



Fraternity of Fatherhood

A Spiritual Fraternity for All Men

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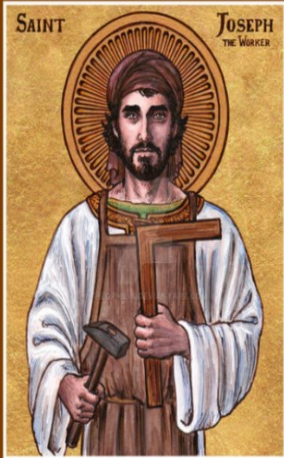
Put A Little St. Joseph in Your Life **Joseph Smock**

When Mike Allison asked me to write a short article about how I have put Saint Joseph in my spiritual life, I thought great timing but.... why me?

The great timing is a no brainer. Just over 2 months ago on the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of Saint Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church, Pope Francis wrote the apostolic letter – Patris Corde (“With a Father’s Heart”) – and dedicated this year to Saint Joseph. Of course, March is the month of Saint Joseph and the Solemnity of Saint Joseph is March 19.

I am humbled by Mike’s request. Indeed, Saint Joseph is huge in my life – especially in the last few years. My wife, Lisa, and I became members of St. Joseph Marelo parish 15 years ago. It was there that we came to love the priests who served at that parish – the Oblates of St. Joseph. I suspect you have heard of Fr. Matthew Spencer who hosts “St. Joseph’s Workshop” on Relevant Radio. Fr. Matthew is one of the Oblates of St. Joseph and his fellow priests in the order are also amazing – as priests, homilists and servants of St. Joseph. Indeed, the Oblates of St. Joseph are “dedicated to serving Jesus in imitation of St. Joseph”.

In order to support the Oblates of St. Joseph and their mission (and after a good deal of prayer), I decided to co-found a winery, Mount Saint Joseph Wines, and plant a vineyard on the seminary property of the Oblates in Loomis – Mount St. Joseph. Our idea was to beautify the Mount with a vineyard (continued page 2)



