

Novena to St. Joseph

March 10—18



**The Oblates of the Virgin Mary
at Saint Francis Chapel**

Day 1: March 10

St. Joseph, Husband of Mary

Intention: For all Christian husbands and those men preparing for Christian marriage.

Good, St. Joseph, the first things we learn about you in the holy Gospel is that you are the husband of Mary and a just man. You were a man for others; known only through your relationship to Mary and Jesus. St. Joseph you were a man of responsibility, not of rights. You had the right to walk away from a situation you had not *planned*, but instead you saw yourself as a man of God with a holy vocation to be at the service of righteousness for Mary and her Child. We ask you today to intercede for all husbands in Christian marriages and all men preparing to be, that they too will always be champions of responsibility and Godly men of service to their wives and children.

Memorare to St. Joseph

Remember, most pure spouse
of Mary, ever Virgin,
my loving protector, Saint Joseph,
that no one ever had recourse
to your protection
or asked for your aid
without obtaining relief.
Confiding, therefore,
in your goodness,
I come before you
and humbly implore you.
Despise not my petitions,
foster-father of the Redeemer,
but graciously receive them. Amen.

Our Father...

Day 2: March 11

St. Joseph, Foster Father of Jesus

Intention: For Christian fathers and those men preparing to be, and for all children deprived of good father figures.

Good St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, from the simple revelation in the Gospels we know that Jesus was a carpenter. He learned his trade from you, his earthly father. The time you spent together with Jesus in the home praying and sharing, and in the workshop cutting, measuring, fixing, and paying attention to detail, helped Jesus to grow in wisdom and stature before God and man. You know, St. Joseph, the irreplaceable value of a father for his children; that fathers help their children to grow in confidence, reach for goals greater than themselves and to be prepared to take their place in their communities sharing their gifts and talents. We ask you today to intercede for all Christian fathers and those soon to be, that they will never shrink from manly and tender love for their children and from being fully present to them as you were in the home at Nazareth.

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Hail Mary...

Day 3: March 12

St. Joseph, Most Chaste

Intention: For all Christian men and women to strive for the freedom of chastity.

Good St. Joseph, chaste guardian of the Virgin, you above all cherished the immaculate dignity of Blessed Mary. You knew that the powers of your body and soul were to be harnessed and brought under your freedom that you may be a gift for others. St. Joseph, you revered Mary first as the daughter of the Father before she was a gift to you. You cherished her and protected her purity and holiness above all else. We ask you today to intercede for all Christian men and women that they will seek and strive for purity of heart and mind in all of their relationships, work, entertainment and when they are alone before God Most Holy. That all Christians will see themselves and others as dignified sons and daughters of God with a heavenly inheritance.

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Glory be...

Day 4: March 13

St. Joseph, The Worker

Intention: For all Christian workers and those seeking honest labor.

Good St. Joseph, you skillfully labored with your hands to provide for your family and to serve your community. You knew well the immense value of honest work in developing your talents, in imitating the creativity of God and to live a life of dignity from the fruit of your own hands. St. Joseph, through your work you grew in holiness and freedom as you mastered the art and science of your trade. We ask you today to intercede for all Christian workers that they give honest labor for honest pay in service to the common good, and for all those who seek employment that they too may know the dignity of work and the vocation to noble creativity.

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Our Father...

Day 5: March 14

St. Joseph, Hope of the Sick

Intention: For all the sick among our families, friends and communities, and an end to the pandemic.

Good St. Joseph, many times in history have Christians called upon you for aid to the sick. St. Therese of Lisieux was saved from a deathly childhood illness when her family turned to you in fervent prayer. When stricken by an epidemic of typhoid fever in 1847, the people of Canada turned to you for protection and healing and you, St. Joseph, gave them hope as the disease left their villages. Your strong yet tender hands always aided the Holy Child and now all God's children turn to you for hope against all illness. St. Joseph, we ask you today to intercede for all those among our families, friends and colleagues who are sick that they may find hope to fight for health in body and soul, and obtain deep healing from all that would keep them from a life full of health, holiness and love.

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Hail Mary...

Day 6: March 15

St. Joseph, Patron of the Dying

Intention: For all Christians who are dying or preparing for death.

Good St. Joseph, you were a man who faced death with hope, filled with complete confidence in God and gratitude for the gift of life. You lived your life each day preparing for the moment when you would surrender yourself over to God one last time. Your earthly life ended in the presence of Jesus and Mary, the Redeemer of man, and the Mediatrix of every Grace. With Jesus and Mary at your side you were loved into death. Dear St. Joseph, we ask you today to intercede for all Christians who are dying now or preparing to, that they may know love to the end and receive the grace of final perseverance in faith and hope in the presence of Jesus and Mary.

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Glory be...

Day 7: March 16

St. Joseph, Solace of the Afflicted

Intention: For the poor, refugees and anyone severely afflicted among our families, friends and neighbors.

Good St. Joseph, you knew the life of poverty, of the refugee of the threatened, yet you patiently and courageously endured the sufferings of life steadfast in your faith. When you had to flee to Egypt to escape the persecution of King Herod you experienced the plight of the poor and vulnerable who are exposed to the whims of the powerful. In all of that affliction, St. Joseph, you retained your trust in the providence of the Father to guide you to the fulfillment of all righteousness. We ask you today to intercede for all Christians who are afflicted by persecution, harassment, poor economic circumstances and all hardships that they may remain firm in hope, confident in God's care and faithful to every duty no matter how small, and that they may find relief from their sorrows and joy of heart.

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Our Father...

Day 8: March 17

St. Joseph, Terror of Demons

Intention: For all the faithful struggling with serious sin, temptation and addictions.

Good St. Joseph, the dark forces of the Enemy threatened you and your Holy Family at every turn, yet in your unwavering obedience to the Lord you became a terror to all demons. The Enemy sought to swallow you up into despair, hopelessness and fear but you remained true to God's holy word and to your family against every darkness and in your perseverance the demons feared you as an unstoppable force of holiness. St. Joseph, we ask you today to intercede for all Christians who face powerful temptations and sins against faith, hope and love or any addictions that in their fight against the Enemy they may find deliverance, strength and spiritual growth, and confidence in the Lord's mercy.

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Hail Mary...

Day 9: March 18

St. Joseph, Protector of Holy Church

Intention: For the Church, pastoral workers, missionaries and all the faithful.

Good St. Joseph, you were given the task of protecting and guiding the seed of the Church in the lives of Jesus and Mary. By guarding them against all adversity you took your place in history as one especially called to preserve the hope of salvation for all the world. In Jesus and Mary are found the foundation and fulfillment of the Church, which you held as the most precious treasure of life. St. Joseph, we ask you today to intercede for the whole Church to remain true to her mission as the sacrament of salvation, and that all the faithful may desire holiness of life above all things and may put their gifts and talents at the service of Christ and all their brethren for the greater glory of God.

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The Oblates of the Virgin Mary

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