

Wednesday Devotions To St. Joseph



The Seven Sorrows and Joys of St. Joseph

Glorious St. Joseph, first man to love Mary and hold Jesus in your arms, accept these prayers we now offer to honor you and ask Almighty God's blessing upon us. We pray that all the members of our families will be spiritually and physically protected through life, and guided to fulfill wisely and with love the vocations God has given us.

Bless our community; bless God's family of faith in churches through-out the world; bless all the good works we do to be faithful followers of your chosen son, Jesus. We pray especially that God will grant us the favor we now ask, or if it is His will, one that He knows is better for us...

I *Chaste Lover of Mary, how overwhelmed you were when you thought that you would have to end your betrothal to her. But when the angel of God came to you in a dream, you were filled with awe to realize that Mary would be your wife, and you would be the guardian of the Messiah.*

Help us St. Joseph, help our families and all our loved ones to over-come all sadness of heart and develop an absolute trust in God's good-ness.

II *Faithful guardian of Jesus, what a failure you thought you were when you could only provide a stable for the birth of the Holy Child. And then what a wonder it was when shepherds came to tell of angel choirs, and wise men came to adore the King of Kings.*

Through your example and prayers, help us St. Joseph and all we love to become like sinless mangers where the Savior of the world may be re-ceived with absolute love and respect.

III *Tender-hearted Joseph, you too felt pain when the blood of Jesus was first shed at His circumcision. Yet how proud you were to be the one privileged to give the name Je-sus, Savior, to the very Son of God.*

Pray for us St. Joseph, that the sacred blood of Christ, poured out for our salvation, may guard our families, so the Divine Name of Jesus may be written in our hearts forever.

IV *Joseph, loving husband, how bewildered you were when Simeon spoke the words of warning that the hearts of Jesus and Mary would be pierced with sorrows. Yet his pre-diction that this would lead to the salvation of innumerable souls filled you with consolation.*

Help us, St. Joseph, to see with eyes of faith that even the sorrows and pains of those we deeply love can become the pathway to salvation and eternal life.

V *Courageous protector of the Holy Family, how terrified you were when you had to make the sudden flight with Jesus and Mary to escape the treachery of King Herod and the cruelty of his soldiers. But when you reached Egypt, what satisfaction you had, in knowing that the Savior of the world had come to replace the pagan idols.*

Teach us by your example, St. Joseph, to keep far from the false idols of earthly attractions, so that like you, we may be entirely devoted to the service of Jesus and Mary.

VI *Ever-obedient Joseph, you trustingly returned to Nazareth at God's command, in spite of your fear that King Herod's son might still be a threat to Jesus' life. Then what fatherly pride you had in seeing Jesus grow in wisdom and grace before God and men under your care.*

Show us St. Joseph, how to be free from all useless fear and worry, so we may enjoy the peace of a tranquil conscience, living safely with Jesus and Mary in our hearts.

VII *Dependable father and husband, how anguished you and Mary were when, through no fault of yours, you searched for three days to find Jesus. What incredible relief was yours when you found Him safe in the Temple of God.*

Help us St. Joseph, never to lose Jesus through the fault of our own sins. But if we should lose Him, lead us back with unwearied sorrow, until we find Him again; so that we, like you, may finally pass from this life, dying safely in the arms of Jesus and Mary.

And Jesus Himself, when he began His work, was about thirty years old being, as was supposed, the son of Joseph.

Pray for us, holy Joseph. That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. Blessed St. Joseph, tender-hearted father, faithful guardian of Jesus, chaste spouse of the Mother of God, I pray and beseech you to offer to God the Father my praise to Him through his divine Son, who died on the cross and rose again to give us sinners new life. Through the holy name of Jesus, pray with us that we may obtain from the eternal Father, the favor we ask... [PAUSE]... *We have been unfaithful* to the unfailing love of God the Father; beg of Jesus mercy for us. Amid the splendors of God's loving presence, do not forget the sorrows of those who suffer, those who pray, those who weep. By your prayers and those of your most holy spouse, our Blessed Lady, may the love of Jesus answer our call of confident hope. Amen.

Hymns to St. Joseph

Sing of Mary, Sing of Joseph

Sing of Mary, pure and lowly,
Virgin Mother undefiled.
Sing of God's own Son most holy
Who became her little child.
Fairest Child of fairest mother,
God the Lord who came to earth,
Word made flesh, our very brother,
Takes our nature by his birth.

Sing of Joseph, chosen father,
To the incarnate Son of God.
Loving husband for God's mother
As toward David's town they plod.
Filled with justice, strength and wisdom,
Joseph was their rock and guide.
Now he guards God's pilgrim people,
Steadfast patron at our side.

Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son.
Glory be to God the Spirit,
Glory to the Three in One.
Hear the hearts of Joseph, Mary,
And all saints the hymn intone,
While the Church, God's earthly family,
Echoes praise to heaven's throne.

Hail, Holy Joseph

Hail, holy Joseph, Hail, Chaste Spouse of Mary, Hail!
Pure as the lily flower in Eden's peaceful vale.
Hail, holy Joseph, hail, prince of the house of God.
May His best graces be by thy sweet hands bestowed.
Hail, holy Joseph, hail, Comrade of angels, hail!
Cheer thou the hearts that faint, and guide the steps that fail.
Hail, holy Joseph, hail!
God's choice were thou alone.
To thee the Word made flesh
Was subject as a son.

Look Down to Us, St. Joseph

Look down to us, Saint Joseph,
Protector of Our Lord,
Who followed you through deserts,
And gave you blessed reward;
Our foes are yet about us,
Be strength now at our side,
Be light against the darkness.
Saint Joseph, be our guide!

We venerate your justice,
The gospels praise your name,
You are the saint all humble,
Who gained eternal fame;
In your devoted family
Our souls in trust confide,
Direct our way to heaven.
Saint Joseph, be our guide.



The Oblates of St. Joseph

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