Prayer to St. Joseph

Good St. Joseph,

As you led the Holy Family, watch over our families. Help our family and all families to know and share God’s love. In our family relationships, may we find healing and seek to be holy. May our fathers help us to become faithful disciples of Jesus who share our love for Him.

As foster father of Jesus, watch over all who serve as spiritual fathers. In a special way, bless our Holy Father, our Bishop, and our priests. May they follow your humble example in their fatherly care for the people of God, the Church.

With Mary, you raised Jesus the High Priest. You know our need for priests. Please raise up good and holy priests from our families to serve the people of our diocese. May our children and grandchildren hear and say “yes” to the call of Jesus, just as you and Mary did.

Good St. Joseph, pray for us.
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, hear us.
Christ, graciously 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, Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, pray for us.

St. Joseph, pray for us.
Renowned offspring of David, Light of Patriarchs,
Spouse of the Mother of God, Chaste guardian of the Virgin,
Foster father of the Son of God, Guardian of virgins,
Diligent protector of Christ, Pillar of families,
Head of the Holy Family, Solace of the wretched,
Joseph most just, Hope of the sick,
Joseph most chaste, Patron of the dying,
Joseph most prudent, Terror of demons,
Joseph most strong, Protector of Holy Church,
Joseph most obedient, Joseph most faithful,
Mirror of patience, Joseph most just,
Lover of poverty, Joseph most chaste,
Model of artisans, Joseph most prudent,
Glory of home life, Joseph most strong,
Guardian of virgins, Joseph most obedient,
Pillar of families, Joseph most faithful,
Solace of the wretched, Joseph most just,
Hope of the sick, Joseph most prudent,
Patron of the dying, Joseph most strong,
Terror of demons, Joseph most obedient,
Protector of Holy Church, Joseph most faithful,

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, O Lord.

V. He made him lord of His House.
R. And ruler of all his possessions.

Let us pray. O God, who in your unspeakable providence deigned to choose blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your own most holy Mother: grant, we beseech you, that we may deserve to have him as our intercessor in heaven, whom we venerate on earth as our protector: Who lives and reigns world without end. Amen.

About St. Joseph

In 1870, Pope Pius IX named St. Joseph the patron of the Church. The Diocese of Green Bay is home to the Shrine of St. Joseph located at St. Norbert College in De Pere.

But who was Joseph? He was a family man, a husband and father. A man of few words, Joseph never spoke in the Gospels. Instead, he listened to God’s Word.

Joseph worked. This carpenter taught Jesus the value of work. Perhaps it’s because of Joseph’s work, that God loves our own work. St. John Paul II said Joseph brought “human work closer to the mystery of redemption.”

Joseph was a disciple. St. Paul VI wrote, “(Joseph) is the proof that in order to be a good and genuine follower of Christ, there is no need of great things — it is enough to have the common, simple and human virtues, but they need to be true and authentic.”

That was Joseph: true and authentic. He loved God. He loved Jesus and Mary. His love made him the patron of unborn children, fathers, workers, travelers, immigrants, unmarried women and a happy death. So we turn to St. Joseph with all our needs, knowing that this strong, silent man — so close to Jesus’ heart — will bring us close to Jesus’ heart.

As Pope Pius XII said, “If you wish to be close to Christ ... ‘Go to Joseph.’”

Year of St. Joseph

For Bishop Ricken’s pastoral letter, as well as additional information and resources about how to live out the Year of St. Joseph in your family or household, please visit: www.gbdioc.org/stjoseph

The Shrine of St. Joseph at Old St. Joseph Church at St. Norbert College is designated as the official pilgrimage site for this Holy Year. Pilgrims to the shrine will be able to receive a partial indulgence during this special year. To learn more, please visit: www.nobertines.org/stjosephshrine