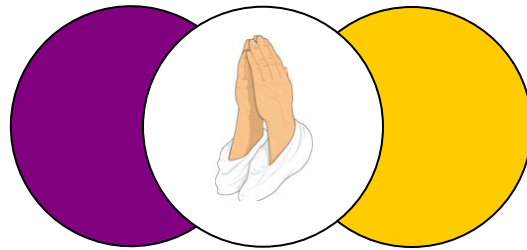


Perpetual Devotion to Saint Joseph Circle



Devotional E-Booklet

Your Name

is a White Purple Gold member of the Perpetual
Devotion to Saint Joseph Circle and
has chosen for the exercises of the
Perpetual Devotion to St. Joseph
the following day or days:

Date(s)

Inscribed the _____ day of _____, _____

In the register of the Circle which is stored
in the server of St. Joseph's Site.



Babes Tan-Magkalas
Webmaster, St. Joseph's Site
www.stjosephsite.com



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FOREWORD

As a devotee of St. Joseph, it is my aim to spread the devotion to him and imitate his virtues. Hence I created St. Joseph's Site (www.stjosephsite.com), to spread the devotion to this wondrous saint.

I recently came across an informational material which mentioned the Association of Perpetual Devotion to St. Joseph as having been founded in the mid 19th century and authorized by Pius IX on January 20, 1856. Apparently, the Association was formed to honor St. Joseph every day of the year, and since the year is composed of 365 days, an equal number of members choose a day on which to offer a special homage to our saint.

I was curious and surfed the internet for more information but I was unable to find any. But the idea of forming a similar association burned in my heart and so I decided to take the initiative in establishing the Perpetual Devotion to Saint Joseph Circle using the internet as the main vehicle to get membership to the Circle. I used the term 'Circle' instead of 'Association' because a circle has no beginning and no end and in my humble opinion, is more aligned with the word 'perpetual'.

Thank you for becoming a member. It is my hope that by the grace of God and with the blessing of Saint Joseph, our roster of members will be filled up for each day of the year in due time. And perhaps someday, we would all gather in one place and together honour our beloved saint.

May our devotion to Saint Joseph bring forth abundant fruits in our spiritual lives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Babes Tan-Magkalas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and a long, sweeping tail on the 's'.

Babes Tan-Magkalas

ABOUT THE PERPETUAL DEVOTION TO SAINT JOSEPH CIRCLE

The aim of the circle is simple – to honour St. Joseph every day of the year. Since there are 365 days in a year, the Circle shall strive to have at least 365 members, with a member paying a special homage to our saint each day of the year.

Types of Membership

Membership to the Circle comes in three (3) forms:

Purple Membership – a member performs the spiritual exercises on a day he/she chooses, once a year

White Membership – a member performs the spiritual exercises on a day he/she chooses, once a month

Gold Membership – a member performs the spiritual exercises on a day he/she chooses, once a week (preferably on a Wednesday)

Signing Up for Membership

There is a sign up form at:

http://www.stjosephsite.com/SJS_membership.htm

As soon as one signs up for membership, he/she will receive this free devotional e-booklet. Please mark your calendar so you won't forget when your assigned day(s) comes.

Please also encourage your friends and loved ones to become a member.

Getting to Know More About St. Joseph

The world wide web offers a lot of information about Saint Joseph. I did some research and compiled a listing of books about Saint Joseph at St. Joseph's Site. Please check it out [HERE](#).

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF THE CIRCLE

The member performs the following spiritual exercises on the day assigned to them:

1. Confess and receive Holy Communion. If for some justifiable reason, you are unable to confess and receive communion, you can say a heartfelt Act of Contrition and Spiritual Communion.
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Act of Contrition

O MY GOD, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of Hell; but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

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Spiritual Communion

The following text is a popular form of spiritual communion; you can memorize it or use it as a guide to offering your own act of spiritual communion in your own words.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

2. Hear/Attend Mass.
3. Say the prayers in honor of the seven joys and sorrows of Saint Joseph or any other prayers to St. Joseph that you like. For other prayers to Saint Joseph, click [HERE](#).

Prayers in Honor of the Seven Joys and Sorrows of Saint Joseph

1. Chaste Spouse of the Immaculate Mother of Jesus! Glorious St. Joseph! Permit me to commemorate the mental agony which you endured with regards to your sacred spouse; deeming yourself under the painful necessity of leaving her, until the angel banished your doubts, and filled you with unspeakable joy, by revealing the mystery of the Incarnation: by your anguish and holy joy on this occasion, obtain for me, I implore, both now and in my agony, the joy of a good conscience, sincere charity towards all men, and the consolation of dying with you in the embraces of Jesus and Mary.

