

Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*
Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*
Lord, 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, *pray for us.*
St. Joseph, *pray for us.*
Noble 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.*
Zealous defender 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 courageous, *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 workmen, *pray for us.*
Glory of domestic life, *pray for us.*
Guardian of virgins, *pray for us.*
Pillar of families, *pray for us.*
Comfort of the afflicted, *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.*

V. He made him the lord of his household R. *And prince over all his possessions.*

Let us pray:

O God, who, in your loving providence, chose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most Holy Mother, grant us the favor of having him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our protector. You, who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

Act of Consecration to St. Joseph

O Glorious Patriarch and Patron of the Church! O Virgin Spouse of the Virgin Mother of God! O Guardian and Virginal Father of the Word Incarnate! In the presence of Jesus and Mary, I choose you this day to be my father, my guardian, and my protector.

O great St. Joseph, whom God has made the Head of the Holy Family, accept me, I beseech you, though utterly unworthy, to be a member of your "Holy House." Present me to your Immaculate Spouse; ask her also to adopt me as her child. With her, pray that I may constantly think of Jesus, and serve him faithfully to the end of my life. O Terror of Demons, increase in me virtue, protect me from the evil one, and help me not to offend God in any way.

O my Spiritual Father, I hereby consecrate myself to you. In faithful imitation of Jesus and Mary, I place myself and all my concerns under your care and protection. To you, after Jesus and Mary, I consecrate my body and soul, with all their faculties, my spiritual growth, my home, and all my affairs and undertakings. Forsake me not, but adopt me as a servant and child of the Holy Family. Watch over me at all times, but especially at the hour of my death. Console and strengthen me with the presence of Jesus and Mary so that, with you, I may praise and adore the Holy Trinity for all eternity. Amen.

Daily Act of Consecration to St. 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 greater purity of heart and fervent love of the interior life. After your example, may I do all my actions for the greater glory of God, in union with the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. O Blessed St. Joseph, pray for me, that I may share in the peace and joy of your holy death. Amen.

Memorare to St. Joseph

Remember, O Most Chaste Spouse of the Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, my spiritual father, and beg your protection. O Foster Father of the Redeemer, despise not my petitions, but in your goodness hear and answer me. Amen.

Prayer of St. Louis de Montfort

Hail Joseph the just, wisdom is with you; blessed are you among all men and blessed is Jesus, the fruit of Mary, your faithful spouse.

Holy Joseph, worthy foster-father of Jesus Christ, pray for us sinners and obtain divine wisdom for us from God, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Prayer of St. Pope Pius X to St. Joseph the Worker

O glorious St. Joseph, model of all who labor, obtain for me the grace to work in the spirit of penance in expiation for my numberless sins; preferring devotion to duty to my inclinations; to work with joy and gratitude, regarding it as an honor to develop and employ by work the gifts which I have received from God; to work with order, peace, patience, and moderation, without ever recoiling before weariness and difficulties; to work, especially, with a pure intention and detached from myself, ever having death before my eyes and the account which I must give for time lost, for talents unused, for good omitted, and for vain satisfaction in success, so fatal to the work of God. Amen.

Levels of Adoration and Reverence

latria (adoration) -> God

hyperdulia (highest reverence) -> Mary

protodulia (first revered) -> St. Joseph

dulia (revered) -> All other saints

Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys of Joseph

To be contemplated on the seven Sundays leading up to St. Joseph's feast day on March 19

1st Sunday

Sorrow: St Joseph resolves to leave Mary quietly (Mt 1:19)

Joy: St Joseph's annunciation (Mt 1:20)

2nd Sunday

Sorrow: The poverty of Jesus' birth (Lk 2:7)

Joy: The birth of the Savior (Lk 2:10-11)

3rd Sunday

Sorrow: The circumcision (Lk 2:21)

Joy: The Holy Name of Jesus (Mt 1:25)

4th Sunday

Sorrow: The prophecy of Simeon (Lk 2:34)

Joy: The effects of the redemption (Lk 2:38)

5th Sunday

Sorrow: The flight into Egypt (Mt 2:14)

Joy: The overthrow of the idols of Egypt (Is 19:1)

6th Sunday

Sorrow: The return from Egypt (Mt 2:22)

Joy: Life with Jesus and Mary at Nazareth (Lk 2:39)

7th Sunday

Sorrow: The loss of the Child Jesus (Lk 2:45)

Joy: The finding of the Child Jesus (Lk 2:46)

Chaplet of St. Joseph

The chaplet is divided into 15 groups of four beads consisting of one white and three purple beads. The white beads symbolize St. Joseph's purity, and the purple, his saintly piety. A mystery of the Rosary is considered on each white bead and two "Hail Mary's" are said. On the purple beads, say "*Praised and blessed be Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.*"

The chaplet is ended with the following prayer:

V: Pray for us, O Holy St. Joseph.

