

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Leader : Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
All : And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray

O God, who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. JOSEPH ROSARY

The Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (Our Father)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

(St. Joseph Rosary may be prayed just as Marian Rosary, substituting the following prayer for the "Hail Mary".)

Leader : Joseph, son of David and husband of Mary,
we honour you, guardian of the Redeemer
and we adore the child you named Jesus,
All : St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church,
pray for us that we like you may live totally
dedicated to the interests of the Saviour. Amen

The Mysteries

1. Betrothal to Mary (Mt. 1-18)
2. Annunciation to Joseph (Mt. 1:19-21)
3. Birth and naming of Jesus (Mt. 1:22-25)
4. Flight into Egypt (Mt. 2:13-15)
5. Hidden life at Nazareth (Mt. 2:23; Lk. 2:51-52)

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

To you, O Blessed Joseph, we come in our trials, and having asked the help of your most holy spouse, we confidently ask your patronage also. Through that sacred bond of charity which united you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the fatherly love with which you embraced

Let us pray

God, in your infinite wisdom and love you chose Joseph to be the husband of Mary, the mother of your Son. May we have the help of his prayers in heaven and enjoy his protection on earth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONS TO ST. JOSEPH

All: Glorious St. Joseph, first man to love Mary and hold Jesus in your arms, accept these prayers we now offer to honour you and ask Almighty God's blessing upon us. We pray that all the members of our families will be spiritually and physically protected through life, and guided to fulfill wisely and with love the vocations God has given us.

Bless our community; bless God's family of faith in churches throughout the world; bless all the good works we do to be faithful followers of your foster-son Jesus. We pray especially that God will grant us the favour we now ask, or of it is his will, one that He knows is better for us...

THE SEVEN SORROWS AND JOYS OF ST, JOSEPH

Leader I: Chaste Lover of Mary, how overwhelmed you were when you thought that you would have to end your betrothal to her. But when the angel of God came to you in a dream, you were filled with awe to realize that Mary would be your wife, and you would be the guardian of the Messiah.

All: Help us St. Joseph, help our families and all our loved ones to overcome all sadness of heart and develop an absolute trust in God's goodness.

Leader: Glory be to the Father.....

All: As it was in the beginning.....

Leader II: Faithful guardian of Jesus, what a failure you thought you were when you could only provide a stable for the birth of the Holy Child. And then what a wonder it was when shepherds came to tell of angel choirs and wise men came to adore the King of Kings.

All: Through you example and prayers, help us St. Joseph and all we love to become like sinless mangers where the Saviour of the world may be received with absolute love and respect.

Leader: Glory be to the Father

All: As it was in the beginning

Leader III: Tender-hearted Joseph, you too felt pain when the blood of Jesus was first shed at his circumcision. Yet how proud you were to be the one privileged to give the name Jesus, Saviour, to the very Son of God.

All: Pray for us St. Joseph; that the sacred blood of Christ, poured out for our salvation, may guard our families, so the Divine Name of Jesus may be written in our hearts forever.

Leader: Glory be to the Father.....

All: As it was in the beginning.....

Leader IV: Joseph, loving husband, how bewildered you were when Simeon spoke the words of warning that the hearts of Jesus and Mary would be pierced with sorrows. Yet his prediction that this would lead to the salvation of innumerable souls filled you with consolation.

All: Help us, St. Joseph, to see with eyes of faith that even the sorrows and pains of those we deeply love can become the pathway to salvation and eternal life.,

Leader: Glory be to the Father.....

All: As it was in the beginning.....

Leader V: Courageous protector of the Holy Family, how terrified you were when you had to make a sudden flight with Jesus and Mary to escape the treachery of King Herod and the cruelty of his soldiers. But when you reached Egypt, what satisfaction you had to know that the Saviour of the world had come to replace the pagan idols.

All: Teach us by your example, St. Joseph, to keep far from then false idols of earthly attractions, so that like you, we may be entirely devoted to the service of Jesus and Mary.

Leader: Glory be to the Father.....

All: As it was in the beginning.....

