

# OUR LADY OF SORROWS – ST. ANTHONY

## ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY



December, 2019, January and February, 2020

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Our Lady of Sorrow-St. Anthony Rosary Altar Society is a parish confraternity whose members seek to enhance the spiritual, social and cultural life of our parish through liturgical service, prayer and devotion to the gospel teaching, while honoring the desire of our Lord to better know, love and venerate His Mother. Members of the Rosary Confraternity pledge to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary and to secure her patronage by recitation of the Rosary for the mutual spiritual benefits of all members throughout the world.

### OFFICERS 2014 - 2016

Natalie Baranowski, President 890-1577  
Toni Levandowski, Vice President 588-4768  
Sharon Conte, Secretary 586-1438  
Joyce Berryman, Treasurer 587-8791

Dear Rosary Altar Members and People of the Parish,

How quickly 2019 is coming to an end. As we look back on this year, let us remember all the blessings we had guidance we were shown when we were at crossroads. Our Blessed Mother told us to trust in her Son and when we do, we always seem to find our way.

As we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child this Advent Season, let us remember our salvation would not be possible without Mary saying, Yes. Our Blessed Mother set an example of how to be a disciple of Jesus and a role model as a Mother. Let us welcome our Savior into our lives and keep our attention on the Holy Family as we begin 2020.

Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Blessed New Year.

Sincerely yours in Our Lady  
Natalie Baranowski, President



**GENERAL INFORMATION** – Our devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and our Lord is expressed in a variety of ways, including: private recitation of the rosary, monthly group recitation of the rosary, attendance together at mass on the first Sunday of each month, prayer services throughout the year, an annual Day of Recollection and a trip sponsored by the Society. We imitate Mary's willingness to help and serve others by laundering/ironing the altar linens, cleaning/refilling the holy water fonts, making rosaries for the missions, hospitals, schools and our military, making prayer shawls and distributing them to local nursing homes and those who desire a shawl and making donations to the needy. In addition, we conduct a Palm Cross Sale, a Christmas Wreath Sale and participate in the Annual May Crowning and participate in the celebration of St. Joseph Day. These activities keep the Rosarians involved in our Parish and the Community.

**CORPORATE SUNDAY** is held on the first Sunday of every month. The Rosary is recited following the 8:00 a.m. Mass at the OLS Campus from July to December. From January to June, Corporate Sunday is held at the St. Anthony Campus with recitation of the Rosary at 9:00 a.m. followed by the 9:30 a.m. Mass. All parishioners are invited to recite the Rosary for our parish community, world peace, an end to abortion and terrorism; for the intentions of the Pope, our Bishop and for the special intentions of all those in attendance.

**MONTHLY MEETING** are held on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Meeting Room at OLS. Because of Labor Day, the September meeting is held on the second Monday. Meetings are not held in January, July or August. New members are always welcome.

**ROSARY MAKERS GROUP** – Anyone interested in learning to make rosaries, please contact Betty Adamczyk at (609) 586-6771. Rosaries are sent to the missions, soldiers and given to the First Communicants of our parish. We will send rosaries to those in need as supplies allow.

**PRAYER SHAWLS** – The Prayer Shawl Group meets at 1:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month in the Church Meeting Room at OLS. Prayer shawls are made for patients in area hospitals, assisted living facilities and nursing homes. If you or anyone you know is interested in making prayer shawls, please contact Joyce Farina at (609) 888-0437. If you have any completed prayer shawls or if you wish to donate yarn, call Joyce and she will make arrangements to meet with you. We also ask that you refrain from dropping off any completed prayer shawls or yarn at the parish office; be sure to call Joyce instead.

NEW MEMBERS – New members are always welcome to attend any of our meetings and will be greeted warmly and friendly. Being a Rosarian honors Mary as the Mother in whose care Jesus has placed us, and our Lady's blessings will be without measure. Once you are inducted into the Confraternity, you are a lifetime member. The Confraternity is a National Confraternity so once inducted, you are a lifetime member. If you are considering joining the Rosary Altar Society and have questions, please feel free to contact Melissa Demko at (609) 502-3670, or any Board Member.

I read a poem that I have had many requests about so for everyone's enjoyment I am sharing it in this Newsletter.

