

# YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS TIME

### December 27, 2020 (Sunday) · Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

- † Coverage of Masses and content from Homilies
- † Message from Bishop Burbidge (video or text) to highlight Christians suffering from persecution
  - nb. decree *Commemorantur hodie* connects Holy Family's flight to Egypt with prayer intention for persecuted Church *ad intra* and *ad extra* and for relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution [plenary indulgence for those who offer this intention while praying the Litany of St Joseph]
- † Encourage praying Litany of St Joseph with intentions noted above [plenary indulgence attached]

## ORDINARY TIME (I)

(no time-specific recommendations · see “Additional Considerations” below)

## LENT

### February 17 - April 1, 2021 · Lent

- † Spiritual & Corporal Works of Mercy: plenary indulgence attached to performing a spiritual or corporal work of mercy following example of St Joseph
  - USCCB already has excellent materials on Spiritual & Corporal Works of Mercy that might be adapted to focus on following example of St Joseph

### March 2021 · Customary Month for Commemorating St Joseph

### **March 6 & 13, 2021 (Saturdays) · Men's Conference and Women's Conference**

- † Check into possibilities that might still be available to include a meditation on St Joseph as part of the Men's Conference & Women's Conference
  - nb. may not meet the requirement of the indulgence attached to a retreat "of at least one day," but could still be valuable to include meditation on St Joseph

### **March 19, 2021 (Friday) · Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

- † Coverage of Masses and content from Homilies
- † Encourage 33-day Consecration to St Joseph that ends on this day (begin work of consecration on Feb 16)

## **EASTER TIME**

### **May 1, 2021 (Saturday) · Memorial of Saint Joseph the Worker**

- † Coverage of Masses and content from Homilies
- † Highlight work of CCDA in helping the unemployed find work and develop skills for those who need help finding more sustaining work [plenary indulgence for those who entrust daily activity to protection of St Joseph and invoke the intercession of St Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying work]
- † Encourage 33-day Consecration to St Joseph that ends on this day (begin work of consecration on Mar 30)

## **ORDINARY TIME (II)**

### **June 20, 2021 (Sunday) · Father's Day**

- † Coverage of Masses and content from Homilies
- † In podcasts and/or articles, highlight fathers who have a special devotion to St Joseph / have consecrated themselves to St Joseph
- † Encourage 33-day Consecration to St Joseph that ends on this day (begin work of consecration on May 19)

**August 21, 2021 (Saturday) · Commemoration of Our Lady of Knock**

- † Encourage 33-day Consecration to St Joseph that ends on this day (begin work of consecration on Jul 20)

**November 1, 2021 (Monday) · Solemnity of All Saints**

- † Encourage 33-day Consecration to St Joseph that ends on this day (begin work of consecration on Sep 30)

**ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

*for use/promotion at any time during the year*

**Prayer & Works**

- † Our Father: plenary indulgence attached to 30-minute meditation on Our Father
- † Retreats: plenary indulgence attached to spiritual retreats “of at least one day” that include meditation on St. Joseph (check into options available through San Damiano; Men’s & Women’s Conferences noted above in section on Lent)
- † Spiritual & Corporal Works of Mercy: plenary indulgence attached to performing a spiritual or corporal work of mercy following example of St Joseph (special attention during Lent)
  - USCCB already has excellent materials on Spiritual & Corporal Works of Mercy that might be adapted to focus on following example of St Joseph
- † Rosary: plenary indulgence attached to praying of the Rosary as an engaged couple and as a family
- † Entrustment to & Intercession of St Joseph: plenary indulgence attached to entrusting daily activity to protection of St Joseph and invoking his intercession so that those seeking work can find dignifying work (special attention on May 1, Memorial of St Joseph the Worker)
- † Litany of St Joseph: plenary indulgence attached to praying of Litany of St Joseph with the intentions for the persecuted Church *ad intra* and *ad extra* and for relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution (special attention on Dec 27, Feast of the Holy Family)

- † Other Prayers & Devotions: plenary indulgence attached to reciting any legitimately approved prayer (such as that of Leo XIII in *Quamquam Pluries*) or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph on the Feast of the Holy Family, on March 19th, on May 1st, on the 19th of each month and every Wednesday.
- † Consecration to St Joseph:
  - promoted through pastors
  - accompanied by an article (by Fr. Saunders?) explaining what a consecration to St Joseph is/means
  - Consecration is a 33-day work and could be recommended for the following (as noted in the liturgical year sections above):
    - Feb 16 – Mar 19, 2021 (ending on Solemnity of St Joseph)
    - Mar 30 – May 1, 2021 (ending on Memorial of St Joseph the Worker)
    - May 19 – Jun 20, 2021 (ending on Father’s Day)
    - Jul 20 – Aug 21, 2021 (ending on commemoration of Our Lady of Knock)
    - Sep 30 – Nov 1, 2021 (ending on Solemnity of All Saints)
- † Homilies: encourage homilies on St Joseph’s witness
- † Wednesdays: customary day of commemoration of St Joseph; Votive Mass of St Joseph (when permitted)
- † March: customary month of commemoration