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

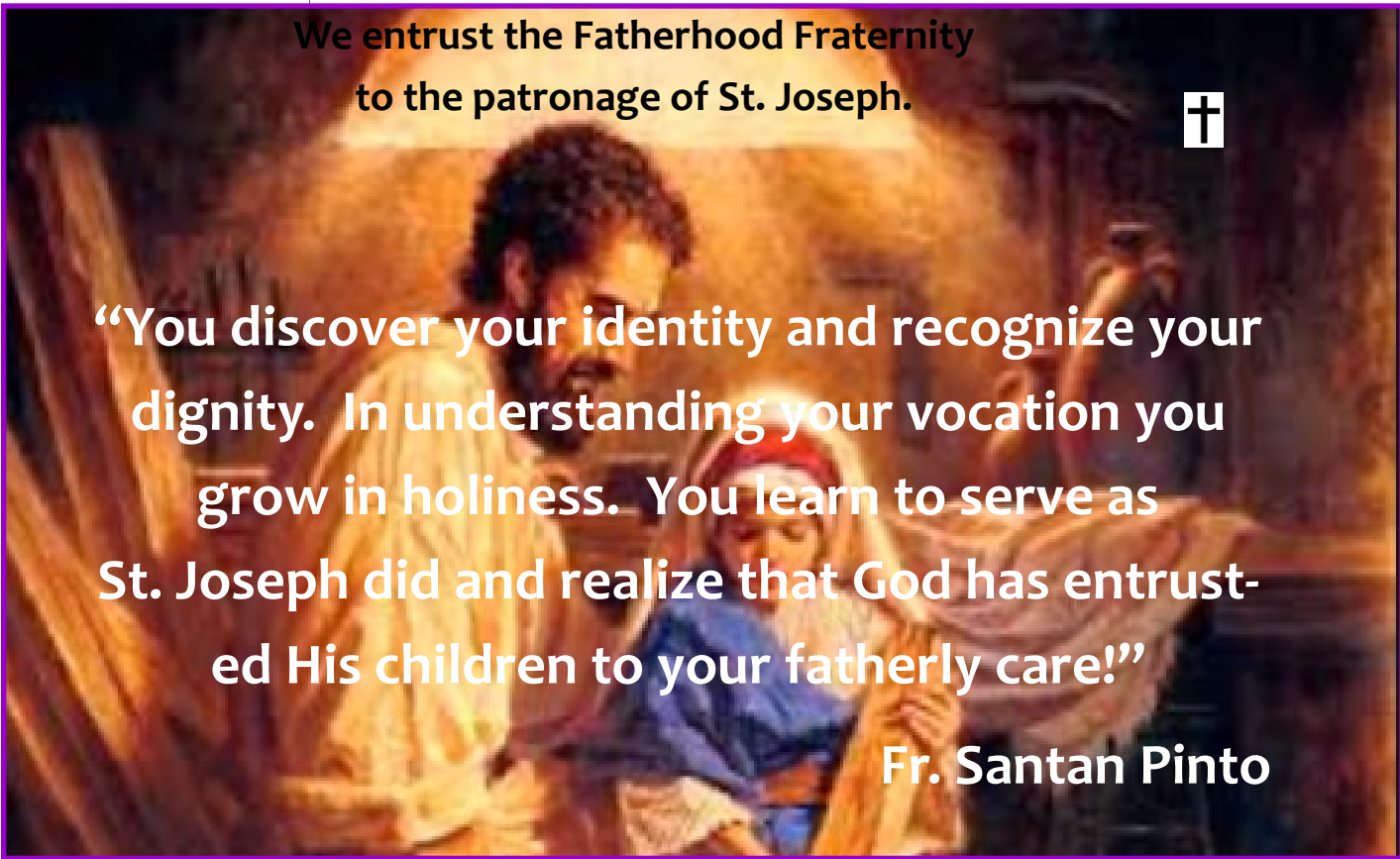
DEC 8, 2020—DEC 8, 2021

**We entrust the Fatherhood Fraternity
to the patronage of St. Joseph.**



**“You discover your identity and recognize your
dignity. In understanding your vocation you
grow in holiness. You learn to serve as
St. Joseph did and realize that God has entrusted
His children to your fatherly care!”**

Fr. Santan Pinto

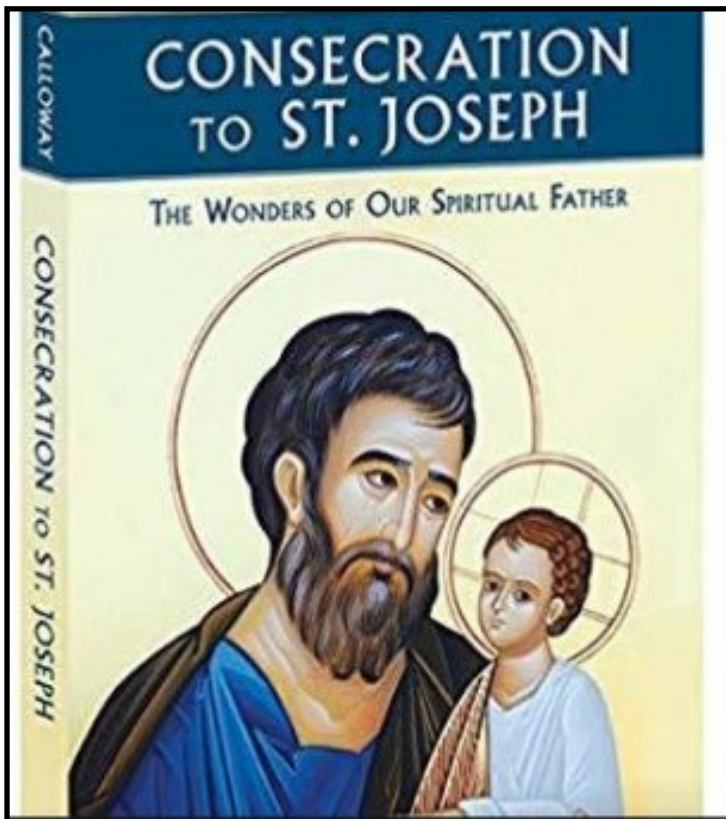


continued ... Put A Little St. Joseph in Your Life

and financially support the Oblates with lease payments on their property for twenty years. Mount Saint Joseph Wines partnership with the Oblates has been a blessing. I like to think that St. Joseph the Worker looks down on us lovingly as we work his vineyard to produce "the fruit of the vine". Our wine labels feature a cross, Saint Joseph and the founder of the Oblates, St. Joseph Marello. I like to think that we are putting Saint Joseph in many homes and on many tables that may not otherwise have him!

