

In the Year of St Joseph: 8th Dec. 2020 - 8th Dec. 2021

“ 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)

SAINT JOSEPH:

Comfort of the Afflicted: Pray for us!
Hope of the Sick: Pray for us!
Patron of the Dying: Pray for us!

Acts of Contrition:

O my God, I am sorry and beg pardon for all my sins, and detest them above all things, because they deserve Thy dreadful punishments, because they have crucified my loving Saviour **Jesus** Christ, and most of all because they offend Thine infinite goodness; and I firmly resolve, by the help of Thy grace, never to offend Thee again, and carefully to avoid the occasions of sin. **Amen.**

I love You **Jesus**, My Love above all things. I repent with my whole heart for having offended You. Never permit me to separate myself from You again. Grant that I may love You always, then do with me what You will. **Amen.**
St Alphonsus de Liguori

**O My God, because You are so good,
 I am very sorry that I have sinned against You,
 and, with the help of Your grace,
 I will not sin again. Amen.**

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen

ST MARY OF THE CRAYS NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 24th Jan. 2021
In the Year of St Joseph: 8th Dec. 2020 - 8th Dec. 2021

THE SUNDAY OF
THE WORD OF GOD
24th January 2021

The Blessing of Bibles

Introduction

- To encourage the faithful to own a copy of the Bible and to read it prayerfully they might be invited to bring their Bibles to Mass for them to be blessed.
- People should be encouraged to bring any edition or even a part such as the Gospels.
- In the homily the priest or deacon may speak on the importance of Scripture in the life of the Church, different approaches to reading Scripture and on the particular readings of the celebration. He may even invite people to find the Gospel text of the day in their own Bible.
- The blessing takes place after the Prayer of the Faithful
- It would be suitable to celebrate this blessing on
the Sunday of the Word of God (3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time).

ORDER OF BLESSING WITHIN MASS

PRAYER OF BLESSING:

The assembly is invited to hold up their copies of the Bible. With hands extended over the assembly the celebrant says:

**Everlasting God,
 when He read
 in the synagogue
 at Nazareth,
 Your Son proclaimed
 the good news of salvation
 for which
 He would give up His life.
 Bless all
 who will read from
 these sacred texts.
 As they read, listen
 and reflect on
 Your words of life,
 strengthen their faith
 so that what they read
 in hope, they may live
 in love and charity.
 We ask this through
 Christ our Lord.
 Amen.**

Consider subscribing to **Universalis.com**

and you will be supplied to your E-Device: **The Prayer of the Church**, the **Daily Readings at Holy Mass**, and **the Order of Holy Mass**, and various other Prayers and Devotions too.

Also: **iPietà** is a wonderful and very full “App” packed with **prayers** in a variety of languages, with **the Bible** and **Commentaries**.

What is a Catholic edition of the Bible?

There are a number of characteristics of a Catholic edition:

- It includes the deuterocanonical books. These are texts in the Old Testament where there is an ancient **Greek Jewish** source but **not a Hebrew one**. These include **Tobit, Wisdom, Sirach (Ecclesiasticus) and Baruch. (also Judith, 1 & 2 Maccabees, parts of Daniel and Esther)**
They have always been accepted by the Catholic Church as part of the Canon of Scripture.
- The translation reflects a Catholic understanding of scripture
- The translation has received an **imprimatur** (permission to print) from a Bishops' Conference
- There should be study notes to assist the reader

From SPUC: **THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN**

PLEASE RESPOND TO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONSULTATION

TO STOP HOME ABORTIONS!

The Department of Health is holding a public consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortion at home. We need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Department of Health's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. SPUC has prepared a briefing which gives a step by step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire. Please go to

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/England-DIY-Abortion-Consultation>

The consultation ends on 26th February 2021-

in The Year of St. Joseph - Pillar of Families: Pray for us!

For the Ethical Nature of the various Covid-19 Vaccines:

A good website to visit is www.tinyurl.com/ETHICALVACCINES.

It would seem that this is the case:

Ethical: Moderna, Novavax, Merck, Sanofi, Pfizer-BioNTech

We are encouraged to promote the ethical vaccines, while recognizing that due to the remote nature of its connection ... it is not a sin to take any of the vaccines.

Part of the text of the USCCB statement on the inauguration of Joe Biden:
Statement on the Inauguration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., as 46th President of the United States of America

Most Reverend José H. Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles, President,
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops - January 20, 2021

My prayers are with our new President and his family today.

I am praying that God grant him wisdom and courage to lead this great nation and that God help him to meet the tests of these times, to heal the wounds caused by this pandemic, to ease our intense political and cultural divisions, and to bring people together with renewed dedication to America's founding purposes, to be one nation under God committed to liberty and equality for all. [...]

At the same time, as pastors, the nation's bishops are given the duty of proclaiming the Gospel in all its truth and power, in season and out of season, even when that teaching is inconvenient or when the Gospel's truths run contrary to the directions of the wider society and culture. So, I must point out that our new President has pledged to pursue certain policies that would advance moral evils and threaten human life and dignity, most seriously in the areas of abortion, contraception, marriage, and gender. Of deep concern is the liberty of the Church and the freedom of believers to live according to their consciences.

Our commitments on issues of human sexuality and the family, as with our commitments in every other area — such as abolishing the death penalty or seeking a health care system and economy that truly serves the human person — are guided by Christ's great commandment to love and to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters, especially the most vulnerable. For the nation's bishops, the continued injustice of abortion remains the "preeminent priority." Preeminent does not mean "only." We have deep concerns about many threats to human life and dignity in our society. But as Pope Francis teaches, we cannot stay silent when nearly a million unborn lives are being cast aside in our country year after year through abortion. [...]



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

So you might be informed and prepared, please look up information from the Bishops of England and Wales:
ccn@bccew.org.uk

A NIGHTLY EXAMEN IS A WAY TO REVIEW OUR ACTIONS THROUGHOUT THE DAY, ACKNOWLEDGE WHERE WE RESPONDED TO GOD'S GRACE, AND WHERE WE CHOSE TO DO OTHERWISE.

The following is a simplified form of how to perform a nightly examen.

1. **Call to mind God's presence with you.** God is right there with you through the good and the bad.
2. **Review the graces of the day.** Go through the day slowly, acknowledging the many blessings you received from the Lord. (*Did you see the sun today? That is a blessing. Did you take a breath today? That is a blessing.*)
3. **Acknowledge your sins and shortcomings.** Name the times and places that you failed to accept the grace the Lord was giving you. Thoroughness is important here.
4. **Make a resolve and call upon the Lord.** Determine not to commit the same sins again the next day. Then, beg the Lord for perfect contrition and the graces you need to live completely for him, especially in the moments you know you are weakest. [*Make an Act of Contrition as on the Back Page of this Supplement*]
5. **Be filled with hope and joy.** The Lord is pleased by your commitment to freedom, to your family, to ongoing conversion, and to him. He desires your holiness even more than you do. **Rest peacefully knowing that God is with you.**