



**Addendum to Letter to Priests and Faithful on the Year of Saint Joseph
December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021**

In his Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde*, the Holy Father tells us the kind of father Saint Joseph is: beloved, tender and loving, obedient, accepting, creatively courageous, working, and in the shadows.

The Year of Saint Joseph is an exciting first for the Church, one that each person will experience in a deeply personal way. The following resources and devotions are proposed to help us contemplate each of these attributes, so as to journey into the heart of our spiritual father. It is not an exhaustive list, nor is it intended as a checklist – rather the hope is that throughout the year, faithful who pray with sincerity to Saint Joseph will find new devotions that can be adopted into their unique life circumstances to draw closer to Jesus.

There are many devotions and activities we can undertake to learn about Saint Joseph, but an excellent beginning is Fr. Donald Calloway's book, *Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of our Spiritual Father*. This 33-day consecration delves deeply into the life of Saint Joseph as presented in biblical accounts, and the teachings of Church fathers and the saints, and is a great way to get to know him better. Consecrations may be done individually or as a group.

Saint Peter Julian Eymard said, "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." Let us embark together as a diocesan Church on this Year of Saint Joseph fully open to all the graces God wishes to bestow on us.

United in prayer through the intercession of Saint Joseph,

Most. Rev. Christian Riesbeck, CC
Bishop of Saint John

January 15, 2021

Activities and Devotions

Devotions denoted by an asterisk are those indicated by the Apostolic decree to fulfill the requirements for the special plenary indulgence granted by Pope Francis during this year (when performed together with sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the pope's intentions, according to the usual conditions). Please note that the elderly, the sick, or the infirm unable to leave the house may make an act of piety to Saint Joseph, provided they offer their discomfort to God and fulfill the conditions for the indulgence "as soon as possible".

A Beloved Father

Pillar of Families – Pray for us

- *Recite a prayer to Saint Joseph, such as the Litany of Saint Joseph
- Read the Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde (A Father's Heart)* by Pope Francis
- Encourage others to foster a greater devotion to Saint Joseph
- Pray a Novena to Saint Joseph

A Tender and Loving Father

Mirror of Patience – Pray for us

- *Families (or engaged couples) pray the rosary together
- Attend Mass on Wednesdays, the traditional day given to Saint Joseph's honour
- Purchase a piece of artwork depicting Saint Joseph to display prominently in your home or parish

An Obedient Father

Joseph Most Obedient – Pray for us

- *Meditate on the Our Father prayer for 30 minutes each day
- Include prayers to Saint Joseph in your morning and evening prayers
- Purchase a subscription to Formed.org and promote small group studies, videos, audio books and talks about Saint Joseph

An Accepting Father

Lover of Poverty – Pray for us

- *Perform one of the corporal or spiritual works of mercy
- Adopt a fast in Saint Joseph's honour asking his intercession for the poor and the marginalized

A Creatively Courageous Father

Terror of Demons – Pray for us

- *Say a prayer for the relief of Christians persecuted in other countries
- Make a Holy Hour asking Saint Joseph's intercession for courage in the face of difficulty and fear
- Recite the prayer to Saint Joseph, Terror of Demons

A Working Father

Model of Workers – Pray for us

- *Entrust your workday to Saint Joseph and ask him to intercede for those without work
- *Perform an approved prayer or act of piety in honour of Saint Joseph, especially on his two feast days (March 19 and May 1)
- Purchase and distribute Saint Joseph prayer cards

A Father in the Shadows

Joseph Most Faithful – Pray for us

- *Take part in a spiritual retreat of one day (or more); include a meditation on Saint Joseph
- Review the timeline of the development of devotion to Saint Joseph
- Read *Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of our Spiritual Father* and make a personal consecration to him

Monthly Masses Honouring Saint Joseph

In addition to the feast days honouring Saint Joseph (Solemnity of Saint Joseph - March 19, and Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker - May 1), there are many opportunities to offer Sunday Masses for Saint Joseph and meditate on his presence during the foundational moments of our Church. The faithful are encouraged to pray especially to him during these suggested Masses each month:

<p align="center">January</p> <p align="center">Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (January 17)</p> <p><i>Reflect on how Saint Joseph was both a father to and a disciple of Jesus</i></p>	<p align="center">February</p> <p align="center">Presentation of the Lord (February 2)</p> <p><i>Reflect on how Saint Joseph is called like Mary to embrace sorrow with courage</i></p>	<p align="center">March</p> <p align="center">Solemnity of Saint Joseph (March 19)</p> <p><i>Reflect on Saint Joseph's role as Patron of the Universal Church</i></p>	<p align="center">April</p> <p align="center">Fourth Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday (April 25)</p> <p><i>Reflect on how like Jesus, Joseph lays down his life for those whom he loves</i></p>
<p align="center">May</p> <p align="center">Saint Joseph the Worker (May 1)</p> <p><i>Reflect on how Saint Joseph's work was essential to his life of holiness</i></p>	<p align="center">June</p> <p align="center">Father's Day (June 20)</p> <p><i>Reflect on Saint Joseph's role as a Spiritual father</i></p>	<p align="center">July</p> <p align="center">Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary time (July 4)</p> <p><i>Reflect on the hidden life of Saint Joseph</i></p>	<p align="center">August</p> <p align="center">Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 15)</p> <p><i>Reflect on Saint Joseph's essential participation in the Gospel plan</i></p>
<p align="center">September</p> <p align="center">Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary time (September 5)</p> <p><i>Reflect on the theme of labour in connection to Saint Joseph the Worker</i></p>	<p align="center">October</p> <p align="center">Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary time (October 3)</p> <p><i>Reflect on the unique spousal relationship of Mary and Joseph</i></p>	<p align="center">November</p> <p align="center">Feast of All Saints (November 1)</p> <p><i>Reflect on how Saint Joseph's heroic virtue makes him the delight of the Saints</i></p>	<p align="center">December</p> <p align="center">Feast of the Holy Family (December 26)</p> <p><i>Reflect on Saint Joseph's role as head of the Holy Family</i></p>

Online resources for Parish Bulletins, Websites and Social Media

Patris Corde (A Father's Heart): Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis

http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html

Consecration to Saint Joseph – Fr. Donald Calloway

<https://www.consecrationtostjoseph.org/>

St. Joseph the Protector: A nine-day preparation for entrustment to St. Joseph – Fr. Mark Goring, CC

<https://www.amazon.ca/St-Joseph-Protector-preparation-entrustment/dp/1508450803>

Litany of Saint Joseph – EWTN

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/litany-of-st-joseph-247>

Prayers to Saint Joseph – Saint Joseph's Oratory

<https://www.saint-joseph.org/en/spirituality/saint-joseph/prayers-to-saint-joseph/>

Novena to Saint Joseph – EWTN:

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/novena-to-st-joseph-304>

Timeline of Official Devotion to Saint Joseph – Virtual Saint Joseph Altar

<http://virtualstjosephaltar.com/devotion/>

Videos

Year of St. Joseph – Fr. Donald Calloway

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWRlrGyL5_I

St. Joseph in a World gone BONKERS! – Fr. Mark Goring and Fr. Donald Calloway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IG3kOzxtpFc>

St. Joseph: An Example for All Husbands – Sr. Miriam James, Ascension Presents

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YoBGOhk6iSE>

Franciscan University Presents: St. Joseph and the Holy Family – Fr. Boniface Hicks, Fr. Sean Heridan and Dr. Scott Hahn, Franciscan University of Steubenville

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysPHIMCKikM>

The Truth about St. Joseph and Spiritual Warfare – Fr. Donald Calloway, Ignited by Truth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F9LGoVPN4og>