

LITANY OF ST JOSEPH:

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
 Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
 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.
 Saint Joseph,
pray for us.
 Noble 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.**
 Zealous defender of the
 Son of God, **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 Courageous,
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 Workmen,
pray for us.
 Glory of Domestic Life,
pray for us.
 Guardian of Virgins,
pray for us.
 Pillar of Families,
pray for us.
 Comfort of the Afflicted,
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 the Holy
 Church, **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.

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

Let us pray.

O God, Who,
 in Your loving
 providence, chose
 Blessed Joseph to be
 the spouse of Your
 most Holy Mother,
 grant us the favour
 of having him for our
 intercessor in Heaven
 whom on earth
 we venerate as
 our protector.
 You, Who live and
 reign forever and ever.
R. AMEN.

ST MARY OF THE CRAYS NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT
The Feast of the Holy Family 27th December 2020
(Sunday of St Joseph) In the Year of St Joseph:
“WITH A FATHER’S HEART: that is how Joseph loved Jesus,
whom all four Gospels refer to as “The Son of Joseph”.”
(opening of the Apostolic Letter: Patris Corde of Pope Francis 8th Dec. 2020)

THE PRIEST'S PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH
BEFORE HOLY MASS:

O happy man, Saint Joseph, to you it
 was given to see and hear the God
 whom many kings longed to see but
 did not see, and longed to hear but
 did not hear. Not only that, but you
 were privileged even to bear God in
 your hands, to kiss Him, to dress
 Him and to watch over Him.

V/: Pray for us, Saint Joseph.

R/: That we might be worthy
 of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

O God, Who has given us
 a royal priesthood:
 You found Blessed Joseph worthy to
 hold Your only Son, born of the Vir-
 gin Mary, reverently in his hands and
 to carry Him. Enable us, too, to serve
 at Your Holy Altar with pure hearts
 and innocent lives, so that today we
 may receive worthily the Most Holy
 Body and Blood of Your Son, and may
 be found worthy of an everlasting
 reward in the world to come.
 Through the same Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH
FROM POPE FRANCIS

**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 a father
 and guide us
 in the path of life.**

**Obtain for us grace,
 mercy and courage,
 and defend us
 from every evil.
 AMEN.**

FOR THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH - see: The Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris Corde*
(With a Father's Heart);[http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/
 apost_letters/documents/papafrancesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-
 corde.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papafrancesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html) The Holy Father wrote *Patris Corde* against the backdrop of
 the Covid-19 pandemic. For more information about the Year and a link
 to the Apostolic Letter can be found at the Bishops' Conference website:
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/year-of-st-joseph/>



Archdiocese of Southwark

Pastoral Letter for the Solemnity of the Holy Family

To be read at all Vigil and Sunday Masses over the weekend of 26/27 December 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ

After a celebration of Christmas Day in restricted circumstances, due to Covid 19, we come to this beautiful Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth. The home life of the Lord Jesus, of His mother, the Virgin Mary, and of His foster father, St Joseph, teaches us the importance of *'compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.'*(1) We want to love as they love, to sit in the classroom of the Gospel and learn from Christ, inspired by the fidelity of Mary and Joseph. These qualities are the sure coordinates to guide us forward.

The images we sometimes see of the Holy Family make everything look so perfect, as if there were never any problems, or moments of anxiety, and not that much joy and laughter either. How can any family flourish without joy? How can any family blossom without laughter? No, the Holy Family was a real family. *'Tears and smiles, like us,'* they knew, each in their own way. All our experiences of family, and of our relationships within them, form a school where our understanding of holiness can deepen, where, modelled on Christ, we are trained how to love ev-

ermore generously.

Of course, we know family life is not always easy. Every family needs help, especially when its members face difficulties and struggles. Above all, each of us, no matter what our age or circumstances, needs to know that we are loved and that we belong. This is why the Church matters, as a family for everyone, a place to find and know God's love, a place to discover our true home in Christ and with each other.

