



THE 'MARCH' P R A Y E R S

**Prayers to St. Joseph in
Preparation for his
feast on March 19 and
in Consecration of the
Month of March
in his Honor**

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FOREWORD

The month of March is often referred to as the month of St. Joseph by devout Christians all over the world. There are prayers for each day of the month which can be said by those who wish to honor him during the entire month of March.

There is also a nine-day novena which can be prayed starting from March 10 and culminating on March 18, the day before the traditional feast day of St. Joseph which is on March 19. And course, there are certain spiritual exercises which can be performed on the actual feast itself.

This e-book contains the prayers to be said each day as well as the nine-day novena. I found these prayers from the book "[A Manual of Practical Devotion to St. Joseph](#)" which was originally written in Italian by Father Anthony Joseph Patrignani, S. J. in 1709. The translation was republished by Tan Books and Publishers, Inc. in 1982.

I lifted the prayers from this book and arranged them in a more 'easy-to-read' format. In the book, you have to flip from one page to another to find the prayers since not all the prayers appear in sequence. So I had to reformat the text so you can follow the daily prayers and novena easily.

You are by no means restricted to use these prayers only. You can also pray using your own words to honor St. Joseph. Oftentimes in addition to these prayers, I would recall the times when I have asked

for St. Joseph's intercession and my prayers were granted, and once again, I thanked him for his intercession.

Be forewarned that the spiritual exercises contained in the Novena and during the feast are not easy but don't be discouraged. Have recourse to St. Joseph. He will surely be there to assist you.

Please note that March also falls within the Lenten season. It is not my intention to take your focus away from your Lenten season preparation and direct your attention to St. Joseph. Please don't forget or neglect to do your Lenten prayers, reflections and other spiritual exercises.

God bless...

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Babes Tan-Magkalas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

Babes Tan-Magkalas

Novena to St. Joseph (to be said from March 10-18 in Preparation for his Feast Day on March 19)



First Day – March 10

Consider his glorious titles:

1. He was the true and worthy spouse of Mary, specially predestined from all eternity, for so noble an alliance, supplying, in a visible manner, the place of Mary's invisible spouse, the Holy Spirit.
2. He was a virgin and his virginity was the faithful mirror of Mary's; for like her, he also made a vow ever to remain a virgin.
3. He was the cherub place to guard the new terrestrial paradise, which contain the price of reconciliation between God and man, and heaven and earth.

Virtues to imitate in St. Joseph:

1. His love for purity
2. His guard over all the senses

3. His mortification, by undertaking all that was painful and laborious for mind and body in the spirit of penance



Prayer (graces to ask of St. Joseph):

Most Blessed St. Joseph! you who were chosen by the adorable Trinity to be the spouse of the Mother of God, are indeed worthy to receive the united and most fervent homage of men and angels, who can never sufficiently testify their respect and joy, seeing you are raised to a dignity which no other creature, either man or angel, was deemed worthy to share.

I am the most worthless of all creatures, yet I cannot refrain from laying at your feet this day the affectionate sentiments of my heart, and in union with all the angels and saints, thus reverentially salute you, saying with them: "Hail, most worthy spouse of Mary! Hail, fairest lily of virginity! inseparably united to the Mystical Rose. Hail beauteous cherub! faithful guardian of that paradise of grace and perfection in which the 'Incarnate Word' so delighted to dwell!

Ah! refuse not, thrice happy and chaste spouse, to ask for me the grace to imitate your great love for purity; obtain for me the strength to overcome all temptations from which you have been preserved by reason of your privileged and most sublime vocation, as well as by the exalted degree of virtue to which your cooperation with divine grace raised you even in this world. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. Perform some corporal austerity (if your health permits).
2. Mortify your curiosity as to sight and hearing, unless of course, duty be in question.
3. Speak little, to honor the silence and recollection of St. Joseph, not one of whose words is recorded in the Gospels.
4. Address an aspiration occasionally in the course of the day to St. Joseph.



Second Day – March 11

Consider his glorious titles:

1. He deserved the title of the father of the Son of God, because He was the representative of God the Father on earth. He alone, amongst all creatures, had that honor and could exercise all a parent's authority, with regard to Jesus Christ.
2. He was the father of Jesus by the choice which Jesus made of him, and by the affinity which his alliance with Mary established between them.

3. He was the father of Jesus by the choice which Mary made of him to be her spouse, by the right with which he was invested of giving our Savior the glorious name of Jesus; and by all the labors he undertook in order to provide for His wants, to shield Him from danger, etc.

Virtues to imitate in St. Joseph:

1. His humility, combined with so much real greatness
2. His entire dependence on the will of the Eternal Father
3. His paternal love for Jesus



Prayer (graces to ask of St. Joseph):

I ardently desire to honor and glorify you, O blessed St. Joseph! and where find a title more glorious or more dear to your heart, than which the Gospels bestow upon you: "We have found Jesus, the son of Joseph of Nazareth." Thus spoke the first disciples of Jesus; and were they deceived? No; but were it even so, surely Mary was under no delusion when she said: "Thy father and I have sought thee..." yes, great saint! in all justice and truth his honorable title belongs to you, for you alone have been chosen by the Eternal Father, from amidst the countless multitude of the children of Adam, to hold His place on earth, to His only and well beloved Son.

He has communicated to you what appears incommunicable, namely, a degree of His paternity! I rejoice to contemplate you in this exalted character, O blessed saint! but greater still is my joy to behold you endowed with a plenitude of grace fully proportioned to your admirable dignity!