Leader VI: Ever-obedient Joseph, you trustingly returned to Nazareth at God's command, in spite of your fear that King Herod's son might still be a threat to Jesus' life. Then what fatherly pride you had in seeing Jesus grow in wisdom and grace before God and men under your care.

All: Show us St. Joseph, how to be free from all useless fear and worry, so we may enjoy the peace of a tranquil conscience, living safely with Jesus and Mary in our hearts.

Leader: Glory be to the Father.....

All: As it was in the beginning.....

Leader VII: Dependable father and husband, how frantic you and Mary were when, through no fault of yours, you searched for three days to find Jesus. What incredible relief was yours when you found Him safe in the Temple of God.

All: Help us St. Joseph, never to lose Jesus through the fault of our own sins. But if we should lose Him, lead us back with unwearied sorrow, until we find Him again; so that we, like you, may finally pass from this life, dying safely in the arms of Jesus and Mary.

Leader: Glory be to the Father.....

All: As it was in the beginning.....

Pray for us, holy Joseph.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray

O blessed St. Joseph, tenderhearted father, faithful guardian of Jesus, chaste spouse of the Mother of God, I pray and beseech you to offer to God the Father my praise to Him through his divine Son, who died on the cross and rose again to give us sinners new life. Through the holy name of Jesus, pray with us that we may obtain from the eternal Father, the favor we ask . . . *(Pause)* . . .

We have been unfaithful to the unfailing love of God the Father; beg of Jesus mercy for us. Amid the splendors of God's loving presence, do not forget the sorrows of those who suffer, those who pray, those who weep. By your prayers and those of your most holy spouse, our Blessed Lady, may the love of Jesus answer our call of confident hope. Amen. Glory be to the Father

PRAYER FOR WORKERS

All: O glorious St. Joseph, under the humble appearance of a workman, you have hidden your unique and royal dignity of guardian of Jesus and Mary, and by your toil have supported them, protect in your love and power the worker who are specially entrusted to you. You know their anxieties and sufferings, because you have undergone them yourself with Jesus and Mary at your side. Do not suffer that laden with the cares of the world, they forget the end for which they have been created by God; do not let the ends of mistrust get hold of their immortal souls.

Recall to all workers in fields, factories, mines and laboratories that they are not isolated in their work, in their joys and in their trials, but that Jesus and Mary, his mother and ours, are standing beside them to support them, to wipe their sweat and bless their fatigue. Teach them to change labour into a means of high sanctification as you did. Amen.

Leader : Glory be to the Father.....
All : As it was in the beginning.....

PRAYER FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

All: O St. Joseph, we pray to you for those who are out of work, for those who want to earn their living and support their families. You who are the patron of workers; grant that unemployment may vanish from our ranks, that all those who are ready to work may put their strength and abilities into serving their fellow men and earn a just salary.

You are the patron of families; do not let those who have children to support and raise lack the necessary means. Have pity on our brothers held down in unemployment and poverty because of sickness or social disorders. Help our political leaders and captains of industry find new and just solutions: may each and every one have the joy of contributing, according to his abilities, to the common prosperity. Grant that we may all share together in the abundant good God has given us and that we may help the under privileged ones. Amen.

Leader : Glory be to the Father.....
All : As it was in the beginning.....

HAIL HOLY JOSEPH*

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| <p>1. Hail, holy Joseph, Hail,
Chaste Spouse of Mary, Hail!
Pure as the lily flower
In Eden's peaceful vale.</p> | <p>4. Hail, holy Joseph, hail,
Comrade of angels, hail!
Cheer thou the hearts that faint,
And guide the steps that fail.</p> |
| <p>2. Hail, holy Joseph, hail,
Father of Christ esteemed,
Father be thou to those
Thy foster son redeemed.</p> | <p>5. Hail, holy Joseph, hail!
God's choice were thou alone.
To thee the Word made flesh
Was subject as a son.</p> |
| <p>3. Hail, holy Joseph, hail
Prince of the house of God.
May His best graces be
By thy sweet hands bestowed.</p> | <p>6. Mother of Jesus, bless,
And bless, ye Saints on high,
All meek and simple Souls
That to Saint Joseph cry.</p> |

* *this hymn may also be sung to the tune of My God loves Me*

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