent love of the interior life. After your own example, may I do all my actions for the greater glory of God, in union with the Divine Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary! And do thou, O Blessed St. Joseph, pray for me that I may share in the peace and joy of your holy death Amen.

## *Prayer Before Work to Saint Joseph*

O Glorious Saint Joseph, model of all those who are devoted to labor, obtain for me the grace to work in a spirit of penance for the expiation of my many sins; to work conscientiously, putting the call of duty above my natural inclinations; to work with thankfulness and joy, considering it an honor to employ and develop by means of labor the gifts received from God; to work with order, peace, moderation, and patience, never shrinking from weariness and trials; to work above all with purity of intention and detachment from self, keeping unceasingly before my eyes death and the account that I must give of time lost, talents unused, good omitted, and vain complacency in success, so fatal to the work of God.

All for Jesus, all through Mary, all after thy example, O Patriarch, Saint Joseph. Such shall be my watch-word in life and in death. Amen. (Composed by Pope St. Pius X)

## *Morning Offering to Saint Joseph*

Receive me, dear and chosen Father, and the offering of every movement of my body and soul, which I desire to present through thee to my blessed Lord.

Purify all! Make all a perfect holocaust! May every pulsation of my heart be a Spiritual Communion, every look and thought an act of love, every action a sweet sacrifice, every word an arrow of Divine love, every step an advance toward Jesus, every visit to Our Lord as pleasing to God as the errands of Angels, every thought of thee, dear Saint, an act to remind thee that I am thy child.

I recommend to you the occasions in which I usually fail, particularly . . . [Mention these]. Accept each little devotion of the day, though replete with imperfection, and offer it to Jesus, Whose mercy will overlook all, since He regards not so much the gift as the love of the giver. Amen.

## *Memorare to Saint Joseph*

Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, my great protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection, or implored your aid without obtaining relief. Confiding therefore in your goodness, I come before you. Do not turn down my petitions, foster father of the Redeemer, but graciously receive them. Amen.



## *Special Commemorations for St. Joseph*

December 27, 2020 - *Feast of the Holy Family*

February 2 - *The Presentation of the Lord in the Temple*

March 19 - *Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the B.V.M.*

May 1 - *The Feast of St. Joseph the Worker*

*A plenary indulgence to Catholics who recite any approved prayer or act of piety (pilgrimage) in honor of St. Joseph, especially on March 19, Solemnity, and May 1, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. To obtain a plenary indulgence three conditions must be fulfilled, sacramental confession and a detachment from sin; the reception of Holy Communion and prayer for the pope's intentions.*

## *Wednesday Dedication to St. Joseph*

The Church traditionally ascribed focal points for reflection to each day of the week. As Saturdays were and still are devoted to Our Lady, Wednesdays were once devoted to St. Joseph. This year, consider giving your Wednesdays to St. Joseph and focus on learning about him and asking for his intercession for your family and home.

*Make a special pilgrimage to the parishes  
dedicated to Saint Joseph in the  
Diocese of Providence*

St. Joseph Parish - *Providence* (92 Hope Street)

St. Joseph Parish - *West Warwick* (854 Providence Street)

St. Joseph Parish - *Pascoag* (183 Sayles Avenue)

St. Joseph Parish - *Woonsocket* (1200 Mendon Road)

St. Joseph Parish - *Hope Valley* (1105 Main Street)

St. Joseph Parish - *Newport* (5 Mann Avenue)

St. Joseph Parish - *Central Falls* (391 High Street)

Historic St. Joseph Parish - *Ashton* (1303 Mendon Road)

St. Joseph Parish - *North Scituate* (144 Danielson Pike)



*“If Joseph was so engaged, heart and soul, in protecting and providing for that little family at Nazareth, don't you think that now in heaven he is the same loving father and guardian of the whole Church, of all its members, as he was of its Head on earth?”*

-VENERABLE POPE PIUS XII

# The Litany of Saint Joseph



*“There are many saints to whom God has given the power to assist us in the necessities of life, but the power given to St. Joseph is unlimited: It extends to all our needs, and all those who invoke him with confidence are sure to be heard.”*

- SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE of PROVIDENCE

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

Christ, hear us,

Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of heaven, *have mercy on us.*  
 God the Son, Redeemer of the World, *have mercy on us.*  
 God the Holy Spirit, *have mercy on us.*  
 Holy Trinity, one God, *have mercy on us.*  
 Holy Mary, mother of God *pray for us.*  
 St. Joseph, *pray for us.*  
 Renowned offspring of David, *pray for us.*  
 Light of Patriarchs, *pray for us.*  
 Spouse of the Mother of God, *pray for us.*  
 Chaste guardian of the Virgin, *pray for us.*  
 Foster father of the Son of God, *pray for us.*  
 Diligent protector of Christ, *pray for us.*  
 Head of the Holy Family, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most just, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most chaste, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most prudent, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most strong, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most obedient, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most faithful, *pray for us.*  
 Mirror of patience, *pray for us.*  
 Lover of poverty, *pray for us.*  
 Model of artisans, *pray for us.*  
 Glory of home life, *pray for us.*  
 Guardian of virgins, *pray for us.*  
 Pillar of families, *pray for us.*  
 Solace of the wretched, *pray for us.*  
 Hope of the sick, *pray for us.*  
 Patron of the dying, *pray for us.*  
 Terror of demons, *pray for us.*  
 Protector of Holy Church, *pray for us.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*spare us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*graciously hear us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*have mercy on us, O Lord.*

V/. He made him the lord of his household

R/. *and prince over all his possessions.*

Let us pray:

O God, in your ineffable providence you were pleased to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother; grant, we beg you, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our Protector: You who live and reign forever and ever. *Amen.*