Oh! the depth of the tenderness infused into your heart by the Eternal Father for His only Son, who was yours also! Oh! surely the most intense love of the fondest parent is but a feeble spark when compared with yours for the mysterious being whose infant form encompassed the Divinity itself!

By this your inconceivable love, obtain for me a strong and tender love to Jesus. Especially in His exile of love in the Holy Eucharist, may I become one with Him, as He and the Father are one. For the sake of the Divine Jesus in His infant years, be thou O exalted saint, a father to me also; and may divine love transform me, through your intercession, into a little child in docility and meekness, though a giant in forbearance, endurance, and courage, under all the crosses with which it may please Divine Providence to visit me. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. To renew yourself, in the love of Jesus Christ, by a serious and determined renunciation of all voluntary faults or imperfect habits, which serve to alienate us effectually from Him.
2. Impose some penance upon yourself, to repair the misfortune of having loved him so little.

3. Make a visit to our Lord in the most blessed Eucharist, to ask for an increase of love to Him, and to offer Him that love with which Joseph was inflamed.



Third Day – March 12

Consider his glorious titles:

1. How glorious to St. Joseph was the dignity of the father of Jesus Christ, which made him the master of the Savior, and gave him the power to dispose of Him as a father disposes of his son.
2. Jesus was the king of heaven, and yet Joseph's authority over Him was boundless, because Jesus, in becoming His Son, made a voluntary resignation of His entire liberty to him.
3. He was actually served by Jesus Christ for the space of three and thirty years; he employed Him as any other artisan would his assistant, and made Him a sharer in all his labors and hardships.

Virtues to imitate in St. Joseph:

1. His profound respect for the adorable person of Jesus Christ, and the reverential awe and humility in the exercise of his authority over Him.

2. The extreme meekness with which he delivered his orders.
3. The lively faith with which he viewed Jesus Christ reduced to the condition of a child and a menial.



Prayer (graces to ask of St. Joseph):

O blessed saint! would that I possessed the wisdom of the cherubim, and the zeal of the seraphim, that I might worthily extol and magnify the dignity which elevates you to the high privilege of commanding Him whom the angels in heaven adore with respectful awe, and before whom the pillars of heaven bow down and tremble!

I honor and revere this incomparable dignity; I rejoice on beholding the Son of God listening with great attention and docility to your last wishes; I rejoice when I behold an incarnate God sacrifice His entire liberty and place it at your disposal; and how can I any longer hesitate to relinquish mine into your hands, that you may dispose of it as it may please you?

In consideration of the humble obedience and the all-divine services which Jesus rendered to you during so many years, whether as your son in the house of Nazareth, or as a workman in your shop, obtain that my will, henceforth docile and submissive, may never again resist the orders of God, or those of the constituted authorities who hold in my regard the place of God.

Graciously obtain also that, imitating your example, I may learn how to command my subordinates with all humility; and seeing in them the

person of Jesus Christ, I may ever treat them with respect, kindness, and charity. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. Perform an act of humility towards a subordinate.
2. Practice meekness and gentleness of demeanor in giving your orders.
3. Recall to your mind the many occasions on which you spoke in a haughty and impatient manner to your subordinates; and on the other hand, when called on to obey, the murmuring and interior resistance you have been guilty of.

Say 5 Our Father and Hail Mary and kiss the floor five times as a penance for your faults.



Fourth Day – March 13

Consider his glorious titles:

1. According to the opinion of a great number of doctors, he was sanctified even in his mother's womb. He is the first saint who has been canonized in the Gospel. The Holy Spirit bestowed upon him the title of Just, thus giving us to understand that he possessed the plenitude of all virtues.

2. His sanctity was commensurate with his high dignity, i.e., that being Mary's spouse, lieutenant of the Eternal Father, guardian, foster father, and father of the Man-God.
3. No other saint approached the source of all sanctity so closely, or for so long a period, as St. Joseph. He made rapid and continual progress in virtue under the eyes of Jesus and Mary, his living models.

Virtues to imitate in St. Joseph:

1. The purity of his heart, which was exempt from the least shadow of sin.
2. His detachment from all transitory things.
3. His persevering and untiring zeal for his own advancement in perfection.



Prayer (graces to ask of St. Joseph):

You are truly the just man by excellence, O blessed St. Joseph! The Holy Spirit himself, who can neither deceive nor be deceived, has declared you to be such. Yes, you are truly just, for you were adorned with grace and sanctity, even before your entrance into this exile.

You are the just man by excellence, enriched by the "great Creator" with a degree of sanctity fully proportioned to the eminence of your

dignity, for to Jesus you were the representative of His Eternal Father, and by the alliance which you contracted with the immaculate Virgin, you became, in her regard, the representative of the Holy Spirit.

But then, by your faithful cooperation with such overflowing graces, with what indefatigable zeal did you not labor to render yourself worthy of so glorious a function, and by the constant exercise of every heroic virtue, to increase your store of merits and sanctity!

Having had perpetually before your eyes two models of consummate perfection, with what love and assiduity did you not study them, and endeavor to form yourself according to their counsels and example!

I honor and revere that eminent sanctity which distinguishes you from all the other saints; but in order that my homage may contribute no less to my own spiritual advantage than to your glory, obtain, O my dear father and patron, that I may become worthy to receive that inestimable treasure of holiness, without which I can neither hope to please God, nor to prove the solidity of my devotion towards you. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. Examine your conscience more carefully than usual, in order to discover the chief obstacles to your progress in Christian perfection.
2. Make frequent acts of contrition, in order to acquire an increase of purity of heart.