Say one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

2. O thrice happy Joseph! Deeply impressed with a sense of sweet and sacred duties which, as a father, you were called to render to the "Word Incarnate", permit me to commemorate the sorrow which filled your breast on beholding the Divine Infant lying on straw, in a manger, weeping, shivering with cold, and enduring all the privations of the most abject poverty. But how great was your consolation shortly after, to hear the canticle of peace intoned by the blessed spirits, and to witness the kings of the earth humbly prostrate at the Infant's feet, while their countenances beamed with love, joy and admiration, and offering their most precious gifts to Him whom they acknowledged as heaven's King! By your anguish and holy joy on this occasion, obtain that my heart may always be a pure and holy sanctuary, where Jesus will love to dwell by His grace and His real presence in the adorable Eucharist; and that, when the trials of life and the shades of death shall have passed away, my ears may be enchanted with the harmonies of the heavenly choirs, and that I may enter into the possession of those joys that neither eye has seen, ear heard, nor the human heart conceived. Amen.

Say one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be.

3. You were, O great Saint Joseph! a man according to God's own heart, for His law was your meditation. Permit me to commemorate the acute sensibility of your tender heart, when, by the law of circumcision, it became your painful duty to cause the first effusion of the precious blood of the innocent "Lamb". The sword which pierced His infant flesh wounded your heart; but the sweet

name of "Jesus", which in accordance with the revelation of the angel, you bestowed on him, imparted a holy and soothing unction to your soul. By your anguish and holy joy on this occasion, pray your blessed Son, that being purified in the laver of His precious blood, and all inordinate inclinations being circumcised, I may have the sweet and saving name of "Jesus" always engraved on my heart, and be so happy as to invoke it with great love and efficacy at the hour of death. Amen.
Say one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be.

4. O faithful St. Joseph! to whom the mysterious secrets of our redemption were confided, permit me to commemorate the sorrow which filled your afflicted heart on hearing Simeon's prophecy concerning the sufferings of Jesus and Mary. But how much were you comforted on hearing immediately after that the child Jesus was destined for the resurrection and salvation of many! By your anguish and holy joy on this occasion, obtain for me grace to participate in the sorrows of Mary, and the bitter passion of her beloved Son, that by patient suffering and heartfelt compunction, I may one day rise to a glorious resurrection, through the merits of Jesus Christ, and the intercession of His most blessed mother. Amen.

Say one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

5. O zealous guardian of the Son of God and pious comforter of His dear mother! Permit me to commemorate the trials and anxiety you have undergone in their service, but especially in your flight into Egypt, and the hardship of your exile, for which, however, you were in some degree consoled, by seeing the idols fall prostrate in the presence of the only true God. By your sufferings and holy joy on this occasion, obtain for me, I beseech you, grace to destroy all the idols of self-love, to which I may have erected an altar in my heart, and that henceforth, devoting all the energies of my soul, to the service of you and Mary, I may live and die as you, in union with them. Amen.

Say one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

6. Angel of the earth! Vigilant guardian of Virgin of virgins and her Blessed Babe! Permit me to commemorate your painful anxiety for their safety, when, on returning home, you found the throne occupied by a tyrant no less cruel than Herod; but soon reassured by an angel, you joyfully re-established your family in the holy house of Nazareth. By your anguish and holy joy on this occasion, obtain for me, I most earnestly implore, the great blessings of interior peace, and a pure conscience during life, and that I may die invoking the sweet names of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

Say one Our Father ,Hail Mary and Glory Be.

7. Mirror of Sanctity! Glorious St. Joseph! Permit me to commemorate the affliction which you experienced on losing the Child Jesus, and the agony of your grief upon finding your search useless after the space of three days. But how inexpressible was your joy upon finding your precious treasure in the house of prayer! By your poignant anguish and ineffable joy on this occasion, obtain for me grace never to be separated from Jesus by grievous sin. And should I have the misfortune to forfeit His friendship, even partially by venial sin, may I never suffer the day to close until I shall have made my peace with God; but especially at the hour of death, may I be closely united to Him by love, confidence and perfect compunction. Amen.

Say one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.

4. Endeavor to keep recollected during the day, and to think from time to time of St. Joseph.
 5. Perform in his honor some corporal and spiritual acts of mercy.
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Spiritual and Corporal Acts of Mercy

The traditional enumeration of the corporal works of mercy is as follows:

To feed the hungry
To give drink to the thirsty
To clothe the naked
To shelter the homeless
To visit the sick
To ransom the captive
To bury the dead

The spiritual works of mercy are:

To instruct the ignorant
To counsel the doubtful
To admonish sinners
To bear wrongs patiently
To forgive offences willingly
To comfort the afflicted
To pray for the living and the dead

6. Finish the day by a visit to the Blessed Sacrament and by the offering of your heart to Saint Joseph by saying the following prayer:

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.
