

Daughters of Mary, Mother of Our Savior



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Saint Joseph's Novitiate

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“What could Jesus refuse St. Joseph who never refused Him anything during His mortal life on earth?”
– St. Augustine

FROM THE MOTHER GENERAL

Dear Friends of the Daughters of Mary,

During this month dedicated to St. Joseph, our thoughts and prayers turn frequently to this dear saint. No one was closer to Jesus and Mary than Joseph; no one was more like to Jesus and Mary. Each Daughter of Mary has a particular love for St. Joseph, and we look upon him as the special helper and protector of our Congregation. Pope Pius IX in an encyclical on devotion to St. Joseph wrote, “It is of high importance that the devotion to St. Joseph should engraft itself upon the daily pious practices of Catholics.” He then went on to explain that St. Joseph is a model for people in all states of life.

Some of the students of St. Pius V School in Melville, New York, offer prayers and present a lily to St. Joseph at the end of a procession.



St. Joseph – A Model for All

We can see in St. Joseph the example of every virtue. Though very little is written of him in Sacred Scripture, it's still possible to know what kind of man he was. Fr. Cornelius a Lapide, the eminent Scripture scholar of the early 1600's, wrote, "Do you desire to know who, what kind of man, and how great St. Joseph was? He was the husband of the Mother of God. Do you wish that I should describe the man? He was Mary's husband – I know of nothing more that I need to say."

How dear St. Joseph was to Mary! He was her consoler, her strength, her friend. St. Bernadine of Siena says that Mary and Joseph "formed but one heart and one soul," and St. Bernard of Clairvaux states: "St. Joseph was chosen

among all men, to be the protector and guardian of the Virgin Mother of God; the defender and foster-father of the Infant-God." Being devoted to Our Lord and Our Lady, surely St. Joseph was the best of men: gentle and cheerful at home, diligent and responsible in his work, kind, patient, helpful and generous towards all.

Fathers of families should look to St. Joseph's example as the foster-father of the Son of God. Married people can turn to him because he is the Spouse of Our Lady; single people can confide in Joseph, most chaste, the Protector of Virgins. All who support themselves and their families may find a pattern in St. Joseph,

the Model of Artisans and Mirror of Patience, who spent his whole life working as a carpenter. He is an example for the rich because he was the rightful heir of the throne of King David and because he took care of the most priceless Treasure – the Divine Infant Jesus. He's an example for the poor because he willingly subjected himself to poverty and want for the love of his foster-Son. In sufferings, difficulties and decisions, St. Joseph, most prudent and most strong, gives us light and courage to do God's will. Realizing the virtues and qualities of St. Joseph, we should be motivated to become more like him in our own daily lives – prayerful, hardworking, charitable, joyful.



The Sisters and students of St. Anne's Academy in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, honor St. Joseph and St. Patrick by an annual parade on the school grounds.

Devotion to St. Joseph

St. Teresa of Avila exclaimed, "Would that I could persuade all men to be devoted to this glorious Saint, for I know by long experience what blessings he can obtain for us from God." We too can attest to the intercessory power of St. Joseph. Every day we pray to him and thank him for his unfailing help in our spiritual and material concerns, and he has truly shown his care for us and our Congregation. I encourage you also to be as devoted as possible to St. Joseph, confiding in his goodness and power. May the watchful Guardian of the Holy Family defend and assist you in all your needs. Following his example and strengthened by his help, may we live a holy life, die a happy death and attain to everlasting bliss with Jesus, Mary and Joseph in Heaven.



In the Sacred Heart,

Mother Mary Bosco, F.M.

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Building Update

Thanks to some warmer weather, the work on the foundation walls of our new building is progressing rapidly. The men are beginning the elevator shafts and stair towers in preparation for the steel framing.