3. Perform some painful act of penance, in order, through the merits of Christ, to atone for your past negligence, and your little zeal for your perfection.



Fifth Day – March 14

Consider his glorious titles:

1. He was a model of justice in his duties to God – he obeyed in all things His commandments and inspirations; his only desire was to see the divine will perfectly accomplished.
2. He was a model of justice with regard to his neighbor, in thought, word and action. Being ignorant of the mystery of the Incarnation, he, nevertheless, judged most favorably of the Blessed Virgin; and in like manner, never did the slightest murmur or complaint escape him against Herod, who sought to destroy the Divine Infant.
3. He was a model of that justice which is due to oneself; he never flattered his senses in the least; he knew no other interest than that of imitating, as closely as possible, a God incarnate. Therefore, St. Joseph may be justly considered as our Divine Lord's first disciple, and the first Christian.

Virtues to imitate in St. Joseph:

1. The exact observance of the law of God, and perfect docility to his holy inspirations.
2. The love of our neighbor, and a great desire to serve him to the utmost of our ability.
3. A resolute determination to imitate Jesus Christ in this mortified and laborious life.



Prayer (graces to ask of St. Joseph):

O my glorious patron! my heart is filled with joy when I contemplate the indefatigable zeal and ardor with which you pursued the path of perfection. You were truly a mirror of justice; you were just towards God, by devoting your whole life, heart, and strength, to the accomplishment of His most amiable will; you were just towards your neighbor, by loving all creatures, without exception, in God, and God in all His creatures; you were just as regarded yourself, desiring no other advantages than those which tended to your advancement in perfection, and which enabled you to imitate more closely the virtues of humility, obedience, poverty, mortification, and charity, as you beheld them reduced to practice by Jesus and Mary.

I humbly beseech of you, O thrice just and blessed Joseph! that you will deign yourself to become my master, teaching me thus to fulfill all justice; but I particularly conjure you, by the plenitude of your virtues

and your boundless credit with God, that you will obtain for me grace to begin now in earnest to lead the life of a true Christian, that I may become a perfect imitator of a God who lived in poverty, humiliation and perfect suffering. I acknowledge that I have hitherto been the reverse of all this, but now I am firmly resolved to begin a new life, with the assistance of your prayers, and those of your ever-immaculate spouse, the ever glorious and blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of mercy. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. As a reparation for the injustice you have been guilty of towards God, make a visit to the most holy Sacrament, and humbly ask Jesus the pardon of your sins, which are so many acts of injustice against His divine will.
2. As a reparation for the faults you have committed against your neighbor, you will endeavor to do him good, in thought, by esteeming him better than yourself; in words, by speaking to and of him with fraternal affection and kindness; and in deed, by assisting him in his spiritual and corporal necessities.
3. In order to expiate the injustice you have been guilty of towards yourself, by gratifying your sensuality in many ways, you will abstain from the indulgence of the senses on some occasions at your choice.



Sixth Day – March 15

Consider his glorious titles:

1. He was the crown of all the patriarchs, and of all the ancestors of the promised Messiah. He inherited and enjoyed the fruition of their united benedictions.
2. He was the crown of the saints of the Old Law; all their prerogatives, all their virtues, were concentrated and perfected in his person.
3. He is the crown of the saints of the New Testament; he surpasses them all in dignity, as being head of the Holy Family, of which Jesus Christ, the Son of God made man, was a member; and as, in the discharge of this function he acquitted himself so as to deserve the title of the prudent and faithful servant by excellence, so should he also surpass all the other servants of God in glory.

Virtues to imitate in St. Joseph:

1. His faith, which was most lively and most fruitful in good works.
2. His equanimity whether in prosperity or adversity.
3. His zeal for the honor of God, and the salvation of man.



Prayer (graces to ask of St. Joseph):

Most blessed St. Joseph, who alone were destined to enjoy and to witness the accomplishment of all the blessings of the patriarchs, you who were raised to the supreme dignity of the father of the Messiah, in whom all nations were to be blessed; behold now the patriarchs themselves approaching to place a crown of glory on your head, and to acknowledge you for their king; they are followed by all the saints of the Old Law, who also wish to present you, as their chief, with a crown composed of as many brilliant stars as you have surpassed them in degrees of perfection; and lastly, the saints of the New Law – the apostles, martyrs, confessors and virgins – come with their palms mingled with lilies and roses, to crown the chief of the family of God on earth, the first disciple of Jesus Christ, the first imitator of His divine example, the first saint whom the law of grace produced, even proclaimed such by sacred writings.

We praise and bless you a thousand and a thousand times, thrice blessed patriarch of all saints! Elevated as you are now in bliss, forget not your poor, miserable client here on earth, but deign to bestow on me some small portion of that abundance of good things with which you will be eternally replenished in the mansion of your heavenly Father. The most ardent of my desires, my glorious patron is that you would bestow upon me the salutary fruits with which the tree of life is laden – that tree on which Jesus Christ consummated the redemption of the world.

Enriched with this precious fruits of benediction on earth, I shall confidently hope to taste one day the fruits of glory with which the elect shall be satiated for all eternity. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. A more rigorous fast than usual.
2. Perform one of the works of mercy, either spiritual or corporal.
3. A visit to our Divine Lord, at which ask to be made a sharer in the blessings enjoyed by St. Joseph.



Seventh Day – March 16

Consider his glorious titles:

1. He was singularly favored, assisted and honored by the angels. From them, he received comfort in his anguish, light and direction in his difficulties, and help and solace in his labors. St. Joseph was appointed to discharge the function of guardian-angel towards Jesus and Mary.
2. No saint was ever so intimately associated with Jesus as St. Joseph, who so often caressed and fondled Him in his arms.

