



SAINT JOSEPH

PRAYER BOOK

V. He made him the lord of his household;
R. And prince over all his possessions.

—Psalm 105:21



SAINT JOSEPH
FOSTER FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
MOST CHASTE SPOUSE OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



SAINT JOSEPH PRAYER BOOK

Compiled from Traditional Sources

“ITE AD JOSEPH.”

“Go to Joseph.”

(Genesis 41:55)

TAN Books
Gastonia, North Carolina

Nihil Obstat: Reverend Matthew Kauth, STD
Censor Deputatus

Imprimatur: Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, JCD
Bishop of Charlotte
January 1, 2020
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

The Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur are official declarations that a book or pamphlet is free from doctrinal or moral error. No implication is contained therein that those who have granted the Nihil Obstat or Imprimatur agree with the contents, opinions or statements expressed.

Copyright © 2020 by TAN Books. This copyright covers this particular arrangement of existing material, plus any revisions of existing material and any other new material included herein.

Cover illustration and design by Caroline Green. Photo on page 73 copyright Daprato Statuary Co.

Library of Congress Catalog Card No.: 91-65847

ISBN: 978-1-5051-1679-3

This booklet was published in large part through the help of Ed Desloge.

Published in the United States by

TAN Books

PO Box 269

Gastonia, NC 28053

www.TANBooks.com

Printed in the United States of America

GO TO JOSEPH!

“Of old it was said to the needy and suffering people in the kingdom of Egypt: ‘Go to Joseph, and do all that he shall say to you.’ (Gen. 41:55).

“The same is now said by the Sovereign Pontiff to all needy and suffering people in the kingdom of the Church: GO TO JOSEPH. . . .

“What was truly said of the first Joseph, as to his future, and as to his goodness, his chastity, his patience, his wisdom, his influence with the king, his power over the people, and his love for his brethren, is verified much more perfectly, even to this day, in the second JOSEPH.”

—Herbert Cardinal Vaughan
Archbishop of Westminster

CONTENTS

Foreword	5
Prayer to St. Joseph by Pope Leo XIII	7
Litany of St. Joseph	9
Novena to St. Joseph	11
Memorare to St. Joseph	12
The Testimony of St. Teresa	13
Another Memorare to St. Joseph	13
Prayer to Obtain a Special Favor	14
Words of St. Thomas Aquinas	15
St. Teresa's "Guarantee"	15
Thirty Days' Prayer to St. Joseph	16
Prayer for Purity	19
St. Teresa's Plea	19
Prayer to St. Joseph the Workman	20
Words of St. Teresa of Avila	21
A Powerful Novena to St. Joseph	21
How to Make This Novena	22
Prayer Which May Be Said at the Conclusion of the Visits	23
Words of Our Lady to Ven. Mary of Agreda	24
Prayer to Obtain a Conversion	25
To Thee, O Blessed Joseph	26
The Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys of St. Joseph	27
The Devotion of the Seven Sundays	28
Prayers in Honor of the Seven Sorrows and Joys of St. Joseph	30
Prayer and Promise to St. Joseph	34

Prayer in a Difficult Problem	36
An Ancient Prayer to St. Joseph	37
What Must I Do?	38
Feasts of St. Joseph	38
A 16th-Century Prophecy	39
Prayer for the Church Militant	40
St. Joseph at Fatima	41
Prayer for a Person Who Has a Laborious Occupation . .	42
Petitions for St. Joseph's Blessing	43
St. Joseph's Patronage	43
Prayer of May 1st	44
Prayer of St. Clement Mary Hofbauer	45
A Prayer to St. Joseph for the Success of a Temporal Affair	45
Prayer of Confidence	46
Thanking God for His Gifts to Others	48
A Prayer to St. Joseph to Know One's Vocation in Life . .	48
Praises of St. Joseph	49
Invocations to St. Joseph	52
The Fatherhood of St. Joseph	54
A Prayer of Parents to the Holy Family	54
Prayer for a Lively Faith	56
Seven Our Fathers	56
A Morning Offering Through St. Joseph	57
Words of Pope Leo XIII	58
Prayer for Priests	59
Prayer of Confidence in St. Joseph	60
Daily Prayer for Protection	61
The Old Testament Joseph	62