While I admire Saint Joseph the Worker, it is Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary and Virginal Father of Jesus, that provides me inspiration and a true role model. Nothing is more important to me than faithfully serving as husband to my wife Lisa and father to my adult children Elizabeth, Matthew and Andrew. I pray always that I can be more like Saint Joseph as husband and father.

Last year as we suffered through the COVID pandemic, the civil unrest and the horrible fires, Lisa and I contemplated a home sale and move to get closer to our daughter Elizabeth who has metastatic breast cancer. It was a big decision to leave our parish and friends – we didn't want to make the decision out of emotion or the fear and anxiety stemming from the year's events. I was given a book –



Consecration to St. Joseph, The Wonders of our Spiritual Father – by Fr. Donald Calloway by my daughter, Elizabeth. Talk about perfect timing!

I won't go into all the details, but it is 33 Day Preparation that, on Day 33, culminates in consecration to Saint Joseph. As I completed the daily readings and prayers (including the beautiful Litany of St. Joseph each day), I became stronger and stronger in conviction that Saint Joseph was my role model. Jesus wanted me to think and act as husband and father just as Saint Joseph did for Him and for Mary. Shortly after I completed my consecration to Saint Joseph, my wife Lisa did the same thing. With both of us now consecrated to Saint Joseph, we discerned that our move was the right decision for our family.

Pope Francis is so right. Our world desperately needs St. Joseph right now. Our world hungers for men who are loving, obedient, accepting, courageous and humble. I encourage you to pray to Saint Joseph for his intercession to protect marriage and family and, maybe even consecrate yourself to Saint Joseph. It will be 33 days that move you and your family closer to our Lord!

CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH

consecrationtostjoseph.org

What does it mean to consecrate yourself to St. Joseph?

What does it mean for a person to be consecrated to St. Joseph? Well, it basically means that you acknowledge that he is your spiritual father, and you want to be like him. To show it, you entrust yourself entirely into his paternal care so that he can help you acquire his virtues and become holy. Total consecration to St. Joseph means you make a formal act of filial entrustment to your spiritual father so that he can take care of your spiritual well-being and lead you to God. The person who consecrates himself to St. Joseph wants to be as close to their spiritual father as possible, to the point of resembling him in virtue and holiness. Saint Joseph, in turn, will give those consecrated to him his undivided attention, protection, and guidance.

If you have already consecrated yourself to the Virgin Mary, can you be consecrated to St. Joseph, as well?

The answer is a resounding "Yes!" God desires that all children be committed to the care of a mother and a father. You are not a member of a single-parent spiritual family. Mary is your spiritual mother, and St. Joseph is your spiritual father. The spiritual fatherhood of St. Joseph is extremely important for your spiritual growth. Total consecration to Mary is not diminished by total consecration to St. Joseph. Mary wants you to consecrate yourself to St. Joseph! Jesus wants you to consecrate yourself to St. Joseph! Everything you have given to Jesus and Mary can also be given to St. Joseph. The hearts of Jesus, Mary, and St. Joseph are one.

Program Overview

Consecration to St. Joseph emulates the tried-and-true preparation method employed by St. Louis de Montfort in his Marian consecration, highlighting many of St. Joseph's titles, privileges, and heroic virtues.

The program of preparation and consecration takes 33 days. It can be undertaken on your own or in a group.

Choose a consecration date. It's recommended to choose a day that coincides with a liturgical feast of St. Joseph. Your consecration date is day 33 of the program.

You'll spend about 20-30 minutes a day on a short exposition on one of the invocations in the powerful Litany of St. Joseph, followed by a reading on St. Joseph, concluding with the recitation of the Litany of St. Joseph. If you miss a day, just make it up and continue your preparation.

Check out *consecrationtostjoseph.org* for all the information you need.

A Couple Comments

Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father is a game changer! Father Calloway has done a great service to the Church by providing the most comprehensive program of consecration to St. Joseph in the history of the Church. Through the writings and testimonies of popes, mystics, and saints, Fr. Calloway shows that Joseph, in exercising his sacred responsibility as husband and father, cultivated a life of virtue and holiness within the Holy Family and, through his powerful intercession, serves as a source of strength, inspiration, and courage for the Church today. Now is the time for consecration to St. Joseph!

Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers
Speaker, Author, and EWTN TV Host

There is something prophetic about the message and the timing of this book. Now, more than ever, it's time to turn to St. Joseph, the Head of the Holy Family and Patron of the Universal Church. *Consecration to St. Joseph* has one purpose: to lead us closer to Jesus Christ. In fact, St. Joseph is on record as having spoken only one word in Scripture: Jesus. "He gave him the name Jesus" (Mt 1:25). That's the end goal of this book and the new spiritual movement Fr. Calloway is championing in *Consecration to St. Joseph*.

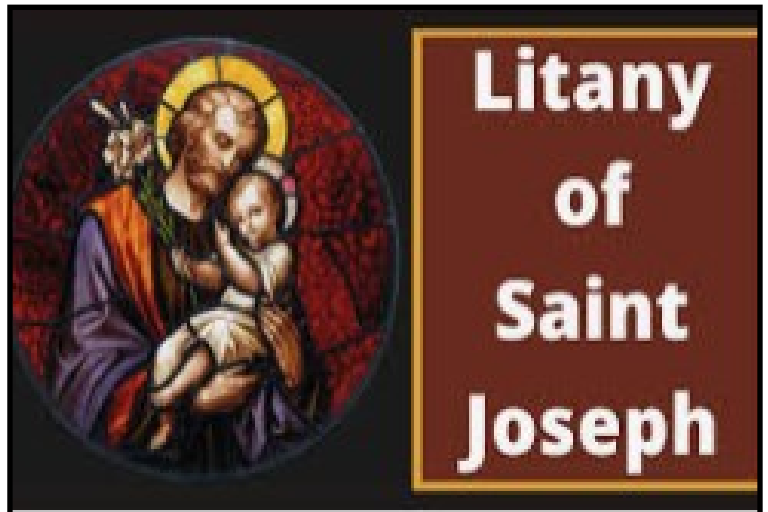
Chris Stefanick
Author, Speaker, and Founder of Real Life Catholic

LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH

Lord, have mercy on us Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, 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 Spirit, have mercy on us.
Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, pray for us.
St. Joseph, pray for us.
Renowned offspring of David, pray for us.
Light of Patriarchs, pray for us.
Spouse of the Mother of God, pray for us.
Chaste guardian of the Virgin, pray for us.
Foster father of the Son of God, pray for us.
Diligent protector of Christ, pray for us.
Head of the Holy Family, pray for us.
Joseph most just, pray for us.
Joseph most chaste, pray for us.
Joseph most prudent, pray for us.
Joseph most strong, pray for us.
Joseph most obedient, pray for us.
Joseph most faithful, pray for us.
Mirror of patience, pray for us.
Lover of poverty, pray for us.
Model of artisans, pray for us.
Glory of home life, pray for us.
Guardian of virgins, pray for us.
Pillar of families, pray for us.
Solace of the wretched, pray for us.
Hope of the sick, pray for us.
Patron of the dying, pray for us.
Terror of demons, pray for us.
Protector of Holy Church, pray for us.



The litany dates back to at least the 16th century and has been prayed by countless saints. The version here is approved and indulgenced by St. Pope Pius X in 1909.

Through the Litany of St. Joseph, you will learn the virtues and wonders of your spiritual father and become an "apparition of St. Joseph" in the world.

(Consecration to St. Joseph, Donald H. Calloway, MIC)

(continued page 10)

Saints Corner - St. Teresa of Avila

In her autobiography, the holy Carmelite mystic and reformer sings the praises of her holy father, St. Joseph, and gives proof of his powerful intercession:

"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 honour 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 favours which God hath given me through this blessed Saint; the dangers from which he hath delivered me, both of body and of soul.

To other Saints, our Lord seems to have given grace to succour men in some special necessity; but to this glorious Saint, I know by experience, to help us in all: and our Lord would have us understand that as He was Himself subject to him upon earth—for St. Joseph having the title of father, and being His guardian, could command Him—so now in heaven He performs all his petitions.

Would that I could persuade all men to be devout to this glorious Saint; for I know by long experience what blessings he can obtain for us from God. I have never known any one who was really devout to him, and who honoured him by particular services, who did not visibly grow more and more in virtue; for he helps in a special way those souls who commend themselves to him.

But I ask, for the love of God, that he who does not believe me will make the trial for himself—when he will see by experience the great good that results from commending oneself to this glorious patriarch, and being devout to him.