## **Communications & Catechesis**

- † Podcasts + Articles: Highlight ordinary people, especially ordinary men/fathers with a devotion to St Joseph and/or who have consecrated themselves to St Joseph (special attention to fathers on June 20, Father’s Day)
  - rationale: Francis wants us to notice the “ordinary” people who have been critical throughout the pandemic, after the example of St Joseph: “‘The man that goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence,’ who nonetheless played ‘an incomparable role in the history of salvation.’”
- † Podcasts + Articles: Highlight men’s groups in the area with devotion to St Joseph
- † SFM Podcast: Interview priest/s with devotion to St Joseph

† Parish Profiles: St Joseph in Alexandria + St Joseph in Herndon

### **Additional Note**

- † The Diocese of Charlotte just completed a Year of St Joseph (<http://yearofstjoseph.org>) and have various ideas that can be an inspiration for our own activities, resources, etc., including:
- list of prayers/devotions,
  - list of saints with devotion to St Joseph,
  - intra-diocesan pilgrimages,
  - monthly themes (e.g., Joseph Most Chaste),
  - explanation of famous artwork depicting St Joseph,
  - speakers / speaker topics (e.g., Dr. Mark Miravalle)



# Year of Saint Joseph

12 · 08 · 2020 - 12 · 08 · 2021

- To increase our love for this great saint ·
- To encourage us to implore his intercession ·
- To imitate his virtues and his zeal ·

*cf. POPE FRANCIS *Patris Corde**

## Saint Joseph *during the Year*

- † Dec 27, 2020 · Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
- † March 2021 · Saint Joseph is customarily honored during the month of March
- † Mar 19, 2021 · Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- † May 1, 2021 · Memorial of Saint Joseph the Worker
- † June 20, 2021 · Father's Day
- † August 21, 2021 · Our Lady of Knock
- † November 1, 2021 · Solemnity of All Saints

In addition to the dates listed above, Saint Joseph is traditionally honored on Wednesdays. He is also fittingly honored on the 19<sup>th</sup> of each month during the Year of Saint Joseph.

## Selected Spiritual Readings

- † [Matthew 1-2](#)
- † [Luke 1-2](#)
- † St Bernardine of Siena · Sermo 2, de S. Joseph  
Hours, Office of Readings, Solemnity of Saint Joseph, vol. 2, pp. 1721-1723
- † Leo XIII · Encyclical Letter [Quamquam Pluries](#)
- † Saint Paul VI · Address 'Nazareth', 5 Jan 1964  
Hours, Office of Readings, Feast of the Holy Family, vol. 1, pp. 426-428
- † Saint John Paul II · Apostolic Exhortation [Redemptoris Custos](#)
- † Pope Francis · [Homily for the Mass for the Beginning of the Petrine Ministry](#), 19 Mar 2013
- † Pope Francis · Apostolic Letter [Patris Corde](#)



# 2020 · Year of Saint Joseph · 2021

## Plenary Indulgences

A plenary indulgence (the remission of temporal punishment due to sin) is granted to the faithful who, with a spirit detached from any sin, fulfill the usual conditions of sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions and who, during the Year of Saint Joseph...

- † Meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer, or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph.
- † Following St. Joseph's example, perform a spiritual work of mercy or corporal work of mercy.
- † Recite the Holy Rosary as a family or as an engaged couple.
- † Entrust your daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph and invoke the intercession of St. Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying work.
- † Recite the Litany to St. Joseph for the persecuted Church *ad intra* and *ad extra* and for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution.
- † Recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph on the Feast of the Holy Family, on March 19th, on May 1st, on the 19th of each month and every Wednesday.

### For the Sick, Hospitalized, and Homebound

Amid the ongoing Covid-19 health crisis, the gift of the plenary indulgence is also extended to the sick, the elderly, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave their homes. They too can obtain the plenary indulgences if they are detached from any sin and have the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions and recite an act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, offering to God the pains and hardships of their lives.

## Litany of Saint Joseph

Lord, have mercy	R/. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy	R/. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy	R/. Lord, have mercy.
God our Father in heaven	R/. Have mercy on us.
God the Son, Redeemer of the world	R/. Have mercy on us.
God the Holy Spirit	R/. Have mercy on us.
Holy Trinity, one God	R/. Have mercy on us.
Holy Mary	R/. Pray for us.
Saint Joseph	R/. Pray for us.
Noble son of the House of David	R/. Pray for us.
Light of patriarchs	R/. Pray for us.
Husband of the Mother of God	R/. Pray for us.
Guardian of the Virgin	R/. Pray for us.
Foster father of the Son of God	R/. Pray for us.
Faithful guardian of Christ	R/. Pray for us.
Head of the holy family	R/. Pray for us.
Joseph, chaste and just	R/. Pray for us.
Joseph, prudent and brave	R/. Pray for us.
Joseph, obedient and loyal	R/. Pray for us.
Pattern of patience	R/. Pray for us.
Lover of poverty	R/. Pray for us.
Model of workers	R/. Pray for us.
Example to parents	R/. Pray for us.
Guardian of virgins	R/. Pray for us.
Pillar of family life	R/. Pray for us.
Comfort of the troubled	R/. Pray for us.
Hope of the sick	R/. Pray for us.
Patron of the dying	R/. Pray for us.
Terror of evil spirits	R/. Pray for us.
Protector of the Church	R/. Pray for us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world  
R/. Spare us O Lord.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world  
R/. Hear us O Lord.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world  
R/. Have mercy on us.

Let us pray. God, in your infinite wisdom and love you chose Joseph to be the husband of Mary, the mother of your Son. May we have the help of his prayers in heaven and enjoy his protection on earth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.