3. The life he led in the society of Jesus and Mary, was more a celestial than an earthly life, more divine than human; it was a tissue of simplicity, innocence and fervor; it was a foretaste of the felicity of the blessed.

Virtues to imitate in St. Joseph:

1. His respect for the ministers of God.
2. The peace and tranquility of his soul.
3. The truth and sincerity of his words, and the modesty of his demeanor.



Prayer (graces to ask of St. Joseph):

To behold you so singularly favored by the angels, is to me no matter of surprise, O glorious saint! for you are as one of them by your angelic purity.

Why marvel to behold them even vieing with each other in rendering service to one whom they consider superior to themselves in dignity? Ah! if envy could find a place in their hearts, it might well have been excited on seeing the happy privilege which you enjoyed of living on terms of such intimate familiarity with our Divine Lord, the Infant God, the wondrous mystery of love, the centre of joy, the source of felicity.

Blessed be that mouth, which has so often praised and glorified Him; blessed those arms, which so lovingly embraced Him; blessed that bosom, on which He so sweetly reposed.

By conversing day and night with your Infant Savior, you learned to become a child like Him, and to imitate the innocence, simplicity and purity, and all the other amiable virtues of the "Word Incarnate".

Ah! you were fully sensible of His ardent desire to see all Christians become like little children, that they may thus be enabled to enter by the low and narrow gate that leads to the kingdom of heaven.

I also burn with an ardent desire to conform myself perfectly to the Divine Infant Jesus: obtain, then, for me all the virtues suited to that happy state of Christian childhood; may my heart be guileless, my thoughts pure, my intentions upright, my words innocent, and the whole tenor of my life and conduct conformable to true Christian simplicity and humility; obtain for me the grace to become once more, by sincere repentance and a truly penitential life, the little child of Christianity which I was once made by the waters of regeneration, but whose fair and noble lineaments have, alas! been so often defaced and abused by the ravages of sin, the only real evil. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. Excite yourself to sincere contrition for all your past sins, kneeling before an image of the child Jesus, offering up to Him the innocence, simplicity, and purity of St. Joseph.

2. Make a visit to the Most Blessed Sacrament, at least in spirit, for the purpose of conversing with the Lord Jesus, and of making Him an offering of all the caresses which St. Joseph bestowed upon Him.
3. Give alms to a poor child, a lively image of Jesus in His adorable infancy.



Eight Day – March 17

Consider his glorious titles:

1. He is consider the master and model of the contemplative life, for he was remarkable for an interior spirit, for his love of silence, retirement and prayer. Hi soul was consumed with love; his sleep was rather an ecstasy than a state of simple repose.
2. He is also a model of an active life, by his assiduous care of the Holy Family, and his content in poverty, with its labor and privations.
3. He is a model of the mixed or apostolic life, ever ready to assist his neighbor, to console him in all his afflictions, to enlighten him in his doubts, and to instruct him in the law of God, as necessity or occasion may require.

Virtues to imitate in St. Joseph:

1. His recollection and the care with which he shunned all useless conversations.
2. His vigilance and exactness in acquitting himself of all the duties allotted to him by Divine Providence.
3. His zeal in promoting the happiness and advantage of his neighbor, according to the means and opportunities afforded to him by Divine Providence.



Prayer (graces to ask of St. Joseph):

All holy contemplatives and solitaries, all holy anchorets, come and learn of our glorious patriarch the art of leading a celestial life on earth, a life of contemplation, silence, love and union with God.

O glorious patriarch! can we find among all the saints an individual who could boast of faith so strong and lively, charity so ardent, and a knowledge of the mysteries of our redemption so clear and comprehensive, as that which so eminently distinguished you?

Saints John and Paul were great contemplatives, the former in sweet and profound ecstasies while reposing on the bosom of his adorable Master; the latter exalted unto the third heavens, there beholding what eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive!

But what was all these compared to the innumerable ecstasies, secrets and lights with which you were favored during the many years that Jesus Himself, the true Paradise of pleasure, was all your own? When you enjoyed the transporting vision of Incarnate Beauty itself, when you so often enjoyed the happy privilege of reposing your aged head upon His bosom, His adorable heart, the true sanctuary of the Divinity, and of receiving Him into your arms, which during His childhood especially, were His ordinary resting place?

Ah! how sweet were His slumbers thus cradled in your arms, and how profound the repose which you enjoyed upon His bosom? Surely, it is only of you that the eagles and the doves – that is, those souls who are possessed of the greatest purity and elevation – ought to learn to direct their flight towards heaven, and to contemplate the “Sun of Justice”.

And again, who so qualified as you to give useful lessons to those saints who are called to the active and apostolic life? Can anything be more perfect than the example which you have given them, in the exercise of the painful and laborious duties of your profession, in your anxious solicitude to provide for the comfort and welfare of the Holy Family, on your journeys and pilgrimages, in the instructions, consolations, and multiplied acts of kindness which you so cordially rendered to your neighbor, whether in Egypt, the land of strangers, or at Nazareth, your native home?

Oh! thou most perfect of saints, obtain grace for me to imitate you in the practice of an interior life. I earnestly implore the spirit of recollection, which will enable me to pray with greater faith and fervor.