Those who give themselves to prayer should in a special manner have always a devotion to St. Joseph; for I know not how any man can think of the Queen of the angels, during the time that she suffered so much with the Infant Jesus, without giving thanks to St. Joseph for the services he rendered them then. He who cannot find any one to teach him how to pray, let him take this glorious Saint for his master, and he will not wander out of the way."

(Autobiography of St. Teresa of Avila, chapter 6)

St. Teresa also makes clear the best reason to love and to have recourse to St. Joseph: Jesus and Mary did so! In a vision of Our Lady and St. Joseph, St. Teresa recounts:

"Our Lady seemed at once to take me by both hands. She said that I pleased her very much by being devoted to the glorious St. Joseph."

(St. Teresa's Life, as quoted in Dr. Mark Miravalle's Meet Your Spiritual Father: an Introduction to St. Joseph published by Lighthouse Catholic Media/Marian Press)

A Saint Devoted to St. Joseph



The Role of the Father as Protector

Mike Allison

Prayer To Saint Joseph for Protection

Gracious Saint Joseph, protect me and my family from all evil as you did the Holy Family. Kindly keep us ever united in the love of Christ, ever fervent in imitation of the virtue of our Blessed Lady, your sinless spouse, and always faithful in devotion to you. Amen.

St. Joseph was chosen by the eternal Father as the trustworthy guardian and protector of his greatest treasures, namely, his Divine Son and Mary, Joseph's wife. He carried out this vocation with complete fidelity until at last God called him, saying 'Good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord.'

In reflecting on the role of fathers as protectors one can't help but to be drawn to the model of fatherhood from The Holy Family; St. Joseph.

In recalling that "the beginnings of our redemption" we're entrusted "to the faithful care of Joseph,"²³ the Liturgy specifies that "God placed him at the head of his family, as a faithful and prudent servant, so that with fatherly care he might watch over his only begotten Son."²⁴ Pope Leo XIII emphasized the sublime nature of this mission: "He among all stands out in his august dignity, since by divine disposition he was guardian, and according to human opinion, father of God's Son. Whence it followed that the Word of God was subjected to Joseph, he obeyed him and rendered to him that honor and reverence that children owe to their father."²⁵
from a sermon by Saint Bernardine of Siena

Read this again gentlemen, and think about the tremendous humility St. Joseph displayed to take on such a role!

Think about it! St. Joseph, (or at the time, with all due respect; just your "average Joe", a man like you and me – a dad with a family to support and protect) was asked to be the caretaker and protector of The Lord of Salvation for all mankind and His Mother. The success of their missions were nothing short of revealing God's loving plan of Salvation of the entire world by the cooperative "yes" of Mary his wife and the perfect obedience of his Son, Jesus. Wow. How did he do it? How could any man possibly live up to and be successful in such a mission? As men and as dads, we want to succeed in what we do. We tend to tackle jobs that we have confidence in doing reasonably well. We like to take on jobs and projects that we can manage and control the outcomes.

It comes down to trust and obedience.

God trusted Joseph and chose him, and when God chooses you, He provides every means for you to succeed. The grace is abundant and it is there for the taking. Joseph trusted. As men we too have been chosen in our fatherhood and we can be confident that our loving Father will provide for us all that we need to take care of our families and direct them to Jesus to be with Him forever in heaven. We have this gift – it is ours and in fact already belongs to us. Like Joseph, we must trust that it is sufficient. We can be reminded of this when we pray. We can ask God to continue to show us how to love our families with total self-giving.

Joseph also obeyed the angel of God as he was directed. Without question, he acted. He accepted the light and confidence that the angel of the Lord had given him to take Mary as his wife.

Journeying to Bethlehem for the census in obedience to the orders of legitimate authority, Joseph fulfilled for the child the significant task of officially inserting the name "Jesus, son of Joseph of Nazareth" (cf. Jn 1:45) in the registry of the Roman Empire.

According to Matthew's Gospel text, a very important event took place before the return to Galilee, an event in which divine providence once again had recourse to Joseph. We read: "Now when the magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him'" St. Joseph obeyed without hesitation. He was protecting his family according to the instruction of The Lord.

continued ...The Role of the Father as Protector

How does this relate to me as dad?

