

The Year of St. Joseph

Dear loving Fathima and St. Lawrence Family,

With his Apostolic Letter *"Patris corde"* ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.

To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from, 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.

We, Our Lady of Fatima Church and St. Lawrence church, join the universal Church "to perpetuate the entrustment of the whole Church to the powerful patronage of the Custodian of Jesus."

The Inauguration of the Year of St. Joseph in our churches will take place on Saturday, 30th January 2021 at 4.30 pm at Our Lady of Fathima church and Sunday 31st January 2021 at 10.45 am at St. Lawrence catholic church, together with the Holy Masses.

Let us meditate on the important aspects from the life of St. Joseph as given by Pope Francis: *a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father, a creatively courageous father, a working father, a father in the shadows.*

The following devotions are recommended by the Pope in order to develop a filial relationship with St. Joseph:

- Meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a reflection on St. Joseph.
- Perform a spiritual or corporal work of mercy in the name of St. Joseph.
- The recitation of the Holy Rosary in our church communities and in our families.
- Entrust daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph.
- Recite the Litany to St. Joseph or any other prayer to St. Joseph proper to the liturgical traditions, for the persecuted Church ad intra and ad extra, and for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution.
- Recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph.

Yours truly in our Lord.

Fr. Paul CMI, Pastor