St. Therese calls you the great master of prayer; permit me, then, though unworthy, to become one of your disciples; initiate and perfect me in the science of the saints, that by learning to converse with God on earth, I may be prepared to glorify Him eternally with you and all the elect in a happy eternity. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. Endeavor to overcome any inclination to spiritual sloth or sleep with which you may be molested at meditation.
2. Persevere in prayer, notwithstanding dryness and distractions.
3. Form a sincere resolution to devote yourself henceforth to the study and practice of the interior life, and to the use of mental prayer, choosing St. Joseph as your patron, whom spiritualists consider the model of the hidden life.



Ninth Day – March 18

Consider his glorious titles:

1. The church compares the happiness which St. Joseph enjoyed on earth to that of the saints in heaven, because he beheld the Man-God face to face for thirty years; and it is piously believed that our Lord manifested the glory of His divinity to His good

foster father, from time to time, as He did to His favorite disciples afterwards on Mount Thabor.

2. St. Joseph was blessed, because in Jesus Christ he beheld an exemplification of the eight beatitudes, those infallible marks of eternal beatitude; and he was thus more easily enabled to reduce them to practice.
3. He was blessed because he practiced all those virtues in the most perfect manner to the end of his life, under the eyes of Him who was one day to reward them.

Virtues to imitate in St. Joseph:

1. Choose one of the beatitudes to practice in imitation of St. Joseph.
2. Aim at the practice of all the beatitudes, as occasion may require.
3. See in which of them you are most deficient.



Prayer (graces to ask of St. Joseph):

“Even in this life you are equal to the blessed in heaven, being already in the enjoyment of God Himself!” To you only, O gracious saint! does the Church address these words of praise; to other saints it was not given to live here below with a God incarnate, to fondle the meek

Jesus in their arms like an ordinary child, and to His infantine caresses, and with them such an abundance of heavenly light and consolation! O ineffable happiness! and truly do I rejoice, O glorious saint! in this your anticipated beatitude.

Doubtless no one possessed a stronger claim to it than yourself, who for the space of thirty years, ceased not to imbibe with holy curiosity the waters of these eight sources of sanctity, which the example of Jesus kept continually open for you.

As you know I am also commanded to drink of these salutary streams, though I have as yet neglected doing so, obtain for me now a great love for this heavenly doctrine, and grace to live according to it. I know that I can never be happy until I shall become poor in spirit, meek, pure, peaceable, and merciful; until I shall be able to rejoice in persecution for justice sake, seeking above all else the kingdom of God and His justice.

But alas! how shall I be able to overcome nature, to devote my whole mind and heart to the contemplation of things altogether spiritual and heavenly; I who am accustomed to flatter my senses, to gratify all my inclinations?

I stand in need of a very strong and lively faith, in order to become detached from all earthly objects; and I most earnestly implore this faith, O amiable saint! through your charitable intercession. It will sanctify and render my good works meritorious through Christ Jesus; and by the exercise of the beatitudes I shall enjoy in this vale of

sorrow a foretaste of the happiness which will constitute their reward exceeding great for an endless eternity. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. A stricter fast than usual, as an immediate preparation for the feast.
2. Some other corporal austerity.
3. Give dinner or other alms to three poor persons, in honor of the Holy Family.

The Feast of St. Joseph (March 19)

Exercise for the Patronage of St. Joseph

Consider these about St. Joseph:

1. St. Joseph's intercession is all-powerful with Jesus, in whose regard he held the place of father. It is all-powerful with Mary, his immaculate spouse. St. Joseph was invested with authority over both.
2. His own characteristic goodness inclines him, independently of everything else, to assist and comfort his devout clients; and being the chief instrument in the work of man's salvation, next to the Blessed Virgin, he bears a truly paternal love to all men.
3. His patronage is liberal and universal; it knows no distinction of age or condition, and readily ministers to all kinds of necessities, whether of soul or body.

Virtues to initiate in St. Joseph, thereby to merit his patronage

1. Choose him as your special patron for life, but particularly at the awful hour of death.
2. Acquire the habit of invoking him at least twice a day.
3. Endeavor to inspire others with a devotion to him. The Blessed Virgin expressed her gratitude to St. Theresa for her zealous exertions in extending this devotion throughout the Church.



Prayer (graces to ask of the saint upon choosing him as patron)

O great St. Joseph! whose sublime perfection, power and glory have entitled you to our veneration, love, and confidence above all the other saints, I (say your name), in the presence of Jesus, who chose you to be His father, and of Mary, who received you as her spouse, make choice of you this day for my spiritual father, the guide and master of my interior, my model, and my advocate.

I resolve never to forget you, and to render you every day of my life at least some slight mark of the honor and confidence to which you are so justly entitled. I now most earnestly conjure you to take me under your special protection, and to admit me into the happy number of your devoted servants.

Intercede with Jesus and Mary on my behalf; assist me in all the actions of my life, and do not abandon me for a moment at any time; but I especially implore you to assist and comfort me at the hour of my death. Amen.

Practices of Devotion and Mortification:

1. Patience under the tribulations of this life
2. Fidelity in the daily practice of some corporal mortification.
3. Implore pardon of God for all earthly or inordinate attachment.

Daily Prayers To Honor St. Joseph **(to be said from March 1 -31)**

March 1: Act of Consecration to St. Joseph

O blessed St. Joseph! I consecrate myself to your honor, and give myself entirely to you. Be always my father, my protector, and my guide, in the way of salvation. Obtain for me a great purity of heart, and a practical love of the interior life. After your example may I do all my actions for the greater glory of God, in union with the divine hearts of Jesus and Mary. And, in fine, deign, blessed Joseph! to make me participate in the delights of your holy death.