R: *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray:

O God, who has predestined St. Joseph from all eternity for the service of Thine eternal Son and His blessed Mother, and made him worthy to be the spouse of this blessed Virgin and the foster-father of Thy Son: we beseech Thee, through all the services he has rendered to Jesus and Mary on earth, that Thou woulds make us worthy of his intercession and grant us to enjoy the happiness of his company in heaven. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Quotes on St. Joseph

“I took for my advocate and lord the glorious St. Joseph and earnestly recommended myself to him. I saw clearly that as in this need so in other greater ones concerning honor and loss of soul this father and lord of mine came to my rescue in better ways than I knew how to ask for. I don't recall up to this day ever having petitioned him for anything that he failed to grant. It is an amazing thing the great many favors God has granted me through the mediation of this blessed saint, the dangers I was freed from both of body and soul. For with other saints it seems the Lord has given them grace to be of help in one need, whereas with this glorious saint I have experience that he helps in all our needs and that the Lord wants to us understand that just as He was subject to St. Joseph on earth -- for since bearing the title of father, being the Lord's tutor, Joseph could give the Child command -- so in heaven God does whatever he commands.” St Teresa of Jesus, *Book of Her Life*, Chap 6, #6

“Because of my impressive experience of the goods this glorious saint obtains from God, I had the desire to persuade all to be devoted to him. I have not known anyone truly devoted to him and rendering him special services who has not advanced more in virtue. For in a powerful way he benefits souls who recommend themselves to him. It seems to me that for some years now I have asked him for something on his feast day, and my petition is always granted. If the request is somewhat out of line, he rectifies it for my greater good. If I were a person who had authority for writing I would willingly and in a very detailed way enlarge upon what I am saying about the favors his glorious saint did for me and for others. But so as to do no more than what they gave me the command to do, I will be briefer in many matters than I desire, more extensive in others than necessary -- in sum, like one who has little discretion in anything that is good. I only ask for the love of God anyone who do not believe me to try, and he will see through experience the great good that comes from recommending oneself to this glorious patriarch and being devoted to him. Especially persons of prayer should always be attached to him. For I don't know how one can think about the Queen of Angels and about when she went through so much with the Infant Jesus without giving thanks to St. Joseph for the good assistance he then provided them both with. Anyone who cannot find a master to teach him prayer should take this glorious saint for his master, and he will not go astray. Please God I may not have erred in being so bold as to speak about him, for although publicly I am devoted to him, I have always been lacking in serving and imitating him. For he being who he is brought it about that I could rise and walk and not be crippled; and I being who I am used this favor badly.” St Teresa of Jesus, *Book of Her Life*, Chap 6, #8.

“I also prayed to St. Joseph, asking him to watch over me; ever since my childhood I had a devotion for him that easily merged with my love for the Blessed Virgin. I recited each day the prayer in his honor: “O St. Joseph, Father and Protector of virgins...” And so it was without any fear I undertook the long journey; being so well protected what was

there to fear?” St. Therese of the Child Jesus, *Story of a Soul*, p 124.

“And what shall I say about the Holy House? Ah! how deep was my emotion when I found myself under the same roof as the Holy Family, contemplating the walls upon which Jesus cast His sacred glance, treading the ground bedewed with the sweat of St. Joseph, under this roof where Mary had carried Jesus in her arms, having carried Him in her virginal womb. I beheld the little room in which the angel had appeared to the Blessed Virgin. I placed my rosary in the little bowl of the Child Jesus. What ravishing memories!” St Therese of the Child Jesus, *Story of a Soul*, p. 128-129.

“The Almighty has concentrated in St. Joseph, as in a Sun of unrivaled lustre, the combined light and splendor of all the other saints.” St. Gregory of Nazianzen

“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.” St. Thomas Aquinas

“O Joseph, virgin father of Jesus, most pure spouse of the Virgin Mary, pray for us daily to the same Jesus, the Son of God, that armed with the weapons of his grace, we may fight as we ought during life, and be crowned by him at the moment of our death.” St. Pope Pius X

“All for Jesus, all for Mary, all to imitate you, O patriarch St. Joseph. This shall be my motto for life and eternity.” St. Pope Pius X

“Saint Joseph urged me to have a constant devotion to him. He himself told me to recite three prayers [the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be] and the *Memorare* [to St. Joseph] once every day. He looked at me with great kindness and gave me to know how much he is supporting this work [of Divine Mercy]. He has promised me this special help and protection. I recite the requested prayers every day and feel his special protection.” St. Faustina Kowalska

“If discouragement overwhelms you, think of the faith of Joseph; if anxiety has its grip on you, think of the hope of Joseph, that descendant of Abraham who hoped against hope; if exasperation or hatred seizes you, think of the love of Joseph, who was the first man to set eyes on the human face of God in the person of the Infant conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary.” Pope Benedict XVI