## JESUS VS. SANTA

Santa lives at the North Pole  
Jesus is everywhere

Santa rides in a sleigh  
Jesus rides on the wind and walks on water

Santa comes but once a year  
Jesus is an ever present help

Santa fills your stocking with goodies  
Jesus supplies all your needs

Santa comes down your chimney uninvited  
Jesus stands at your door and knocks, and then enters your  
heart when invited

You have to wait in line to see Santa  
Jesus is as close as the mention of His name

Santa lets you sit on his lap  
Jesus lets you rest in His arms

Santa doesn't know your name, all he can say is "Hi little boy or  
girl, what's your name

Jesus knew our name before we were born. Not only does He  
know our name, He knows our address too. He knows our  
History and future and He even knows how many hairs we have  
on our heads.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly  
Jesus has a heart full of love

All Santa can offer is HO, HO, HO  
Jesus offers health, help and hope

Santa says "You better not cry"  
Jesus says "Cast all your cares on me for I care for you"

Santa's little helpers make toys  
Jesus makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken  
homes and builds mansions

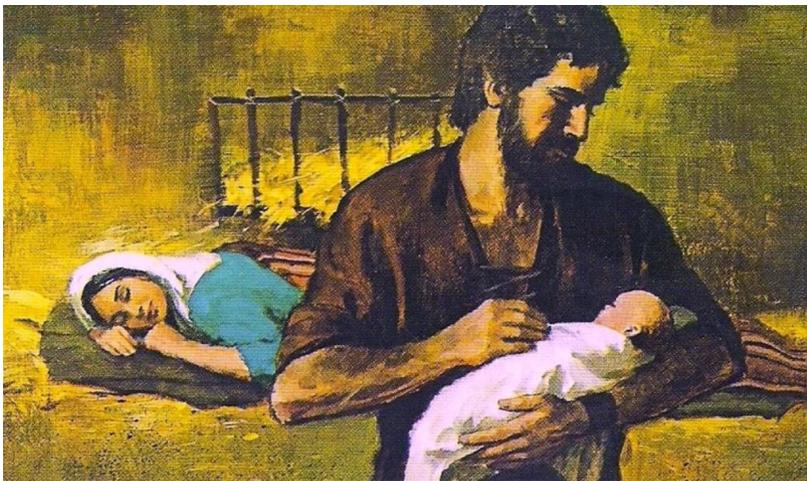
Santa may make you chuckle, but...  
Jesus gives you joy that is your strength

While Santa puts gifts under your tree...  
Jesus became our gift and died on a cross made from a tree

We need to put Christ back in Christmas. Jesus is still the reason for the season

By: thoughts-about-God.com

### **Saint Joseph the Head of the Holy Family Part 1**



Once again we are in the middle of Advent and we are expectantly awaiting the Season of Christmas in our Liturgical year. We will be hearing from Saint Luke and Saint Matthew in their Gospels about the birth of our Lord and of course Saint Joseph is a major actor in those narratives. I thought it

would be good to take a closer look at Saint Joseph who in the hierarchy of Saints comes right after the Virgin Mary.

Why does Saint Joseph hold such a high position in the hierarchy of the Saints? The answer of course is that he was Mary's husband and the foster father of Jesus the incarnated Son of the Living God. However even more impressive than that is the fact that we must always remember that God The Father gave Saint Joseph the authority to be the earthly father in every sense to the incarnated second person of the Holy Trinity. That authority from God to Saint Joseph included even the right to discipline God's only begotten son. That is some authority being able to discipline the second person of the Holy Trinity!

Next let's take a look at the names the Church has given to Saint Joseph. He has many names for example very early on in the 4th century AD Saint Augustine called him

the “Virginal Father” of Jesus because just like Our Lady Saint Joseph practiced celibacy all his life as God gave him the grace to do so even when he was a married man. He has also been called the “Patron of the Universal and Domestic Church”. In that capacity Saint Joseph protects the Church with the same strength and commitment he protected Mary and their child Jesus. You can almost envision Saint Joseph saying “if you want to harm my wife or son you have to go through me first”. It is in that role as a protector that the worldwide Church as well as the Catholic Church in the USA needs to strongly call on him now because of the current society’s unprecedented demonic inspired attacks on marriage, gender identity , sexuality, and God given life itself ( abortion and physician assisted suicide) . He is the right one to take on the demons and their lies and he always has been hence he also has the title I particularly like which is the “Terror of the Demons”.