Well, we can follow the example St. Joseph gives to us, that of trust and obedience. Now, we may not be visited by an angel in a dream to direct us in matters, such as our daughters dating or our sons hanging out with the wrong kind of friends or the "everyone else is allowed to do it" encounters we have with our kids. However, God is speaking to us through His Church. He also speaks to us in the thought that comes into your head that says watching this or that movie is not a good idea, it degrades women and I'm supposed to protect my family. That includes protecting my wife also, not just my children. I am also to protect and guard my own senses. Guard my eyes against the things, which tarnish my intellect and my soul. Be a good example to your family, pray and surrender to the grace that has been given to you to **be** a father and husband. This is how we truly love our families.

St. Joseph will help us to protect our own families. He can guide us and teach us how to do this. **This is very real men. Not just an idea that sounds nice. We really can ask St. Joseph to help us, and he will.** After all, we also belong to Christ as members of His body, The Church and Joseph is protector of the Church.

St. Teresa of Avila chose St. Joseph as the protector of her order of the Carmelite sisters. She had great trust in his prayers. "Every time I ask St. Joseph for something," she said, "he always obtains it for me."

In the words of the "annunciation" by night, Joseph not only heard the divine truth concerning his wife's indescribable vocation; he also heard once again the truth about his own vocation. This "just" man, who, in the spirit of the noblest traditions of the Chosen People, loved the Virgin of Nazareth and was bound to her by a husband's love, was once again called by God to this love.

Pope Leo XIII explains:

"The reasons why St. Joseph must be considered the special patron of the Church, and the Church in turn draws exceeding hope from his care and patronage, chiefly arise from his having been the husband of Mary and the presumed father of Jesus..., Joseph was in his day the lawful and natural guardian, head and defender of the Holy Family.... It is thus fitting and most worthy of Joseph's dignity that, in the same way that he once kept unceasing holy watch over the family of Nazareth, so now does he protect and defend with his heavenly patronage the Church of Christ."

23. Cf. Roman Missal, Collect for the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

24. Cf. *ibid.*, Preface for the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

25. Pope Leo XIII, Encyclical Epistle *Quamquam pluries* (August 15, 1889): *loc. cit.*, p. 178.



ST. JOSEPH—PROTECTOR OF FATHERS

Pope's Lenten Message 2021

His Holiness Pope Francis

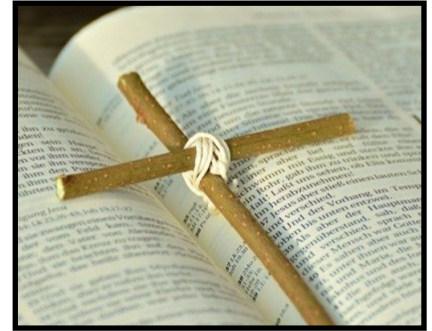
"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem" (Mt 20:18).

Lent: a Time for Renewing Faith, Hope and Love.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Jesus revealed to his disciples the deepest meaning of his mission when he told them of his passion, death and resurrection, in fulfilment of the Father's will. He then called the disciples to share in this mission for the salvation of the world.

In our Lenten journey towards Easter, let us remember the One who "humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Phil 2:8). During this season of conversion, let us renew our faith, draw from the "living water" of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ. At the Easter vigil, we will renew our baptismal promises and experience rebirth as new men and women by the working of the Holy Spirit. This Lenten journey, like the entire pilgrimage of the Christian life, is even now illumined by the light of the resurrection, which inspires the thoughts, attitudes and decisions of the followers of Christ.



Fasting, prayer and almsgiving, as preached by Jesus (cf. Mt 6:1-18), enable and express our conversion. The path of poverty and self-denial (fasting), concern and loving care for the poor (almsgiving), and childlike dialogue with the Father (prayer) make it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope and effective charity.

1. Faith calls us to accept the truth and testify to it before God and all our brothers and sisters.

In this Lenten season, accepting and living the truth revealed in Christ means, first of all, opening our hearts to God's word, which the Church passes on from generation to generation. This truth is not an abstract concept reserved for a chosen intelligent few. Instead, it is a message that all of us can receive and understand thanks to the wisdom of a heart open to the grandeur of God, who loves us even before we are aware of it. Christ himself is this truth. By taking on our humanity, even to its very limits, he has made himself the way – demanding, yet open to all – that leads to the fullness of life.

Fasting, experienced as a form of self-denial, helps those who undertake it in simplicity of heart to rediscover God's gift and to recognize that, created in his image and likeness, we find our fulfilment in him. In embracing the experience of poverty, those who fast make themselves poor with the poor and accumulate the treasure of a love both received and shared. In this way, fasting helps us to love God and our neighbor, inasmuch as love, as Saint Thomas Aquinas teaches, is a movement outwards that focuses our attention on others and considers them as one with ourselves (cf. Fratelli Tutti, 93).