March 2: A Prayer for Purity

O holy St. Joseph! father and guardian of virgins, to whose fidelity was confided Jesus, innocence itself, and Mary, the Virgin of virgins; I supplicate and conjure you, through Jesus and Mary, this sacred deposit which is so dear to your heart, to grant that, preserved from all sin, and perfectly pure in mind, heart and body, I may have the happiness of always serving Jesus and Mary very faithfully. Amen.

March 3: Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy on us

Christ, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us

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

(Response is 'Pray for us')

St. Joseph, spouse of Mary, the mother of Jesus
St. Joseph, virgin spouse of a virgin mother
St. Joseph, guardian of the virginity of Mary
St. Joseph, father of the Son of God
St. Joseph, nurse of the Child Jesus
St. Joseph, organ of the Word reduced to silence
St. Joseph, redeemer of our Redeemer
St. Joseph, savior of our Savior
St. Joseph, guide of Jesus in His flight
St. Joseph, teacher of incarnate Wisdom
St. Joseph, minister of the great council
St. Joseph, depository of the celestial treasure
St. Joseph, man of consummate justice
St. Joseph, model of perfect obedience
St. Joseph, lily of spotless purity
St. Joseph, zealous lover of our souls
St. Joseph, protector of religious houses
St. Joseph, defender of the agonizing
St. Joseph, patron of those who die in the Lord

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

Hear us, O Lord
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.

Pray for us, O holy St. Joseph
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

March 4: Prayer for a Family or other Reunion

O Joseph! you who, by your fidelity to the inspirations of heaven, have merited in the midst of the hardest labors, the contempt of the world, and the trials of this life, that the Holy Spirit should give you the title of just, that God the Father should confide to you, together with Mary, the Queen of virgins, Jesus, her dear Divine Son; we implore you now that you are all-powerful before God, to remember us who still languish in this valley of tears, exposed to the snares of the most cruel enemies.

Obtain for us the contempt for the false gods of this world, the victory over our passions, an unbounded devotion to the service of God, a tender confidence in Jesus, your Son, and in Mary, your spouse.

O Joseph! be our guide, our patron and our model, during the course of this life; be our defender in death, this we implore of you by the love which you bear to Jesus and Mary. Amen.

March 5: Prayer to Implore the Protection of St. Joseph

What consolation do I feel, O my admirable and powerful protector! in hearing your servant, St. Theresa, assure us that no one can ever invoked you in vain, and that all those who have a true devotion to you, and who seek your help with confidence, are always heard!

Animated with a like confidence, I have recourse to you, O worthy spouse of the Virgin of virgins; I take refuge at your feet; and a sinner though I am, I dare to present myself trembling before you.

Do not reject my humble prayers, O you who have borne the glorious name father of Jesus! listen favorably to them and deign to intercede for me with Him who has been willing to be called your Son, and who has always honored you as His father. Amen.

March 6: Invocation of the Holy Names of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

O holy names of Jesus, of Mary and of Joseph! be always on my lips and in my heart; let the most constant and the most tender love ever engrave you upon it. Let these sweet names, unceasingly repeated, be the delight of my soul in all my aspirations; may I pronounce them with respect, love, and confidence, till my last sigh, in order that I may sing them eternally in heaven. Amen.

March 7: Prayer to Implore the Protection of St. Joseph

What consolation do I feel, O my admirable and powerful protector! in hearing your servant, St. Theresa, assure us that no one can ever invoked you in vain, and that all those who have a true devotion to you, and who seek your help with confidence, are always heard!

Animated with a like confidence, I have recourse to you, O worthy spouse of the Virgin of virgins; I take refuge at your feet; and a sinner though I am, I dare to present myself trembling before you.

Do not reject my humble prayers, O you who have borne the glorious name father of Jesus! listen favorably to them and deign to intercede for me with Him who has been willing to be called your Son, and who has always honored you as His father. Amen.

March 8: Ejaculatory Prayers

Jesus, Joseph and Mary, I give you my heart and my life. Jesus, Joseph and Mary, assist me in my last agony. Jesus, Joseph and Mary, grant that I may die in your holy company.

March 9: Prayer for a Person who has a Laborious Occupation

Blessed Joseph! who have passed your life in the painful labors of a humble profession, I take you as my model and my protector. Obtain for me that I may bear patiently the pains and fatigues of my state that like you, sanctifying my labors, I may merit a crown in heaven. Amen.

March 10: Invocation of the Holy Names of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

O holy names of Jesus, of Mary and of Joseph! be always on my lips and in my heart; let the most constant and the most tender love ever engrave you upon it. Let these sweet names, unceasingly repeated, be the delight of my soul in all my aspirations; may I pronounce them with respect, love, and confidence, till my last sigh, in order that I may sing them eternally in heaven. Amen.

March 11: A Prayer for Purity

O holy St. Joseph! father and guardian of virgins, to whose fidelity was confided Jesus, innocence itself, and Mary, the Virgin of virgins; I supplicate and conjure you, through Jesus and Mary, this sacred deposit which is so dear to your heart, to grant that, preserved from all sin, and perfectly pure in mind, heart and body, I may have the happiness of always serving Jesus and Mary very faithfully. Amen.

March 12: A Prayer for Purity

O holy St. Joseph! father and guardian of virgins, to whose fidelity was confided Jesus, innocence itself, and Mary, the Virgin of virgins; I supplicate and conjure you, through Jesus and Mary, this sacred deposit which is so dear to your heart, to grant that, preserved from all sin, and perfectly pure in mind, heart and body, I may have the happiness of always serving Jesus and Mary very faithfully. Amen.

