

Greetings all on this Solemnity of St. Joseph, March 19.

Your Cathedral staff is continuing to monitor our situation and looking at options for all of us to stay connected during this time when we will not be able to gather for mass. In keeping with the governor's mandate, **Bishop Calvo has suspended all public masses at least until April 17.** Of course this will continue to be monitored and updated.

I share with you today this reflection on St. Joseph by St. Bernadine of Siena from the Office of Readings:

"There is a general rule concerning all special graces granted to any human being. Whenever the divine favor chooses someone to receive a special grace, or to accept a lofty vocation, God adorns the person chosen with all the gifts of the Spirit needed to fulfill the task at hand. ...

"What then is Joseph's position in the whole Church of Christ? Is he not a man chosen and set apart? Through him and, yes, under him, Christ was fittingly and honorable introduced into the world. Holy Church in its entirety is indebted to the Virgin Mother because through her it was judged worthy to receive Christ. But after her we undoubtedly owe special gratitude and reverence to St. Joseph. ...

"Obviously, Christ does not now deny to Joseph that intimacy, reverence and very high honor which he gave him on earth, as a son to his father. Rather we must say that in heaven Christ completes and perfects all that he gave at Nazareth. ...

"Remember us, St. Joseph, and plead for us to your foster-child. Ask your most holy bride, the Virgin Mary, to look kindly upon us, since she is the mother of him who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns eternally. Amen."

There are some excellent on-line resources to fortify and enhance our faith during these times of separation and I will be making some recommendations. myParish app has some good daily ones, including the mass readings of the day and reflections. If you are not connected on that, just text 88202 and the reply will be the link to download it on your phone.

Let us continue to pray for one another and for all who are suffering.
peace in Christ,
Fr. Chuck