I would like at this point to dispel some myths about Saint Joseph that need to be corrected. These myths were put forth after the New Testament was written and they are in writings that are not inspired. They were well intentioned myths created to defend the perpetual virginity of Our Lady. Two myths prominently stand out one that Saint Joseph was an old man and second that he was a widower with children from his first wife. The book that portrays Saint Joseph as both an old man and a widower with children when he was betrothed to Mary is the “Protoevangelium of James” written in the 2nd century AD. This book was purported to have been written by the apostle James the Less who was the head of the Jerusalem Church as indicated in the Acts of the Apostles. The problem is James the Less was killed in AD 62 long before the Book was written. The Church has never accepted the book as being inspired however the legends and myths in it continued for many centuries and in some Catholic’s minds down to today.

By saying Joseph was old and had children from a previous marriage the authors of the “Protoevangelium of James” were attempting to say that there was no cause for the young Mary to worry about Joseph the old man wanting to have relations with her thus threatening her perpetual virginity. Also by having children from a previous marriage the problematic passage in the Gospel of Mark that refers to the “sisters and brothers of Jesus” (Mark 6:3-4) was easily explained as being the children of Joseph’s first marriage and not blood siblings to Jesus.

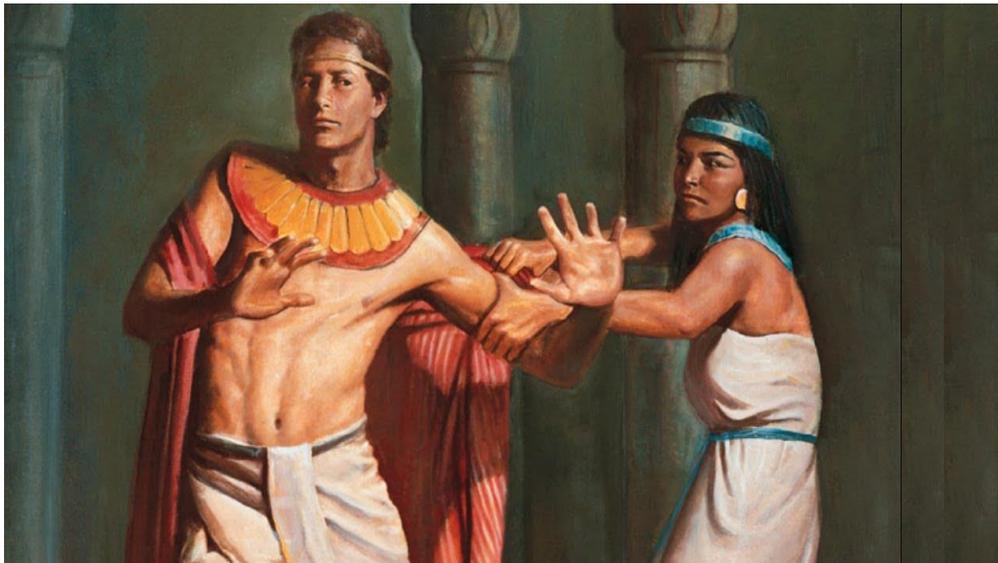
The truth of the matter is that Joseph when betrothed to Mary was more than likely very young and close to her age. Both he and Mary were very capable of having normal marital relations but both chose to practice celibacy in their marriage to honor God and God gave them the grace to do so. With respect to the “brothers and sisters of Jesus” concern, if the authors of the “Protoevangelium of James” realized that there is no word for “cousin” in the Hebrew or Aramaic languages and that the words brother and sister in Hebrew or Aramaic also mean cousin, the Gospel passage in Mark was actually referring to the cousins of Jesus. In other words these myths although well intentioned did not need to be invented to defend the perpetual virginity of Mary.