March 13: Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy on us

Christ, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us

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

(Response is 'Pray for us')

St. Joseph, spouse of Mary, the mother of Jesus

St. Joseph, virgin spouse of a virgin mother

St. Joseph, guardian of the virginity of Mary

St. Joseph, father of the Son of God

St. Joseph, nurse of the Child Jesus

St. Joseph, organ of the Word reduced to silence

St. Joseph, redeemer of our Redeemer

St. Joseph, savior of our Savior

St. Joseph, guide of Jesus in His flight

St. Joseph, teacher of incarnate Wisdom

St. Joseph, minister of the great council

St. Joseph, depository of the celestial treasure

St. Joseph, man of consummate justice

St. Joseph, model of perfect obedience

St. Joseph, lily of spotless purity

St. Joseph, zealous lover of our souls

St. Joseph, protector of religious houses
St. Joseph, defender of the agonizing
St. Joseph, patron of those who die in the Lord

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
Hear us, O Lord
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.

Pray for us, O holy St. Joseph
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

March 14: Prayer to Implore the Protection of St. Joseph

What consolation do I feel, O my admirable and powerful protector! in hearing your servant, St. Theresa, assure us that no one can ever invoked you in vain, and that all those who have a true devotion to you, and who seek your help with confidence, are always heard!

Animated with a like confidence, I have recourse to you, O worthy spouse of the Virgin of virgins; I take refuge at your feet; and a sinner though I am, I dare to present myself trembling before you.

Do not reject my humble prayers, O you who have borne the glorious name father of Jesus! listen favorably to them and deign to intercede for me with Him who has been willing to be called your Son, and who has always honored you as His father. Amen.

March 15: Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy on us

Christ, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us

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

(Response is 'Pray for us')

St. Joseph, spouse of Mary, the mother of Jesus

St. Joseph, virgin spouse of a virgin mother

St. Joseph, guardian of the virginity of Mary

St. Joseph, father of the Son of God

St. Joseph, nurse of the Child Jesus

St. Joseph, organ of the Word reduced to silence

St. Joseph, redeemer of our Redeemer

St. Joseph, savior of our Savior

St. Joseph, guide of Jesus in His flight

St. Joseph, teacher of incarnate Wisdom

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St. Joseph, zealous lover of our souls

St. Joseph, protector of religious houses
St. Joseph, defender of the agonizing
St. Joseph, patron of those who die in the Lord

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
Hear us, O Lord
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.

Pray for us, O holy St. Joseph
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

March 16: Invocation of the Holy Names of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

O holy names of Jesus, of Mary and of Joseph! be always on my lips and in my heart; let the most constant and the most tender love ever engrave you upon it. Let these sweet names, unceasingly repeated, be the delight of my soul in all my aspirations; may I pronounce them with respect, love, and confidence, till my last sigh, in order that I may sing them eternally in heaven. Amen.

March 17: Ejaculatory Prayers

Jesus, Joseph and Mary, I give you my heart and my life. Jesus, Joseph and Mary, assist me in my last agony. Jesus, Joseph and Mary, grant that I may die in your holy company.

March 18: Prayer for a Family or other Reunion

O Joseph! you who, by your fidelity to the inspirations of heaven, have merited in the midst of the hardest labors, the contempt of the world, and the trials of this life, that the Holy Spirit should give you the title of just, that God the Father should confide to you, together with Mary, the Queen of virgins, Jesus, her dear Divine Son; we implore you now that you are all-powerful before God, to remember us who still languish in this valley of tears, exposed to the snares of the most cruel enemies.

Obtain for us the contempt for the false gods of this world, the victory over our passions, an unbounded devotion to the service of God, a tender confidence in Jesus, your Son, and in Mary, your spouse.

O Joseph! be our guide, our patron and our model, during the course of this life; be our defender in death, this we implore of you by the love which you bear to Jesus and Mary. Amen.

March 19:

Prayer to Implore the Protection of St. Joseph

What consolation do I feel, O my admirable and powerful protector! in hearing your servant, St. Theresa, assure us that no one can ever invoked you in vain, and that all those who have a true devotion to you, and who seek your help with confidence, are always heard!

Animated with a like confidence, I have recourse to you, O worthy spouse of the Virgin of virgins; I take refuge at your feet; and a sinner though I am, I dare to present myself trembling before you.

Do not reject my humble prayers, O you who have borne the glorious name father of Jesus! listen favorably to them and deign to intercede for me with Him who has been willing to be called your Son, and who has always honored you as His father. Amen.

Invocation of the Holy Names of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

O holy names of Jesus, of Mary and of Joseph! be always on my lips and in my heart; let the most constant and the most tender love ever engrave you upon it. Let these sweet names, unceasingly repeated, be the delight of my soul in all my aspirations; may I pronounce them with respect, love, and confidence, till my last sigh, in order that I may sing them eternally in heaven. Amen.

March 20: Prayer for a Family or other Reunion

O Joseph! you who, by your fidelity to the inspirations of heaven, have merited in the midst of the hardest labors, the contempt of the world, and the trials of this life, that the Holy Spirit should give you the title of just, that God the Father should confide to you, together with Mary, the Queen of virgins, Jesus, her dear Divine Son; we implore you now that you are all-powerful before God, to remember us who still languish in this valley of tears, exposed to the snares of the most cruel enemies.

Obtain for us the contempt for the false gods of this world, the victory over our passions, an unbounded devotion to the service of God, a tender confidence in Jesus, your Son, and in Mary, your spouse.

