



St. Joseph Consecration

Pope Francis has declared this to be “The Year of St. Joseph”. Why would he do that? Perhaps because the family and marriage are under greater attack now more than ever before. Perhaps because St. Joseph is recognized as a defense against all dangers. Or perhaps because (as St. Pope John Paul II taught) St. Joseph is essential in re-evangelizing our entire world. Whatever the reason, Pope Francis is saying that now is the time to peer more deeply into who St. Joseph is and to invite him more fully into our own lives as our spiritual father.

You might have heard of or have already consecrated yourself to the Blessed Mother. Mary is our spiritual mother! And St. Joseph is our spiritual father! The hearts of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are one and we can entrust ourselves to each of them! Entrusting ourselves to St. Joseph says that we recognize him as our spiritual father, guide, protector. We ask him to take care of our spiritual well-being and assist us on our path to God – just like God the Father entrusted him with the well-being of His own Son, Jesus, and the Virgin Mary.

I would like to invite all our parishioners to join in as we consecrate ourselves, our families, and our entire parish community to St. Joseph. We will entrust our families and parishes to his protection and his guidance. I urge you to join us, beginning on February 15, as we pray for 33 days a short prayer or Litany to St. Joseph asking him to be our spiritual father and guide. Short meditations will be included each week in the bulletin for us to ponder during the week. This would be a wonderful thing to do as part of your Lenten practices. It will conclude on March 19th, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, with Mass, whereby we will officially consecrate the Pilgrim Cluster community to St. Joseph.

Short Consecration Prayer to St. Joseph:

Hail, guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*
Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*
Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*
Christ, hear us. *Christ, graciously hear us.*

God, the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us.*
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us.*
God the Holy Spirit, *have mercy on us.*
Holy Trinity, One God, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Mary, *pray for us.*
Saint Joseph, *pray for us.*
Noble offspring of David, *pray for us.*
Light of Patriarchs, *pray for us.*
Spouse of the Mother of God, *pray for us.*
Chaste guardian of the Virgin, *pray for us.*
Foster-Father of the Son of God, *pray for us.*
Zealous Defender of Christ, *pray for us.*
Head of the Holy Family, *pray for us.*

Joseph most Just, *pray for us.*
Joseph most Chaste, *pray for us.*
Joseph most Prudent, *pray for us.*
Joseph most Courageous, *pray for us.*
Joseph most Obedient, *pray for us.*
Joseph most Faithful, *pray for us.*

Mirror of Patience, *pray for us.*
Lover of Poverty, *pray for us.*
Model of Workmen, *pray for us.*
Glory of Domestic Life, *pray for us.*
Guardian of Virgins, *pray for us.*
Pillar of Families, *pray for us.*
Comfort of the Afflicted, *pray for us.*
Hope of the Sick, *pray for us.*
Patron of the Dying, *pray for us.*
Terror of Demons, *pray for us.*
Protector of the Holy Church, *pray for us.*

Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, *Spare us, O Lord.*
Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, *Graciously hear us, O Lord.*
Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, *Have mercy on us.*

V. He has made him the lord of His household:
R. And prince over all His possessions.

Let us pray.

O God, who, in your loving providence, chose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most Holy Mother, grant us the favor of having him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our protector. You, who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

