

April 2021

Child Abuse Prevention Month The Year of St. Joseph

“Each of us can discover in Joseph -the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence—an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble...”

“Our world today needs fathers.”

-Pope Francis

Some have described the crisis of child abuse in our culture, and especially within our Church, as a crisis of fatherhood. Clergy who abused or did not protect children and youth were not fulfilling their vocational role as spiritual father. Many families in our world today are missing fathers to follow the example of St. Joseph as protector and guide. More and more young people find themselves lost in their search for *The Father* and vulnerable in their search for love and connectedness.

In this year of St. Joseph, let us turn our attention to the model of love and humility St. Joseph provides, request his intercession for the protection of all children, and pray for the loving guidance of all fathers in the lives of their sons and daughters.

The Fathers of St. Joseph identify 7 principles of spiritual leadership in the life of St. Joseph. During Child Abuse Prevention Month in this Year of Saint Joseph, the protector, discover a new way daily to practice each principle. Invite a Father to join you!

Sun Live the Liturgical Life	Mon Build the Domestic Church	Tue Embrace your Spouse	Wed Embrace your Child	Thu Pray Daily	Fri Make Sacrifices	Sat Work for God
				1 Pray the Year of St. Joseph Prayer https://www.catholicprayers.org/holyfamilystjoseph/year-of-st-joseph-1.html	2 Fast it Forward Continue your Good Friday fasting and abstinence every Friday in April	3 Lighten the Load Make a meal, run an errand, open a door, offer a word of hope, or say a prayer for a parent who is over-loaded.
4 Pray the Mass Readings https://www.gidiocese.org/materials-resources Attend the Easter Sunday Mass	5 Decorate with Handprint Lilies Symbol of the purity of St. Joseph and St. Maria Goretti https://www.showeroforesb.com/2011/07/saintly-summer-fun-st-maria-goretti.html	6 Together with your spouse pray the Prayer to St. Joseph for One's Family https://61es8.webvdo.com/24/2401638/1/ln/oa/ded/Files/AFB%20CC3-2C717FE4-F476-C4A617CFE552.pdf	7 Consecrate your children to St. Joseph https://www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?ip=65c	8 Join the Bishop's Mass for Healing and Reparation 5:15 pm Livestream Available https://gidiocese.org/	9 Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the USCCB 2 PM CDT https://www.facebook.com/usccb/videos/	10 Order Food Delivery for a family in need, a shelter, or child welfare organization.
11 Pray the Readings https://www.gidiocese.org/materials-resources Attend the Mass Pray the Night Prayer https://divineoffice.org/easter-sun-	12 Designate a Prayer Chair at home. Equip it with a rosary, prayers and books https://www.instagram.com/p/CHaJNFi3KG/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link	13 Bear wrongs Patiently. When frustrated, step away, breathe deeply, pray the Our Father. Ask God for patience.	14 Craft a St. Joseph Chaplet with your child and pray together for all who need protection. https://holymfamilymarch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Creabng-your-own-Chaplet.pdf	15 Pray the Rosary for Healing Livestream with the USCCB 2:00 PM CDT https://www.facebook.com/usccb/videos/	16 Do Daily Chores for someone else. St. Joseph the worker chore chart: https://www.catholicinspired.org/uploads/1/1/0/0/1100884777/creatorsshop.pdf	17 Build Blessing Bags To provide for homeless youth and families. http://www.catholicstias.com/how-to-make-a-blessing-bag/
18 Pray the Readings https://www.gidiocese.org/materials-resources Attend Mass Pray the Night Prayer https://divineoffice.org/?date=2021-04-18&miniq=16163416279	19 Make a family Prayer Intentions Jar Empty the jar at the end of each day and pray together for each intention.	20 Forgive injuries. Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Pray for the desire and strength to forgive.	22 Start a Story Relay. On your turn add the story of God's unending love. Get inspired here: https://gidiocese.org/seek-first	23 Pray the Healing Prayer at Bedtime https://www.catholicprayers.org/holyfamilystjoseph/healing-prayer-bedtime-card.html	24 Pray The Way: Stations of the Cross for Survivors of Abuse https://www.facebook.com/sidslpats Find Responses at: http://bit.ly/ResponsesTheWay	25 offer Accompaniment Help provide safety for unaccompanied minors at: http://www.usccb.org/about/immigration-policy/unaccompanied-minor-children-resource-kit.cfm
26 Pray the Readings https://www.gidiocese.org/materials-resources Attend Mass Pray the Night Prayer	27 Create a Finding God at Home Scavenger Hunt https://d2v1pz2y630308.cloudfront.net/22798/documents/2020/3/Finding%20God%20At%20Home%20Scavenger%20Hunt.pdf	28 Shower your spouse with a Spiritual Bouquet https://www.fisheters.com/spiritualbouquets.html	29 Pray, sing, play or just talk. Give your child your undivided attention https://d2v1pz2y630308.cloudfront.net/22798/documents/2019/8/December%20Attention%20p	30 Pray for the Intercession of St. Joseph the Protector https://gidiocese.org/events/st-joseph		