O Joseph! be our guide, our patron and our model, during the course of this life; be our defender in death, this we implore of you by the love which you bear to Jesus and Mary. Amen.

March 21: Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy on us

Christ, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us

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

(Response is 'Pray for us')

St. Joseph, spouse of Mary, the mother of Jesus

St. Joseph, virgin spouse of a virgin mother

St. Joseph, guardian of the virginity of Mary

St. Joseph, father of the Son of God

St. Joseph, nurse of the Child Jesus

St. Joseph, organ of the Word reduced to silence

St. Joseph, redeemer of our Redeemer

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St. Joseph, guide of Jesus in His flight
St. Joseph, teacher of incarnate Wisdom
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St. Joseph, depository of the celestial treasure
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St. Joseph, lily of spotless purity
St. Joseph, zealous lover of our souls
St. Joseph, protector of religious houses
St. Joseph, defender of the agonizing
St. Joseph, patron of those who die in the Lord

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
Hear us, O Lord
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.

Pray for us, O holy St. Joseph
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

March 22: Ejaculatory Prayers

Jesus, Joseph and Mary, I give you my heart and my life. Jesus,
Joseph and Mary, assist me in my last agony. Jesus, Joseph and Mary,
grant that I may die in your holy company.

March 23: Act of Consecration to St. Joseph

O blessed St. Joseph! I consecrate myself to your honor, and give myself entirely to you. Be always my father, my protector, and my guide, in the way of salvation. Obtain for me a great purity of heart, and a practical love of the interior life. After your example may I do all my actions for the greater glory of God, in union with the divine hearts of Jesus and Mary. And, in fine, deign, blessed Joseph! to make me participate in the delights of your holy death.

March 24: Prayer to Implore the Protection of St. Joseph

What consolation do I feel, O my admirable and powerful protector! in hearing your servant, St. Theresa, assure us that no one can ever invoked you in vain, and that all those who have a true devotion to you, and who seek your help with confidence, are always heard!

Animated with a like confidence, I have recourse to you, O worthy spouse of the Virgin of virgins; I take refuge at your feet; and a sinner though I am, I dare to present myself trembling before you.

Do not reject my humble prayers, O you who have borne the glorious name father of Jesus! listen favorably to them and deign to intercede for me with Him who has been willing to be called your Son, and who has always honored you as His father. Amen.

March 25: A Prayer for Purity

O holy St. Joseph! father and guardian of virgins, to whose fidelity was confided Jesus, innocence itself, and Mary, the Virgin of virgins; I supplicate and conjure you, through Jesus and Mary, this sacred deposit which is so dear to your heart, to grant that, preserved from all sin, and perfectly pure in mind, heart and body, I may have the happiness of always serving Jesus and Mary very faithfully. Amen.

March 26: Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy on us

Christ, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us

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

(Response is 'Pray for us')

St. Joseph, spouse of Mary, the mother of Jesus

St. Joseph, virgin spouse of a virgin mother

St. Joseph, guardian of the virginity of Mary

St. Joseph, father of the Son of God

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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
Hear us, O Lord
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.

Pray for us, O holy St. Joseph
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

March 27: Prayer to Implore the Protection of St. Joseph

What consolation do I feel, O my admirable and powerful protector! in hearing your servant, St. Theresa, assure us that no one can ever invoked you in vain, and that all those who have a true devotion to you, and who seek your help with confidence, are always heard!

Animated with a like confidence, I have recourse to you, O worthy spouse of the Virgin of virgins; I take refuge at your feet; and a sinner though I am, I dare to present myself trembling before you.

Do not reject my humble prayers, O you who have borne the glorious name father of Jesus! listen favorably to them and deign to intercede for me with Him who has been willing to be called your Son, and who has always honored you as His father. Amen.

March 28: Act of Consecration to St. Joseph

O blessed St. Joseph! I consecrate myself to your honor, and give myself entirely to you. Be always my father, my protector, and my guide, in the way of salvation. Obtain for me a great purity of heart, and a practical love of the interior life. After your example may I do all my actions for the greater glory of God, in union with the divine hearts of Jesus and Mary. And, in fine, deign, blessed Joseph! to make me participate in the delights of your holy death.

March 29: Invocation of the Holy Names of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

O holy names of Jesus, of Mary and of Joseph! be always on my lips and in my heart; let the most constant and the most tender love ever engrave you upon it. Let these sweet names, unceasingly repeated, be the delight of my soul in all my aspirations; may I pronounce them with respect, love, and confidence, till my last sigh, in order that I may sing them eternally in heaven. Amen.

March 30: Prayer to Implore the Protection of St. Joseph

What consolation do I feel, O my admirable and powerful protector! in hearing your servant, St. Theresa, assure us that no one can ever invoked you in vain, and that all those who have a true devotion to you, and who seek your help with confidence, are always heard! Animated with a like confidence, I have recourse to you, O worthy spouse of the Virgin of virgins; I take refuge at your feet; and a sinner though I am, I dare to present myself trembling before you.

Do not reject my humble prayers, O you who have borne the glorious name father of Jesus! listen favorably to them and deign to intercede for me with Him who has been willing to be called your Son, and who has always honored you as His father. Amen.

March 31: Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy on us

Christ, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy on us

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

(Response is 'Pray for us')

St. Joseph, spouse of Mary, the mother of Jesus

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St. Joseph, protector of religious houses
St. Joseph, defender of the agonizing
St. Joseph, patron of those who die in the Lord

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
Hear us, O Lord
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us.

Pray for us, O holy St. Joseph
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

Prayer Schedule At A Glance

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