St Luke retells an important event in the life of the Holy Family. Forty days after His birth, the Christ Child was presented by His parents in the Temple in Jerusalem, in accordance with the Law of Moses. This humble couple accepted the precious vocation God gave them as parents. This call from God is alive today. **Parents are to protect and nurture new life. They are 'the first teachers' of their children 'in the ways of faith.'** **They are also to be 'the best of teachers, bearing witness to the faith by what they say and do.'**(2) This is both a gracious invitation and an awesome responsibility. As they prepare for the baptism of their child, every mother and father should be given a copy of the Gospel with the words: *'Receive the Gospel of Christ whose teacher you now are. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.'*(3) The family remains the primary place for living, teaching, and sharing the Gospel. Daily evangelisation is part of every home centred on Christ. The need for witness to our Catholic faith about, and within, the family is as great as it ever was.

I want to thank every Christian family in our parish and school communities for

your faithfulness to Christ. Thank you to wives and husbands who encourage each other to live the Gospel, *'for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer.'* Thank you to mums and dads, to grandparents, aunts and uncles, for passing on the faith to your children, grandchildren, nephews and nieces. Thank you to older brothers and sisters for the good example of faith you give to your younger sisters and brothers. They look up to you and need you. Thank you to clergy and religious, and to parish catechists and school staff, who support families in handing the faith to new generations. Please make sure that our communities are welcoming and supportive to all families, not least those new to our country or area, those going through brokenness or separation, and those facing poverty and hardship.

The home of the Holy Family of Nazareth was a loving space where the Lord Jesus grew to maturity, filled with wisdom. May our families, and the family of the Church, enable the message of Christ, in all its richness, to dwell within us so that we always speak and act with love.

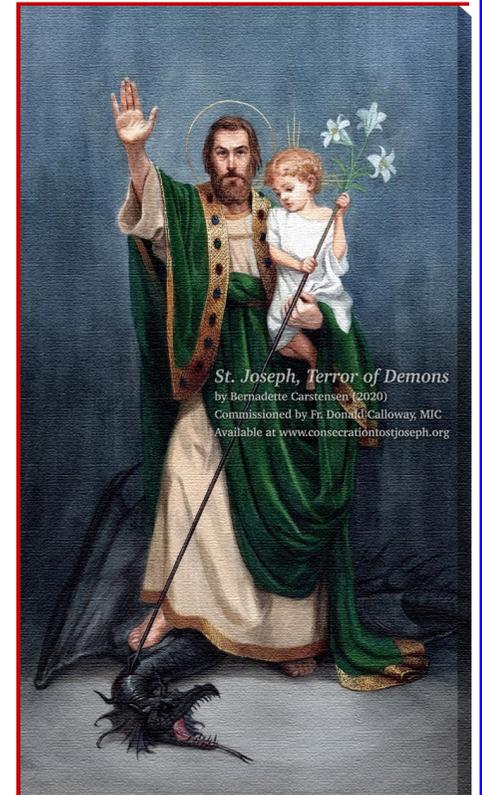
I assure each one of you, your families, and your loved ones, of my prayers as 2021 opens before us. Whatever this New Year brings, let us step out with *'compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,'* united as members of one body.(4) **May the peace of Christ reign in our hearts and in our world.**

With every blessing
Yours devotedly in Christ

+ John Wilson

Metropolitan Archbishop of Southwark

Notes: 1: First Reading, Col 3:12
2: Rite of Baptism, Blessing and Dismissal
3: Cf. Rite of Ordination of Deacons
4: First Reading, Col 3:12



St. Joseph, Terror of Demons
by Bernadette Carstensen (2020)
Commissioned by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC
Available at www.consecrationtostjoseph.org

ST JOSEPH, TERROR OF DEMONS

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Please look for

CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH
THE WONDERS OF OUR SPIRITUAL FATHER
by Donald H. Calloway, MIC, published
by the Marian Press, c. £12.99