The Two Josephs.	63
Triduum for the Gaining of Some Special Grace—	
The “Go to Joseph” Prayer—	64
A Father to the Poor	66
St. Joseph’s Liberality	67
Novena in Special Necessities	68
Petition for St. Joseph’s Blessing	69
Offering.	70
Act of Consecration to St. Joseph.	70
St. Joseph’s Virtues.	71
Another Act of Consecration to St. Joseph	72
Petition and Offering to St. Joseph.	73
The Vision of St. Gertrude	74
An Act of Offering to Our Patriarch St. Joseph	75
Patron of a Happy Death.	76
Prayer for a Happy Death	77
Another Prayer for a Happy Death	79
The Nine First Wednesdays	79
The Body and Tomb of St. Joseph	80
Prayer for a Good Life and a Happy Death.	81
Words of St. Alphonsus Liguori.	81
Petition for Our Dying Moments	82
Prayer to Jesus, Mary and Joseph for a Happy Death.	83
A Short Prayer for the Dying.	85
Prayer for the Agonizing.	86
Prayer for Souls in the Agony of Death	86
St. Joseph’s Intercession	87
Jesus, Mary and Joseph.	88
Litany to St. Joseph for a Dying Person	88

Pious Invocations	90
Prayer for a Heavenly Crown	92
Prayer Before Mass and Holy Communion	92
The Chaplet of St. Joseph	94
The Cord of St. Joseph	95
A Catholic Custom	96
Our Father	97
Hail Mary	98
Glory Be	98
Blessing of St. Joseph	98
Blessing of St. Joseph	99
Great St. Joseph, Son of David	100
Salve Pater Salvatoris	101

FOREWORD

On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis, with his Apostolic Letter *Patris corde* (“With a Father’s Heart”), in honor of the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church, proclaimed 2021 as the “Year of Saint Joseph.” Such a declaration could not have come at a better time in the life of the Church. Now more than ever, as the Christian family is divided and assaulted daily by the devil and by the world, we need Joseph’s fatherly protection and guidance.

Saint Joseph is a model of holiness for each and every member of the Church, as Pope Saint John Paul II reminded us in his apostolic exhortation, *Redemptoris Custos*: “Besides trusting in Joseph’s sure protection, the Church also trusts in his noble example, which transcends all individual states of life and serves as a model for the entire Christian community, whatever the condition and duties of each of its members may be.”

This Saint Joseph Prayer Book contains spiritual treasures from the Church's venerable tradition of devotion to Saint Joseph. May they help you, dear reader, grow in holiness, and deepen your devotion to the man who, along with the Blessed Virgin Mary, took care of the Christ Child.

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Mother of God and Foster Father of the Son of God, pray for us.

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH BY POPE LEO XIII

TO YOU, O blessed Joseph,
do we come in our afflictions,
and having implored the help of your most holy
Spouse,
we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you
to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God
and through the paternal love
with which you embraced the Child Jesus,
we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inher-
itance
which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood,
and with your power and strength to aid us in our
necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;
O most loving father, ward off from us
every contagion of error and corrupting influence;

O our most mighty protector, be kind to us
and from heaven assist us in our struggle
with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly
peril,
so now protect God's Holy Church
from the snares of the enemy and from all adver-
sity;
shield, too, each one of us by your constant pro-
tection,
so that, supported by your example and your aid,
we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness,
and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.
Amen.

LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH

(For public or private use.)

LORD, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

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

Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven,

Have mercy on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Ghost,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, One God,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, pray for us.

St. Joseph, pray for us.

Illustrious son of David, etc.

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,

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,

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!

