

INTERCESSIONS FOR THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

The following intercessions may be used throughout the year, during the suggested month, and/or on the feast days that have been highlighted. The Year of St. Joseph closes on December 8, 2021.

March: Solemnity of St. Joseph & Start of Amoris Laetitia Family Year

March 19 is the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This year, it also marks the beginning of the Amoris Laetitia Family Year, which concludes on June 26, 2022.

- That the Church, through the intercession of Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, may proclaim the Good News without fear and hold fast to Jesus who is the way, the truth and the life. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For all parishes in the Diocese of Davenport; that as we celebrate this Year of Saint Joseph, we may seek his intercession in growing in faith, hope, and love. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For all parents, that during this Year of Saint Joseph, they may trust the gentle voice of God in discerning what is right and good for their children. Let us pray to the Lord.
- That those who have opened their hearts and homes to children through adoption would be blessed, and their love returned a thousand-fold. Let us pray to the Lord.

April: Child Abuse Prevention Month

During Child Abuse Prevention Month, we can highlight the role of St. Joseph as protector of the Holy Family.

- For all those who protect children from harm, that they may look to Saint Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus, as a model of strength and courage. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For all parents, that during this Year of Saint Joseph, they may trust the gentle voice of God in discerning what is right and good for their children. Let us pray to the Lord.

May: St. Joseph the Worker

Saturday, May 1 is the optional memorial of St. Joseph the Worker. During this month we can highlight Catholic Social Teaching on the rights of workers and the dignity of work. Additional intercessions are found below (under September).

- For all those who labor, especially those who work in harsh conditions, that through the intercession of Saint Joseph, they may be kept safe and receive a just and living wage. Let us pray to the Lord.
- That those who are unemployed would find the work that they need, that is meaningful and respectful of their human dignity, and that serves the common good. Let us pray to the Lord.
- That all our labor would serve the human community and protect our common home. Let us pray to the Lord.
- That through the intercession of Saint Joseph, we may develop a greater appreciation for the dignity of labor and the rights of workers. Let us pray to the Lord.

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- For all carpenters and construction workers, that during this observance of the Year of Saint Joseph, they may experience safe working conditions and develop a greater appreciation for the dignity of their work. Let us pray to the Lord.
- That our hearts would be broken open, and we would generously share the fruits of our labors with the poor. Let us pray to the Lord.

June: Fathers' Day

We ask St. Joseph's intercession for our fathers, living and deceased, and for all who have had fatherly roles in our lives. Fathers' Day is June 20 this year – the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

- That through the intercession of Saint Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus, all fathers may be strengthened in their devotion to their families. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For fathers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope and their family and friends console them. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For fathers who have died, that God may bring them into the joy of the Kingdom. Let us pray to the Lord.
- That those who have opened their hearts and homes to children through adoption would be blessed, and their love returned a thousand-fold. Let us pray to the Lord.
- That all who fill a fatherly role may model themselves after Saint Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus. Let us pray to the Lord.

July: National NFP Awareness Month

During this month, we are asked to help spread awareness of the Church's wisdom regarding sexuality and married life, including the virtue of chastity (which is not synonymous with celibacy but refers to the integrated and proper living out of our sexuality). In doing so, we can highlight St. Joseph as the Virgin Mary's chaste spouse.

- That through the intercession of Saint Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus, all fathers may be strengthened in their devotion to their families. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For those preparing for marriage, that the chaste example of Joseph and Mary would be a model for their life together. Let us pray to the Lord.

August: International Peace Month

In addition to his witness as a husband, foster-father, and worker, St. Joseph may also serve as a model of the quiet and contemplative life.

- May the example of Saint Joseph lead us to practice quiet contemplation and so grow deeper in our relationship with God. Let us pray to the Lord.
- That our hearts may be stilled to contemplate the presence of God in our lives, so that we might hear and follow God's call, just as Saint Joseph responded to the angel's instructions. Let us pray to the Lord.

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September: National Migration Week

In our keeping of National Migration Week (Sept. 20-26), we can recall the flight of the Holy Family to Egypt. The USCCB will post additional resources as we get closer to this observation.

- For migrant workers and all who work the land, waters, and roadways, and so bring food to our tables. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For those who work in the service of their sisters and brothers; that they would not be discouraged by lack of support or progress. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For migrants, refugees, and all other strangers in our midst, that they may find strength in our concern for justice and feel the warmth of our love. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For all refugees who are forced to flee from their homes, that God bring peace to them, their families and their country of origin. Let us pray to the Lord

In addition, we observe Labor Day on September 6. It would be appropriate to include intercessions for workers on the preceding Sunday – September 5, the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

- For those who are unemployed or underemployed, for those seeking work. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For those who work in hazardous conditions without sufficient protection, [especially during this pandemic]. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For migrant workers and all who work the land and the waters, so we might be fed. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For those who work in the service of their sisters and brothers; that they would not be discouraged by lack of support or progress. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For all employers, that they may seek to provide a just work environment. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For those who face discrimination, harassment, or abuse in the work place. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For those who must balance job commitments with the needs of their family. Let us pray to the Lord.

October: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

During this month, we can highlight the example of St. Joseph as a dedicated Spouse.

- For married couples, that the loving service of Joseph and Mary to each other may be an example for their daily lives. Let us pray to the Lord.
- May all people in abusive relationships find the safety and healing that they need, and may we be a place of welcome, kindness, and care for all those in such need. Let us pray to the Lord.

November: All Soul's Day

During November, we keep remembrance of our beloved dead. St. Joseph is known as the patron for a happy death.

- For those who are close to death, that through the intercession of Saint Joseph, they may experience a peaceful passing into the arms of Jesus and Mary in the kingdom of heaven. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For fathers who have died, that God may bring them into the joy of the Kingdom. Let us pray to the Lord.