

The Virtues of St. Joseph



**The Year of St. Joseph
2021**

The Shadow of the Father



References

- **Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father** by Fr. Donald H. Calloway MIC
- **Quemadmodum Deus** by Blessed Pope Pius IX
- **Quamquam Pluries** by Pope Leo XIII
- **Redemptoris Custos** by Pope St. John Paul II



Why St. Joseph?

- **“Saint Joseph, more than anyone else before or since, learned from Jesus to be alert to recognize God’s Wonders.” St. Jose Maria Escriva**
- **“Our God is a God of Wonders! One of His greatest wonders is St. Joseph.” Fr. Donald H. Calloway MIC**
- **“When God wishes to raise a soul to greater heights, He unites it to St. Joseph by giving it a strong love for the good saint.” St. Peter Julian Eymard**



Virtues

- **Habits and dispositions to do good**
- **Theological**
 - Faith
 - Hope
 - Love
- **Moral or Human**
- **Cardinal**
 - Prudence
 - Temperance
 - Justice
 - Fortitude



Joseph Most Reverent

- **Mary was pure and innocent, and he knew it.**
- **He believed the Angel, that Mary was pregnant by the Holy Spirit with the Son of God.**
- **St. Joseph loved Mary immensely and could not divorce her or push her away.**
- **He would have stepped away from Mary had God not intervened.**
- **He judged himself unworthy of such a holy spouse**



Noble Offspring of David

- **As Matthew and Luke tell us, he is a descendant of King David.**
- **He is the progeny of a patriarchal, regal, and princely stock.**
- **He has the blood of Kings.**
- **He is the son of David!**
- **He was addressed as such by the Angel
“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.” (Mt 1:20)**



Joseph Most Just

- **Joseph loved God above all things and his neighbor as himself.**
- **He always acted in accord with the Divine Will of God.**
- **He cared for Jesus and Mary in the way that God directed, especially through His Angels.**
- **“When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the Angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife.” (Mt 1:24) He fulfilled all justice!**
- **He was the most just of all Saints!**



Joseph Most Prudent

- **St. Joseph's prudence was supernatural and heroic.**
- **Supernatural prudence embraces the cross out of love and seeks the greater good.**
- **St. Joseph lived redemptive suffering out of love.**
- **He pondered, prayed, discerned and acted.**



Joseph Most Chaste

- **It is certain that Joseph remained a virgin all his life**
- **To be chaste is to have self-mastery, a virtue possessed by St. Joseph**
- **St. Joseph was both chaste and celibate.**
- **To be chaste is to be pure of heart.**
- **Next to Jesus, St. Joseph was the greatest example of masculine chastity.**



Joseph Most Courageous

- **He feared nothing other than offending God and exercised tremendous fortitude in his protection of Jesus and Mary.**
- **He was courageous because he loved the good more than he feared evil or suffering**



Joseph Most Obedient

- **He faithfully carried out God’s commands and is a model of obedience.**
- **His trust of God and willingness to suffer were the root of his obedience.**
- **“Joseph, in obedience to the Holy Spirit, found in the Holy Spirit the source of love.” Pope St. John Paul II**



Joseph Most Faithful

- **St. Joseph never doubted the divinity of Jesus.**
- **He knew He was God.**
- **He exercised an active, trusting and zealous faith.**
- **“It is precisely the intrepid faith of St. Joseph that the Church needs today...”
Pope St. John Paul II.**



Mirror of Patience

- **St. Joseph exhibited heroic patience in Egypt.**
- **In every situation, he was always peaceful, kind, calm, and abandoned to Divine Providence.**
- **When Jesus was lost for three days in Jerusalem, he had confidence in God's Providence.**



Lover of Poverty

- **Joseph relied on Divine Providence for all the needs of his family.**
- **He lived with the attitude of poor in spirit before his Son declared this beatitude.**
- **He was so lowly and poor...that the Wise Men who entered the stable did not acknowledge his presence.**



Why the Virtues of St. Joseph?

- **Next to Jesus and Mary, he is our most powerful intercessor.**
- **He can help us to learn the virtues we most need to grow in holiness.**
- **He wants to be our spiritual father and take us to Jesus and Mary!**



Let us Pray the Litany of St. Joseph