

Liturgical Living: The Month of Saint Joseph

In the Catholic Church, the month of March is devoted to Saint Joseph. He is the patron Saint of fathers, carpenters, and social justice.

We don't know much about Saint Joseph except what is mentioned in the Gospels. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster father of Jesus. Holy Scripture proclaims him as a "just man," and the Church has turned to Joseph for his patronage and protection.

The Scriptures show us that Joseph was a man of faith, obedient to whatever God asked of him without knowing the outcome. When the angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him the truth about the child Mary was carrying, Joseph immediately and without question or concern for gossip, took Mary as his wife. When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately left everything he owned, all his family and friends, and fled to a strange country with his young wife and the baby. He waited in Egypt without question until the angel told him it was safe to go back.

The Church encourages us to be devoted to Joseph because he was a model in the heroic practice of all the virtues. He was prudent in caring for his wife and the child; he showed great leadership in protecting them and assisting them. He was religious in every sense, with that delicacy and sincerity of conscience that is proper to the Saints of God. He was just in his dealings with God and man. He was truly outstanding in the practice of virginal chastity. He protected and defended Mary's virtue in the time of their courtship and during their marriage.

Saint Joseph can be seen as the Saint of everyday life, to whom one turns for help with both minor worries and at life-defining moments.

What are some ways to honor Saint Joseph this month?

- Add [this prayer of Saint Joseph](#) into your nightly prayers
- Pray the [Litany of Saint Joseph](#)
- Make [this easy lily paper craft](#)
- Attend Mass on Saint Joseph's Day (March 19)
- Eat [St Joseph's spaghetti](#) for dinner one night
- Make a [Saint Joseph's Day table](#) in your home on March 19
- Do something special to honor the fathers in your life
- Place an icon or statue of Saint Joseph in a prominent place in your home
- Begin the [First Nine Wednesdays](#) devotion

- Pray a family [Act of Consecration to Saint Joseph](#) or consider committing to the [33 day Consecration to Saint Joseph](#)
- Read a [book about Saint Joseph](#) this month ([this one](#) would be great for an Easter basket!)
- Pray a [novena to Saint Joseph](#)
- Learn more about the [Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys](#) of Saint Joseph

Saint Joseph, pray for us!