### **ASK A PRIEST**

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St. Mary Church Santa Rosa

## Are there specific prayers or devotions dedicated to St. Joseph?

St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus and patron of the universal Church, is honored through many prayers such as the Ad te, Beate Ioseph, the Litany, the Novena, the Chaplet, the Memorare, and the 33-day Consecration by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC.

The following are key feast days dedicated to St. Joseph: March 19 - Solemnity of St. Joseph, husband of Mary and patron of the Church

May 1 – Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, which honors his vocation as a worker

## How does the practice of **Eucharistic Adoration contribute** to Catholic prayer life?

Eucharistic Adoration deepens faith in Christ's Real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament. Jesus asked, "So you could not keep watch with me for one hour?" (Mt 26:40).

Pope Benedict XVI noted in Sacramentum Caritatis, "The act of adoration outside Mass prolongs and intensifies all that takes place during the liturgical celebration itself. Indeed, 'only in adoration can a profound and genuine reception mature. And it is precisely this personal encounter with the Lord that then strengthens the social mission contained in the Eucharist, which seeks to break down not only the walls that separate the Lord and ourselves, but also and especially the walls that separate us from one another." (193)

https://www.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/apost\_exhortations/ documents/hf\_ben-xvi\_exh\_20070222\_sacramentum-caritatis. html#INTRODUCTION

# **How does the Catholic Church view** Mary's role in salvation history?

Mary's "Fiat" made salvation possible. Through her obedience, Jesus was born to redeem humanity. As Mother of God, she intercedes for us, guiding believers toward Christ.



Lithograph from 1846 of St. Joseph and the infant Jesus printed by Currier & Ives.

#### Prayer to St. Joseph by Pope Leo XIII

To thee, O blessed Joseph, we have recourse in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we now, with hearts filled with confidence, earnestly beg you to take us under your protection.

By that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God, and by that fatherly love with which you cherished the Child Jesus, we beseech you and we humbly pray that you will look down with gracious eyes upon that inheritance which Jesus Christ purchased by his Blood, and will assist us in our necessities by your powerful intercession. (*The prayer continues with specific requests.*)

> Submit your question at www.cdob.org/ask-a-priest