

DEVOTIONS TO ST. JOSEPH

A Prayer to Saint Joseph for Those Who Work

GLORIOUS Saint Joseph, model of all who are devoted to labor, pray for me that I may obtain the grace to work in a spirit of penance for the expiation of my many sins; to work conscientiously, putting the call of duty above my inclinations; to work with gratitude and joy, deeming it an honor to employ and develop by means of labor the gifts received from God; to work with order, peace, moderation and patience, without recoiling before weariness or difficulties; to work, above all, with purity of intention, and with detachment from self, always having death before my eyes and the account which I must render of time lost, talents wasted, good omitted, of vain complacency in success, so fatal to the work of God.

Guardian of virgins, and holy father Joseph, to whose faithful custody Christ Jesus, Innocence itself, and Mary, Virgin of virgins, were committed, I pray and beseech thee that by thy intercession I may be spotless in mind, pure in heart, and chaste in body to serve Jesus all the days of my life. Amen.

Hymn to Saint Joseph

Te, Joseph, celebrent

○ JOSEPH, heav'nly hosts thy worthiness
proclaim,
And Christendom conspires to celebrate thy
fame,
Thou who in purest bonds wert to the Virgin
bound;
How glorious is thy name renowned.
Thou, when thou didst behold thy Spouse
about to bear,
Wert sore oppressed with doubt, wert filled
with wond'ring care;
At length the Angel's word thy anxious heart
relieved:
She by the Spirit hath conceived.
Thou with thy new-born Lord didst seek far
Egypt's land,
As wandering pilgrims, ye fled o'er the desert
sand;
That Lord, when lost, by thee is in the
temple found,
While tears are shed, and joys abound.
Not till death's hour is past do other men
obtain
The meed of holiness, and glorious rest
attain;
Thou, like to Angels made, in life completely
blest,

Dost clasp thy God unto thy breast.

O Holy Trinity, thy suppliant servants spare;
Grant us to rise to heaven, for Joseph's sake
and prayer,

And so our grateful hearts to thee shall ever
raise

Exulting canticles of praise. Amen.

Collects

WE beseech thee, O Lord, that we may
be aided through the merits of the
Spouse of thy most holy Mother: that those
things, which by our own power we cannot
obtain, may through his intercession be
granted unto us. Who livest and reignest
world without end. Amen.

O GOD, who by thy ineffable providence
didst vouchsafe to choose blessed Jo-
seph to be the spouse of thy most holy
Mother: grant, we beseech thee; that we,
who venerate him as a protector on earth,
may be found worthy to have him as an in-
tercessor in heaven. Who livest and reignest,
world without end. Amen.

Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

God the Father of Heaven,
 God the Son, Redeemer of the
 world,
 God the Holy Ghost, the Sanctifier,
 Holy Trinity, One God,

} *Have mercy
 upon us.*

Holy Mary, Spouse of Joseph,
 Holy Joseph, Spouse of the Virgin
 Mary,
 Foster-father of Jesus,
 Man after God's own heart,
 Model of industry, consecrating the
 labor of thy hands to God,
 Guardian of the Virginity of Mary,
 Companion and solace of Mary,
 St. Joseph, declared a just man by the
 Holy Ghost,
 Taught from above the mystery of
 the Incarnate Word,
 Journeying to Bethlehem with Mary,
 thy Spouse, [God,
 Bearing in thine arms the Son of
 Fleeing at the warning of the Angel
 into Egypt with the young Child
 and His Mother,
 Who, sorrowing, sought the Child
 Jesus, and found him in the
 temple,
 To whom the Lord of lords was sub-
 ject on earth,

} *Pray for us.*

Who was the happy witness of his
 hidden life, [Mary,
 Who died in the arms of Jesus and
 Whose praise is in the Gospel,
 In all our necessities,
 In all our distresses,
 In the hour of death,
 In the day of Judgment,

Pray for us.

We sinners beseech thee to hear us,
 O Lord, that thou wouldest
 vouchsafe to pardon our sins,
 That thou wouldest teach us to fol-
 low thy Saints in all godly living,
 That thou wouldest bestow the chas-
 tity of the Religious State on
 those whom thou dost call,
 That thou wouldest bless all those
 who live in the holy bonds of
 matrimony,
 That thou wouldest direct all parents
 in the Christian education of their
 children,
 That thou wouldest support us in the
 hour of our death,

We beseech thee to hear us.

Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of
 the world,

Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of
the world,

Hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of
the world,

Have mercy upon us.

Let us pray.

O GOD, who didst choose St. Joseph to be the spouse of Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, and the guardian and foster-father of thine Incarnate Son; we humbly beseech thee to grant us, through his patronage and merits, such purity of mind and body, that, being cleansed from every sin, and clothed with the true marriage garment, we may, by thy great mercy, be admitted to the heavenly nuptials. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.