

## Novena to St. Joseph, Patron and Guardian of the Universal Church

*To commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Joseph being solemnly declared Patron of the Catholic Church by Pope Pius IX, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, has declared 2021 shall be a Year of St. Joseph.*

*All gather around a lit candle to begin the prayer with the sign of the cross. One person serves as the leader, and different people can take turns on different nights of the Novena. If there is only one person, that person can pray all parts out loud.*

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** **Amen.**

**Leader:** Let us continue our prayer to St. Joseph for his guidance and protection.

**All:** Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself as a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

**Scripture** *One person reads the assigned scripture passage from the attached page.*

**Leader:** Let us pray the Litany of St. Joseph.

Leader

Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, hear us.

All

Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, graciously hear us.

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

have mercy on us.  
have mercy on us.  
have mercy on us.  
have mercy on us.

Holy Mary,  
St. Joseph,  
Illustrious son of David,

pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

Light of patriarchs,  
Spouse of the Mother of God,  
Chaste guardian of the Virgin,  
Foster father of the Son of God,  
Watchful defender of Christ,  
Head of the Holy Family,

pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

Joseph most just,  
Joseph most chaste,  
Joseph most prudent,  
Joseph most valiant,  
Joseph most obedient,  
Joseph most faithful,  
Mirror of patience,  
Lover of poverty,  
Model of workmen,  
Glory of home life,  
Guardian of virgins,  
Pillar of families,  
Solace of the afflicted,  
Hope of the sick,  
Patron of the dying,  
Terror of demons,  
Protector of Holy Church,

pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
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pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world, Spare us, O Lord!  
Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world, Graciously hear us, O Lord!  
Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world, Have mercy on us!

**Leader:** All fatherhood in heaven and on earth has its origin in God.  
Let us pray, then, to God the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

**All:** **Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

**Leader:** Let us pray.

Father, you entrusted our Savior to the care of St. Joseph.  
By the help of his prayers,  
may your Church continue to serve its Lord, Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever.

**All:** **Amen.**

*All sing the closing hymn. A video recording of the closing hymn is available on our parish webpage at [www.saintmichaelchurch.net](http://www.saintmichaelchurch.net).*

## Assigned Scripture for Each Day

### Day 1 The Genealogy

As the solemnity of St. Joseph approaches, we recall God's divine plan, which foresaw and led to the person of St. Joseph.

"Jacob became the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Messiah." (Matthew 1:16)

Leader: Praise the Lord, for he is good;

**All: for his mercy endures forever.**

### Day 2 The Betrothal

As the solemnity of St. Joseph approaches, we recall St. Joseph's vocation as husband of Mary, in which he receives and reveres Mary as God's gift.

"The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary." (Luke 1:26-27)

Leader: Magnify the Lord with me;

**All: and let us exalt his name together.**

### Day 3 The Annunciation to Joseph

As the solemnity of St. Joseph approaches, we recall St. Joseph's obedience to the angel.

"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." (Matthew 1:24)

Leader: I delight to do your will, my God;

**All: your law is in my inner being!**

### Day 4 The Nativity

As the solemnity of St. Joseph approaches, we recall the birth of Our Savior, whom Joseph and Mary are the first to adore.

"So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child." Luke 2:16-17)

Leader: The Lord has made his victory known;

**All: has revealed his triumph in the sight of the nations.**

### Day 5 The Naming

As the solemnity of St. Joseph approaches, we recall the service of authority which St. Joseph carries out in the Holy Family.

“When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.” (Luke 2:21)

Leader: You have given him rule over the works of your hands,  
All: **put all things at his feet.**

### Day 6 The Presentation

As the solemnity of St. Joseph approaches, we recall the worship that St. Joseph and Our Lady offer God in the temple.

“When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord and to offer the sacrifice.” (Luke 2:22, 24)

Leader: My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the Lord.  
All: **My heart and flesh cry out for the living God.**

### Day 7 The Flight to Egypt

As the solemnity of St. Joseph approaches, we recall the flight to Egypt, in which St. Joseph spares nothing to defend Christ and Our Lady.

“Joseph rose and took the child and his moth by night and departed for Egypt.” (Matthew 2:14)

Leader: I have chosen David, my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed him.  
All: **My hand will be with him; my arm will make him strong.**

### Day 8 Finding Jesus in the Temple

As the solemnity of St. Joseph approaches, we recall the faithfulness of St. Joseph and Mary in the midst of confusion.

“But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.” (Luke 2:50-51)

Leader: Make known to me your ways, Lord;  
All: **teach me your paths.**

### Day 9 The Death of St. Joseph

On today’s solemnity of St. Joseph, we recall St. Joseph’s joyful acceptance of death in God’s time.

“The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them.” (Wisdom 3:1-3)

Leader: You will show me the path to life,  
All: **the delights at your right hand forever.**

## Closing Hymn



1. Look down to us, Saint Jo - seph, Pro - tect - or of Our Lord,  
2. We ven - er - ate your just - ice, The gos - pels praise your name,



Who fol - lowed you through des - erts, And gave you blessed re - ward;  
You are the saint all hum - ble, Who gained e - ter - nal fame;



Our foes are yet a - bout us, Be strength now at our side,  
In your de - vot - ed fam - 'ly Our souls in trust con - fide,



Be light a - gainst the dark - ness. Saint Jo - seph, be our guide!  
Dir - ect our way to heav - en. Saint Jo - seph, be our guide!

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Tune: ST. THEODULPH, 7 6 7 6 D; Melchior Teschner, 1584-1635