Lent is a time for believing, for welcoming God into our lives and allowing him to "make his dwelling" among us (cf. Jn 14:23). Fasting involves being freed from all that weighs us down – like consumerism or an excess of information, whether true or false – in order to open the doors of our hearts to the One who comes to us, poor in all things, yet "full of grace and truth" (Jn 1:14): the Son of God our Savior.

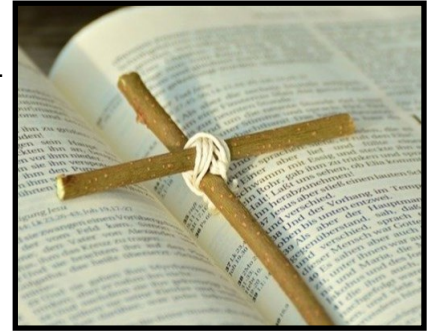
2. Hope as "living water" enabling us to continue our journey.

The Samaritan woman at the well, whom Jesus asks for a drink, does not understand what he means when he says that he can offer her "living water" (Jn 4:10). Naturally, she thinks that he is referring to material water, but Jesus is speaking of the Holy Spirit whom he will give in abundance through the paschal mystery, bestowing a hope that does not disappoint. Jesus had already spoken of this hope when, in telling of his passion and death, he said that he would "be raised on the third day" (Mt 20:19). Jesus was speaking of the future opened up by the Father's mercy. Hoping with him and because of him means believing that history does

continued...Pope's Lenten Message 2021

not end with our mistakes, our violence and injustice, or the sin that crucifies Love. It means receiving from his open heart the Father's forgiveness.

In these times of trouble, when everything seems fragile and uncertain, it may appear challenging to speak of hope. Yet Lent is precisely the season of hope, when we turn back to God who patiently continues to care for his creation which we have often mistreated (cf. *Laudato Si'*, 32-33; 43-44). Saint Paul urges us to place our hope in reconciliation: "Be reconciled to God" (2 Cor 5:20). By receiving forgiveness in the sacrament that lies at the heart of our process of conversion, we in turn can spread forgiveness to others. Having received forgiveness ourselves, we can offer it through our willingness to enter into attentive dialogue with others and to give comfort to those experiencing sorrow and pain. God's forgiveness, offered also through our words and actions, enables us to experience an Easter of fraternity.



In Lent, may we be increasingly concerned with "speaking words of comfort, strength, consolation and encouragement, and not words that demean, sadden, anger or show scorn" (Fratelli Tutti, 223). In order to give hope to others, it is sometimes enough simply to be kind, to be "willing to set everything else aside in order to show interest, to give the gift of a smile, to speak a word of encouragement, to listen amid general indifference" (ibid., 224).

Through recollection and silent prayer, hope is given to us as inspiration and interior light, illuminating the challenges and choices we face in our mission. Hence the need to pray (cf. Mt 6:6) and, in secret, to encounter the Father of tender love. To experience Lent in hope entails growing in the realization that, in Jesus Christ, we are witnesses of new times, in which God is "making all things new" (cf. Rev 21:1-6). It means receiving the hope of Christ, who gave his life on the cross and was raised by God on the third day, and always being "prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls [us] to account for the hope that is in [us]" (1 Pet 3:15).

3. Love, following in the footsteps of Christ, in concern and compassion for all, is the highest expression of our faith and hope.

Love rejoices in seeing others grow. Hence it suffers when others are anguished, lonely, sick, homeless, despised or in need. Love is a leap of the heart; it brings us out of ourselves and creates bonds of sharing and communion. "Social love" makes it possible to advance towards a civilization of love, to which all of us can feel called. With its impulse to universality, love is capable of building a new world. No mere sentiment, it is the best means of discovering effective paths of development for everyone" (Fratelli Tutti, 183). Love is a gift that gives meaning to our lives. It enables us to view those in need as members of our own family, as friends, brothers or sisters. A small amount, if given with love, never ends, but becomes a source of life and happiness. Such was the case with the jar of meal and jug of oil of the widow of Zarephath, who offered a cake of bread to the prophet Elijah (cf. 1 Kings 17:7-16); it was also the case with the loaves blessed, broken and given by Jesus to the disciples to distribute to the crowd (cf. Mk 6:30-44). Such is the case too with our almsgiving, whether small or large, when offered with joy and simplicity.