V. He made him the lord of His household,
R. And prince over all His possessions.

Let Us Pray

O God, Who in Thine ineffable Providence didst vouchsafe to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of Thy most holy Mother, grant, we beseech Thee, that he whom we venerate as our protector on earth may be our intercessor in Heaven. Who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH

O GLORIOUS St. Joseph, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, to thee do we raise our hearts and hands to implore thy powerful intercession in obtaining from the benign Heart of Jesus all the helps and graces necessary for our spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death, and the special favor we now implore (*state your petition*).



O Guardian of the Word Incarnate, we have confidence that thy prayers on our behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God. Amen.

(Then say the following seven times in honor of the seven sorrows and joys of St. Joseph.)

- V. O Glorious St. Joseph! Through thy love for
Jesus Christ and for the glory of His Name,
R. *Hear our prayers and obtain our petitions.*
V. Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
R. Assist us!

MEMORARE TO ST. JOSEPH

REMEMBER, O most pure Spouse of the Virgin Mary, St. Joseph my beloved patron, that never has it been heard that anyone invoked thy patronage and sought thine aid without being comforted. Inspired by this confidence, I come to thee and fervently commend myself to thee. Ah, despise not my petition, dear Foster Father of our Redeemer, but accept it graciously. Amen.

The Testimony of St. Teresa

Words of St. Teresa of Avila

“I took for my patron and lord the glorious St. Joseph, and recommended myself earnestly to him. I saw clearly that both out of this my present trouble, and out of others of greater importance, relating to my honor and the loss of my soul, this my father and lord delivered me, and rendered me greater services than I knew how to ask for. I cannot call to mind that I have ever asked him at any time for anything which he has not granted; and I am filled with amazement when I consider the great favors which God has given me through this blessed Saint; the dangers from which he has delivered me, both of body and of soul.”

—Autobiography, VI, 9

ANOTHER MEMORARE TO ST. JOSEPH

REMEMBER, O most illustrious Patriarch St. Joseph, on the testimony of St. Teresa, thy devoted client, that never has it been heard that anyone invoked thy protection or sought thy mediation who has not obtained relief. In this confidence I come before thee, my loving protector, chaste spouse of Mary, foster father of the Saviour of men

and dispenser of the treasures of His Sacred Heart. Despise not my earnest prayer, but graciously hear and obtain my petition. (*Mention your intention.*)

Let Us Pray

O God, Who in Thine ineffable Providence didst vouchsafe to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of Thy most holy Mother, grant, we beseech Thee, that he whom we venerate as our protector on earth may be our intercessor in Heaven. Who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER TO OBTAIN A SPECIAL FAVOR

O BLESSED Saint Joseph, tenderhearted father, faithful guardian of Jesus, chaste spouse of the Mother of God, we pray and beseech thee to offer to God the Father His divine Son, bathed in blood on the Cross for sinners, and through the thrice-holy Name of Jesus, obtain for us from the Eternal Father the favor we implore. (*Name your request.*)

Appease the Divine anger so justly inflamed by our crimes, beg of Jesus mercy for thy children.

Amid the splendors of eternity, forget not the sorrows of those who suffer, those who pray, those who weep; stay the Almighty arm which smites us, that by thy prayers and those of thy most holy spouse, the Heart of Jesus may be moved to pity and to pardon. Amen. St. Joseph, pray for us.

Words of St. Thomas Aquinas

“Some Saints are privileged to extend to us their patronage with particular efficacy in certain needs, but not in others; but our holy patron St. Joseph has the power to assist us in all cases, in every necessity, in every undertaking.”

St. Teresa’s “Guarantee”

Words of St. Teresa of Avila

“To other Saints Our Lord seems to have given power to succor us in some special necessity—but to this glorious Saint, I know by experience, He has given the power to help us in all. Our Lord would have us understand that as He was subject to St. Joseph on earth—for St. Joseph, bearing the title of father and being His guardian, could command Him—so now in Heaven Our Lord grants all his petitions. I have asked others to recommend themselves to St. Joseph, and they, too, know the same thing by experience . . .”

