

St. Joseph - The Man and His Virtues



As Matthew Kelly stated in his reflection on St. Joseph (March 19, 2021), "St. Joseph made himself 100% available to God."

https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/stjosephsday.html?utm_source=pardot&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=st+josephs+day&utm_content=031921+st+joseph+button+2



St. Joseph – The Man and His Virtues

- St. Mary Cathedral and St. Ann Church Pastorate
- June 22, 2021
- Father Dennis Faker

What is a real man?

It is the man who puts God first.

It is the man who places great value on the virtue of humility.

It is the man who prays and does so throughout the day.

It is the man who has an ongoing awareness of God's presence.



St Joseph - The Man

- He was a real person.
- He was strong.
- He was a man of action.
- He was a working man.

Patience

Patience is the virtue that allows us to quietly persevere in the face of OUR troubles / challenges.

He displayed great patience in poverty, in persecution, and in other trying situations.

Humility

He (along with Mary) had the amazing responsibility of raising the Son of God, and he did so with great humility.

He showed great power, strength and virtue - with great humility.

He did not allow pride to seep into his psyche.

He gave credit to God for all his accomplishments.

St. Joseph's humility led him to trust.

He FOCUSED on Jesus / God.

Simplicity

- He, in his poverty, is the king of simplicity - pointing us to Jesus.





Obedience

- He is one of the all-time great examples of obedience.
- He gradually came to know God's will and **RESPONDED** with **COMPLETE** trust / surrender / compliance.
- He was a great listener, not only within his family, but most importantly - to God.
- He had the heart of a servant - a servant's heart.

Service



- Part of service is teaching, and St. Joseph taught Jesus.
- In his work as a carpenter, he served those outside his family.

Prayerfulness



- He was tuned-in to God's voice.
- He prayed continuously - through his work, but more importantly - through dedicated prayer.
- He knew how to converse with God.

Faithfulness

- He was a man who in his faith...completely / fully trusted in God.
- Joseph had an abiding CERTAINTY...that God would provide for all his and his family's needs.
- Nothing interfered with his beliefs and commitment. In turn, God was faithful to Joseph - providing him with the grace and blessings he needed to fulfill his vocation or mission.



Humor



- He “probably” had a sense of humor.
- God would not have chosen a grumpy old man to raise Jesus and to be a husband to Mary.

The Call for Each of Us

God has a purpose for each of us. We all have a vocation to be lived-out in faith / obedience to help us find fulfillment in this life AND in eternal life. God calls some of us to the priesthood....the diaconate....or to religious life. Others he calls to live as vowed singles for Christ and his church. And many are called to marriage and raising families. God picked Joseph - and lovingly prepared him for a very special vocation - becoming the husband of Mary and the chosen father of Jesus.

In living out his vocation Joseph was obedient in silence / simplicity. A man of prayer. A faithful husband. A loving father. A friend who helped others. As the saying goes - Joseph was a man after God's own heart - who can help us by his example to be the same - people after God's own heart.

A photograph of a piece of white lined paper with the word "Questions?" written in black cursive. A black pen is positioned at the bottom right, pointing towards the end of the word. A thick black underline is drawn below the word. The entire image is centered within a large, light gray circular frame.

Questions?