While doing some research for this article I found some interesting similarities between Joseph with the “coat of many colors fame “in the Old Testament and Saint Joseph. You will recall that Joseph the son of the Hebrew patriarch Jacob was sold into slavery by his brothers. He ended up in Egypt where he became second in leadership to the Pharaoh himself. Eventually Joseph was united with his brothers and many Hebrews migrated to Egypt because of Joseph. Relations between the Hebrews living in Egypt and the Egyptian State were excellent all the years Joseph was living. (See Genesis Chapters 37-50). They turned very bad after Joseph was gone and a Pharaoh came to power in Egypt who was not partial to the Hebrews (See Exodus 1:8-10)

The similarities between the two Josephs are as follows:

1. Both had fathers named Jacob.
2. Both went into Egypt.
3. Both had their chastity tested. Joseph of the Old Testament was tempted by his superior’s wife to sleep with her and when he refused she accused him of attempted rape and he was put in prison (See Genesis 39:1-20 for the details). Saint Joseph as a young man committed to God that he would live a life of chastity and being a young, virile, and married man with a beautiful young wife you better believe his chastity and self-control was tested. However with God’s grace he never was overcome by temptation.

### **Joseph Son of Jacob and Potiphar's Wife:**



Now you may say what's the big deal? It is just coincidence that their lives had similar events. That is the way the secular world has of looking at these similarities. However one must remember that although written by men, the Old Testament and the New Testament were the direct communications to us from the Holy Spirit and nothing is a coincidence if the Holy Spirit is inspiring the authors to record what God wants to be revealed. The Lord wants us to know by these similarities that both Josephs were honorable and righteous men who trusted God hence the Holy Spirit wants us to note how the two Josephs are viewed favorably in God's eyes to be given special holy tasks by being sent to Egypt. Joseph in the Old Testament is sent to Egypt so as to be in a position to help his fellow Hebrews when famine hits the entire Middle East and for him to ultimately be united with his family. Saint Joseph is sent to Egypt as a means of protecting from King Herod God's beloved son and Messiah. No the similarities are not just routine coincidences.

There are many other facts about Saint Joseph that need to be covered specifically the Ordeals of Saint Joseph and Part II of this article which will be coming out during Lent will address same.

Now you may be wondering what does Saint Joseph have to do with the Lent and Easter seasons. You may be thinking I can understand an article about him during Advent and Christmas but wasn't he long dead when Jesus and his wife Mary would face the horror of the betrayal, torture, and crucifixion of Jesus? If you are thinking that you are correct he was long dead by then. However Part II will show you in a powerful way how Saint Joseph is even connected to that part of his Holy Family's lives and sorrows. (to be continued).

Len Commini for the Rosary Altar Society 11/19

Source Material - Formed St. Joseph Patron of the Universal Church by Mark Miravalle

**Saint Joseph Pray for Us!**



***BIRTHDAYS ARE SPECIAL*** – It celebrates another year of achievements and begins a new year of goals. Let us celebrate the following Rosarians as they march into a new year of wonder.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS – 4 – Patti Fort, 6 – Emily Herrera, 11 – Deacon Joe Jaruszewski, 15 – Helen D’Zurilla, 19 – Marcia Adams, 21 – Cecelia Jones and Libia Cramer, 29 – Natalie Baranowski

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS – 2 – Ann Conti-Salvatore, 11 – Marie Pastore, 14 – Lisa DeRosa, 20 – Grace Price, 25 – Toni Levandowski, 28 – Tasha Diaz

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS – 2 – Amanda Baranowski, 3 – Peggy Marshall, 18 – Phyllis Braconi, 20 – Melissa Demko, 24 – Pat Chorba and Lesley Lefler

## DECEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday, December 1 – Corporate Sunday – Rosary following the 8:00 a.m. Mass at OLS

Monday, December 2 – Advent Prayer Service/Monthly Meeting

Saturday, December 7 & Sunday, December 8 – Distribution of Christmas Wreaths

Monday, December 9 – Prayer Shawl Meeting

## December Holidays and Feast Days

December 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother

December 25 – Christmas

December 31 – New Year's Eve

## JANUARY CALENDAR

### NO MONTHLY MEETING

Sunday, January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday, January 5 - Corporate Sunday at St. Anthony – Rosary at 9:00 a.m. followed by 9:30 a.m. Mass

## January Holidays and Feast Days

January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

January 1 – New Year's Day

January 4 – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

January 5 – Epiphany of Our Lord

January 12 – Baptism of Our Lord

January 25 – Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sunday, February 2 – Corporate Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Rosary followed by 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Anthony

Monday, February 3 – Monthly Meeting with Activity

Monday, February 10 – Prayer Shawl Group at 1:30 p.m. in OLS Church Meeting Room

## February Holidays and Feast Days

February 3 – St. Blaise

February 14 – St. Valentine Day

February 17 – President's Day