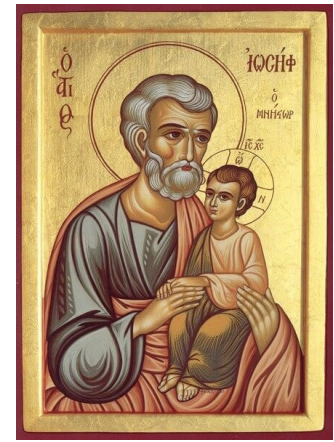


Novena to St. Joseph



NOVENA OPENING PRAYER:

to be said at the beginning of each day's devotion

Saint Joseph, I, your unworthy child, greet you.
You are the faithful protector and intercessor
of all who love and venerate you.
You know that I have special confidence in you
and that, after Jesus and Mary,
I place all my hope of salvation in you,
for you are especially powerful with God
and will never abandon your faithful servants.

Therefore I humbly invoke you and commend myself,
with all who are dear to me
and all that belong to me, to your intercession.
I beg of you, by your love for Jesus and Mary,
not to abandon me during life
and to assist me at the hour of my death.
Glorious Saint Joseph,
spouse of the Immaculate Virgin,
obtain for me a pure, humble, charitable mind,
and perfect resignation to the divine Will.
Be my guide, my father, and my model through life
that I may merit to die as you did
in the arms of Jesus and Mary.

Loving Saint Joseph, faithful follower of Jesus Christ,
I raise my heart to you
to implore your powerful intercession in
obtaining from the Divine Heart of Jesus
all the graces necessary for my spiritual
and temporal welfare,
particularly the grace of a happy death,
and the special grace I now implore:

(Mention your request).

Guardian of the Word Incarnate,
I feel confident that your prayers
on my behalf will be graciously heard
before the throne of God.
Amen.

NOVENA CONCLUDING PRAYER

to be said at the end of each day's devotion

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.

DAY 1: ST JOSEPH AS FOSTER-FATHER

A. Novena Opening Prayer

B. Saint Joseph,

I thank God for your privilege of having been chosen
by God to be the foster-father of His Divine Son.
As a token of your own gratitude to God
for this your greatest privilege,
obtain for me the grace of a very devoted love
for Jesus Christ, my God and my Savior.
Help me to serve Him
with some of the self-sacrificing love
and devotion
which you had while on this earth with Him.
Grant that through your intercession with Jesus,
your foster-Son,
I may reach the degree of holiness
God has destined for me, and save my soul.

C. Novena Concluding Prayer

DAY 2: ST JOSEPH AS HUSBAND OF MARY

A. Novena Opening Prayer

B. Saint Joseph,

I thank God for your privilege
of being the virginal husband of Mary.
As a token of your own gratitude to God,
obtain for me the grace to love Jesus
with all my heart, as you did,
and love Mary with some of the tenderness
and loyalty with which you loved her.

C. Novena Concluding Prayer

DAY 3: ST JOSEPH, SPECIALLY CHOSEN BY GOD

A. Novena Opening Prayer

B. Saint Joseph,

I thank God for having made you the man
specially chosen by Him.
As a token of your own gratitude to God,
obtain for me the grace to imitate your virtues
so that I too may be pleasing to the Heart of God.
Help me to give myself entirely to His service
and to the accomplishment of His Holy Will,
that one day I may reach heaven
and be eternally united to God as you are.

C. Novena Concluding Prayer

DAY 4: ST JOSEPH, GOD'S FAITHFUL SERVANT

A. Novena Opening Prayer

B. Saint Joseph,

I thank God for your privilege
of being God's faithful servant.
As a token of your own gratitude to God,
obtain for me the grace
to be a faithful servant of God as you were.
Help me to share, as you did,
the perfect obedience of Jesus,
who came not to do His Will,
but the Will of His Father;
to trust in the Providence of God,
knowing that if I do His Will,
He will provide for all my needs
of soul and body;
to be calm in my trials
and to leave it to our Lord
to free me from them
when it pleases Him to do so.
And help me to imitate your generosity,
for there can be no greater reward here on earth
than the joy and honor
of being a faithful servant of God.

C. Novena Concluding Prayer

DAY 5: ST JOSEPH, PATRON OF THE CHURCH

A. Novena Opening Prayer

B. Saint Joseph,

I thank God for your privilege
of being the Patron of the Church.
As a token of your own gratitude to God,
obtain for me the grace
to live always as a worthy member of this
Church,
so that through it I may save my soul.
Bless the priests, the religious,
and the laity of the Catholic Church,
that they may ever grow in God's love
and faithfulness in His service.
Protect the Church from the evils of our day
and from the persecution of her enemies.
Through your powerful intercession
may the church successfully accomplish
its mission in this world—
the glory of God and the salvation of souls!

C. Novena Concluding Prayer

DAY 6: ST JOSEPH, HEAD OF THE HOLY FAMILY

A. Novena Opening Prayer

B. Saint Joseph,

I thank God for your privilege
of living in the Holy Family and being its head.
As a token of your own gratitude to God,
obtain God's blessing upon my own family.
Make our home the kingdom of Jesus and Mary—
a kingdom of peace, of joy, and love.

C. Novena Concluding Prayer

DAY 7: ST JOSEPH, CARPENTER

A. Novena Opening Prayer

B. Saint Joseph,

I thank God for your privilege
of being able to work side by side with Jesus
in the carpenter shop of Nazareth.
As a token of your own gratitude to God,
obtain for me the grace
to respect the dignity of labor
and ever to be content with the position in life,
however lowly,
in which it may please Divine Providence
to place me.
Teach me to work for God and with God
in the spirit of humility and prayer,
as you did,
so that I may offer my toil in union
with the sacrifice of Jesus in the Mass
as a reparation for my sins,
and gain rich merit for heaven.

C. Novena Concluding Prayer

DAY 8: ST JOSEPH, EXAMPLE OF SUFFERING

A. Novena Opening Prayer

B. Saint Joseph,

I thank God for your privilege
of being able to suffer for Jesus and Mary.
As a token of your own gratitude to God,
obtain for me the grace
to bear my suffering patiently
for love of Jesus and Mary.
Grant that I may unite the sufferings,
works and disappointments of life
with the sacrifice of Jesus in the Mass,
and share like you in Mary's spirit of sacrifice.

C. Novena Concluding Prayer

DAY 9: ST JOSEPH, PATRON OF A HAPPY DEATH

A. Novena Opening Prayer

B. Saint Joseph,

I thank God for your privilege
of being able to die in the arms of Jesus and Mary.
As a token of your own gratitude to God,
obtain for me the grace of a happy death.
Help me to spend each day in preparation for death.
May I, too, accept death
in the spirit of resignation to God's Holy Will,
and die, as you did,
in the arms of Jesus,
strengthened by Holy Viaticum,
and in the arms of Mary,
with her rosary in my hand
and her name on my lips!

C. Novena Concluding Prayer

St. Joseph, Pray for us!