To experience Lent with love means caring for those who suffer or feel abandoned and fearful because of the Covid-19 pandemic. In these days of deep uncertainty about the future, let us keep in mind the Lord's word to his Servant, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you" (Is 43:1). In our charity, may we speak words of reassurance and help others to realize that God loves them as sons and daughters. "Only a gaze transformed by charity can enable the dignity of others to be recognized and, as a consequence, the poor to be acknowledged and valued in their dignity, respected in their identity and culture, and thus truly integrated into society" (Fratelli Tutti, 187).

Dear brothers and sisters, every moment of our lives is a time for believing, hoping and loving. The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us – as communities and as individuals – to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ, the hope inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the love flowing from the merciful heart of the Father. May Mary, Mother of the Saviour, ever faithful at the foot of the cross and in the heart of the Church, sustain us with her loving presence. May the blessing of the risen Lord accompany all of us on our journey towards the light of Easter.

Fraternity of Fatherhood—Group locations & Area Coordinators

Fr. Pinto has encouraged us to grow and expand the Fraternity of Fatherhood all over the world. He has granted us his permission, his blessing and he guides us spiritually. It is with this confidence that we now move forward with humility, obedience and docile hearts. If you are interested in joining a Fraternity of Fatherhood group or if you would like to start a group in your city contact Ray Emnace, Mike Allison, Stacey Hill or Brendan McVicker.

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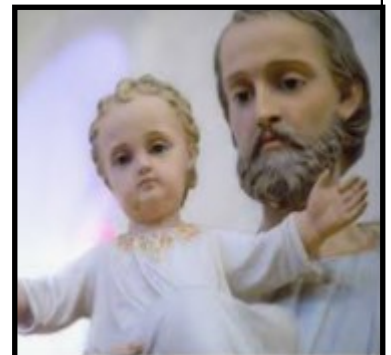
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,	spare us, O Jesus.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,	graciously hear us, O Jesus.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,	have mercy on us, O Jesus.

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

Let us pray:

O God, in your ineffable providence you were pleased to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother; grant, we beg you, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our Protector: You who live and reign forever and ever.

Saint Joseph, pray for us.



Divine Mercy—Novena Begins Good Friday April 2nd

Don't Miss this Opportunity....It is an enormous gift of the Lord's Mercy! Divine Mercy Novena begins Good Friday, April 2nd.

The On September 13, 1935, Sister Faustina had a terrible vision of a destroying Angel ("the agent of divine wrath") about to strike some place on the planet. She began praying, begging him to put off the punishment until the world did penance. At first, her pleas seemed in vain, but presently she saw the Holy Trinity and felt the power of Christ's grace in her soul. Again she began to plead for the world in words that welled up out of the silence of her soul: *"Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, for our sins and those of the whole world; for the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us"* (475).

Her prayer was answered and the angel was prevented from carrying out the chastisement. The following morning, Sister Faustina heard these interior words: *"Every time you enter the chapel, start reciting the prayer which I taught you yesterday"* (476).

Later, she was instructed in the recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy: *"This prayer will serve to appease My wrath. You will recite it for nine days, on the beads of the Rosary, in the following manner: first of all, you will say one Our Father and Hail Mary and the I Believe in God. Then, on the Our Father beads, you will say the following words: 'Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, for our sins and those of the whole world.' On the Hail Mary beads you will say the following words: 'For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.' In conclusion, three times you will recite these words: 'Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world'"* (476).

Jesus Himself tells us why it is so important to recite this prayer: *"Recite the chaplet unceasingly that I have taught you. Whoever recites it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even in the case of the most hardened sinner, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. I desire that the whole world know My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls that trust in My mercy"* (687).

"Oh, what great graces I will grant to souls that say this chaplet; the very depths of My tender mercy are stirred for the sake of those who say the chaplet" (848). *"At the hour of their death, I defend as My own glory every soul that will say this chaplet; or when others say it for a dying person, the indulgence is the same"* (811). *"Through the chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask is compatible with My will"* (1731).



POSTAGE

Fraternity of Fatherhood

**We entrust the Fatherhood Fraternity to the patronage
of St. Joseph.**



**St. Joseph ...Pray For Us.
Feast Day March 19th**



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