—Autobiography, VI, 9

THIRTY DAYS' PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

For Any Special Intention

EVER BLESSED and glorious St. Joseph, kind and loving father, and helpful friend of all in sorrow! Thou art the good father and protector of orphans, the defender of the defenseless, the patron of those in need and sorrow. Look kindly on my request. My sins have drawn down on me the just displeasure of my God, and so I am surrounded with unhappiness. To thee, O loving guardian of the Family of Nazareth, do I go for help and protection.

Listen, then, I beg of thee, with fatherly concern, to my earnest prayers, and obtain for me the favor I ask. (*Here make your request.*)

I ask it by the infinite mercy of the Eternal Son of God, which moved Him to take our nature and to be born into this world of sorrow.

I ask it by the weariness and suffering thou didst endure when thou didst find no shelter at the inn of Bethlehem for the Holy Virgin, nor a place where the Son of God could be born. Then, being everywhere refused, thou hadst to allow the Queen of

Heaven to give birth to the world's Redeemer in a cave.

I ask it by the loveliness and power of that sacred Name, Jesus, which thou didst confer on the adorable Infant.

I ask it by that painful torture thou didst feel at the prophecy of holy Simeon, which declared the Child Jesus and His holy Mother future victims of our sins and of their great love for us.

I ask it through thy sorrow and pain of soul when the Angel declared to thee that the life of the Child Jesus was sought by His enemies. From their evil plan thou hadst to flee with Him and His Blessed Mother into Egypt. I ask it by all the suffering, weariness and labors of that long and dangerous journey.

I ask it by all thy care to protect the Sacred Child and His Immaculate Mother during thy second journey, when thou wert ordered to return to thine own country. I ask it by thy peaceful life in Nazareth, where thou didst meet with so many joys and sorrows.

I ask it by thy great distress when the adorable Child was lost to thee and His Mother for three days. I ask it by thy joy at finding Him in the Temple, and by the comfort thou didst find at Nazareth, while living in the company of the Child Jesus. I ask

it by the wonderful submission He showed in His obedience to thee.

I ask it by the perfect love and conformity thou didst show in accepting the Divine order to depart from this life and from the company of Jesus and Mary. I ask it by the joy which filled thy soul when the Redeemer of the world, triumphant over death and Hell, entered into the possession of His kingdom and led thee into it with special honors.

I ask it through Mary's glorious Assumption and through that endless happiness thou hast with her in the presence of God.

O good Father! I beg of thee, by all thy sufferings, sorrows and joys, to hear me and obtain for me what I ask. (*Here mention your petitions or think of them.*)

Obtain for all those who have asked my prayers everything that is useful to them in the plan of God. Finally, my dear Patron and Father, be with me and all who are dear to me in our last moments, that we may eternally sing the praises of

Jesus, Mary and Joseph!

A blameless life, O St. Joseph, may we lead, by thy kind patronage from danger freed. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PURITY

O GUARDIAN of Virgins and holy Father St. Joseph, into whose faithful keeping were entrusted Christ Jesus, Innocence itself, and Mary, Virgin of virgins, I pray and beseech thee by these dear pledges, Jesus and Mary, that, being preserved from all uncleanness, I may with spotless mind, pure heart and chaste body ever serve Jesus and Mary most chastely all the days of my life. Amen.

St. Teresa's Plea

Words of St. Teresa of Avila

“Would that I could persuade all men to be devoted to this glorious Saint [St. Joseph], for I know by long experience what blessings he can obtain for us from God. I have never known anyone who was truly devoted to him and honored him by particular services who did not advance greatly in virtue: for he helps in a special way those souls who commend themselves to him. It is now very many years since I began asking him for something on his feast, and I have always received it. If the petition was in any way amiss, he rectified it for my greater good . . . I ask for the love of God that he who does not believe me will make the trial for himself—then he will find out by experience the great good that results from commending oneself to this glorious Patriarch and in being devoted to him . . .”

—Autobiography, VI, 11-12