

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

PRAYERS



FROM THE CONGREGATION OF THE SISTERS OF JESUS AND MARY (FRANCE, 19TH CENTURY)

In his Apostolic Letter "Patris corde," Pope Francis writes, "Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds I have recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary. It expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph:

Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph,
whose power makes the impossible possible,
come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty.
Take under your protection
the serious and troubling situations that I commend to you,
that they may have a happy outcome.
My beloved father, all my trust is in you.
Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain,
and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary,
show me that your goodness is as great as your power. Amen.

POPE LEO XIII – *Quamauam Pluries* (1889)

The official prayer of the Year of St. Joseph—To you, O blessed Joseph (Ad te, beate Ioseph)—was composed by Pope Leo XIII in his 1889 encyclical, *Quamauam Pluries*. The Holy Father asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary especially during October, the month of the Holy Rosary. This prayer is enriched with a partial indulgence (Source: USCCB).

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions,
and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse,
we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God
and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus,
we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance
which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood,
and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;

O most loving father,
ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence;

O our most mighty protector,
be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.
As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril,
so now protect God's Holy Church
from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity;
shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection,
so that, supported by your example and your aid,
we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness,
and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.



LITANY OF SAINT JOSEPH

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven,
God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
God the Holy Ghost,
Holy Trinity, One God,

have mercy on us.
have mercy on us.
have mercy on us.
have mercy on us.

Holy Mary,
St. Joseph,
Illustrious son of David,
Light of patriarchs,
Spouse of the Mother of God,
Chaste guardian of the Virgin,
Foster father of the Son of God,
Watchful defender of Christ,
Head of the Holy Family,

pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.

Joseph most just,
Joseph most chaste,
Joseph most prudent,
Joseph most valiant,
Joseph most obedient,
Joseph most faithful,

pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.

Mirror of patience,
Lover of poverty,
Model of workmen,
Glory of home life,
Guardian of virgins,
Pillar of families,

pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.

Solace of the afflicted,
Hope of the sick,
Patron of the dying,
Terror of demons,
Protector of Holy Church,

pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.
pray for us.

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,
Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,
Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,

Spare us, O Lord!
Graciously hear us, O Lord!
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 ineffable providence
chose Blessed Joseph
to be the spouse of your most holy Mother,
grant, we beseech you,
that he whom we venerate as our protector on earth
may be our intercessor in heaven.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns forever and ever.

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.



FROM "THAT ALL MAY BE ONE"
A COLLECTION OF PRAYERS BY THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Adapted by Kathy Sherman, CSJ

Teach us to listen and not be afraid
to trust as you did in God's Promise.
Teach us to love courageously with a heart that is free and just.
Teach us to protect one another and all that belongs to God.
Teach us to dream a world where all are neighbors
a vision illumined by God's light.

Teach us to keep the Word of God close to our hearts,
and to proclaim it in word and action.
Teach us to be gentle with power
and strong in our tenderness.
Teach us to be for our children a living lesson of goodness and truth,
a blessing of hope for all generations to come.
Teach us to live the charism of the founders,
the Sisters of St. Joseph of uniting neighbor with neighbor
and neighbor with God
without distinction. Amen.

St. Joseph, Help Us in Our Work

Sean Peters, CSJ

St. Joseph, our patron and our Guide,
You worked as a carpenter which called for
creativity, resourcefulness, steadfastness and strength.
Our work demands these same virtues. So we ask for
the creativity to see beyond our present reality,
the resourcefulness to use the many gifts God provides,
the steadfastness to stay with the tasks before us and
the strength to meet the challenges that come along the way.
And may we ask for one more gift that you experienced:
to be delighted by the presence of Jesus in the midst of our busy days.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

COLLECTS FROM THE ROMAN MISSAL

Collect: March 19: Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that by Saint Joseph's intercession
your Church may constantly watch over
the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation,
whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Votive Mass of Saint Joseph (No. 13):

O God, who in your inexpressible providence
were pleased to choose Saint Joseph
as spouse of the most holy Mother of your Son,
grant, we pray,
that we, who revere him as our protector on earth,
may be worthy of his heavenly intercession.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

May 1: Saint Joseph the Worker:

O God, Creator of all things,
who laid down for the human race the law of work,
graciously grant
that by the example of Saint Joseph and under his patronage
we may complete the works you set us to do
and attain the rewards you promise.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Masses for Various Needs: (12) For the Family

O' God, in whose eternal design
family life has its firm foundation,
look with compassion on the prayers of your servants
and grant that, following the example
of the Holy Family of your Only Begotten Son
in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity,
we may, in the joy of your house,
delight one day in eternal rewards.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

O God, who were pleased to give us
the shining example of the Holy Family,
graciously grant that we may imitate them
in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity,
and so, in the joy of your house,
delight one day in eternal rewards.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

From the conclusion of the Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde*

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you, Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

PREFACE: SAINT JOSEPH

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
and on the solemnity of Saint Joseph *
to give you fitting praise,
to glorify you and bless you.

For this just man was given by you
as spouse to the Virgin Mother of God
and set as a wise and faithful servant
In charge of your household
to watch like a father over your Only begotten Son,
who was conceived by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through him the Angels praise your majesty,
Dominions adore and Powers tremble before you.
Heaven and the virtues of heaven and the blessed Seraphim
worship together in exultation.
May our voices, we pray, join with theirs
in humble praise, as we acclaim:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts...

**on May 1, this line is changed to “and on the commemoration of Saint Joseph”*

**at the votive Mass, this line changes to “and in honoring Saint Joseph”*



Excerpt from the Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* of the Holy Father Francis
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