

### Day 8: Our Friend in Suffering

Saint Joseph, you had to struggle with poverty at times, and your work as a carpenter was not easy. You also heard the unkind things people said about Mary's pregnancy before marriage. And you experienced panic when you could not find the Boy Jesus. Because you have known stress and worry, help us in our need.

### Day 9: Patron of a Happy Death

Saint Joseph, may I die, as you did, in the arms of Jesus, and with Mary at my side. May I be strengthened by the Sacraments when that moment approaches, and may I accept death with serenity and peace in a spirit of acceptance of God's most holy will.

### *Make Your Petition*

*(pray each day of the Novena)*

Dear Saint Joseph, Guardian of Jesus, the Word made flesh, I am confident that your prayers on my behalf will be graciously heard before the Throne of God in Heaven. *(Mention your request here.)*

### *Concluding Prayer*

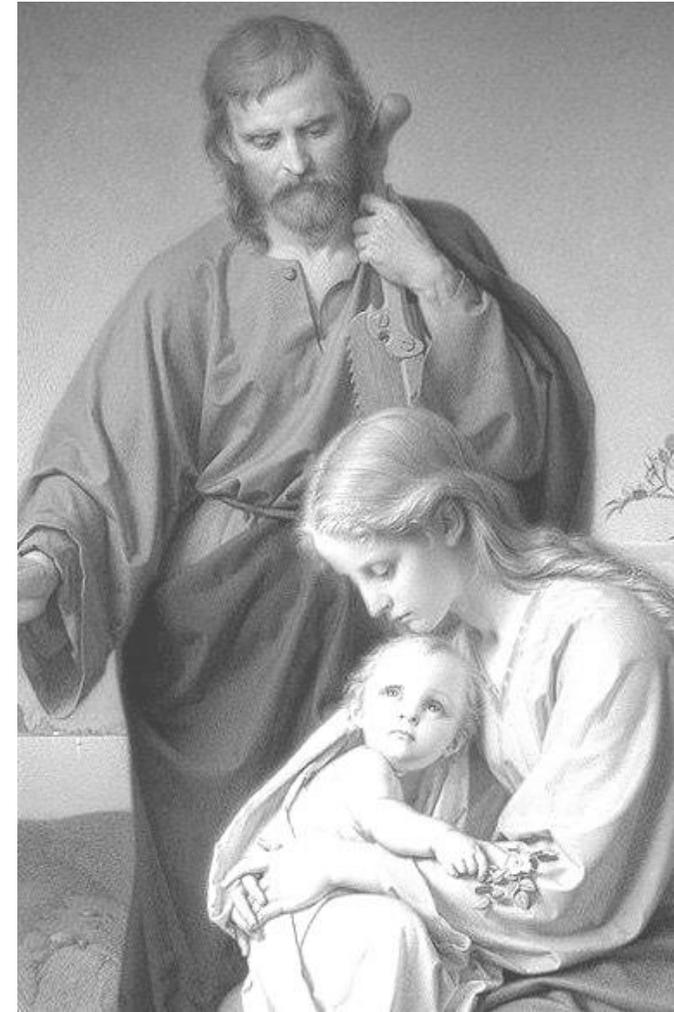
*(pray each day of the Novena)*



Holy Saint Joseph, Spouse of Mary, be mindful of us, pray for us and watch over us. Guardian of the Child Jesus, take our concerns, both spiritual and temporal, into your hands and obtain for us the grace to know God's will with certainty, and to strive to accomplish it as perfectly as we can. Glorious Saint Joseph, hear our prayers and obtain our petitions, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

V. Saint Joseph: **R. Pray for us.**

V. In the Name of the Father ✠ and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **R. Amen.**



## *A Novena*

in honour of

## *Saint Joseph*

Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
and Foster-Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ

## *Opening Prayers*

*(pray each day of the Novena)*

- V. In the Name of the Father ✠ and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.
- R. **Amen.**
- V. O glorious Saint Joseph,  
through the love which you have for Jesus:
- R. **Hear our prayers and obtain our petitions.**
- V. O faithful Saint Joseph,  
through the love which you have for Mary:
- R. **Hear our prayers and obtain our petitions.**
- V. O humble Saint Joseph  
through the love which you have for the Church:
- R. **Hear our prayers and obtain our petitions.**

## *Daily Prayers*

*(Pray the prayer assigned to each day of the Novena, then go to the last page and continue.)*

### **Day 1: Foster Father of Jesus**

Saint Joseph, God gave you the genuine heart of a father - a heart full of love and self-sacrifice. When Herod wanted to kill the Child Jesus, you carried Him to safety in Egypt. In your home in Nazareth, you nourished and served Him selflessly. Guide all fathers to love their families without reserve, as you loved yours.

### **Day 2: Chaste Husband of Mary**

Saint Joseph, by your marriage to Mary you vowed to protect each other's virtue, so that God's special plan for her virginity and motherhood could be fulfilled. You were Mary's faithful companion and support, and you were Jesus' role model as He grew up in your home. Help all married people to be loving and faithful to one another.

### **Day 3: Man Chosen by the Blessed Trinity**

Saint Joseph, God the Father chose you to be His representative on earth. God the Son added His own gift of love. And God the Holy Spirit filled you with special graces to fulfil your role as Head of the Holy Family. You gave yourself entirely to God's service. Teach me how to entrust myself to the will of God in my life.

### **Day 4: Faithful and Obedient Servant**

Saint Joseph, every moment of your life was dedicated to serving God: when the Angel told you to take Mary as your wife, when you were told to flee into Egypt to save Jesus and Mary, and when the Angel told you to return home, you obeyed without question. Show us how to serve God obediently by serving others faithfully.

### **Day 5: Patron of the Church**

Saint Joseph, as protector of the Holy Family you are the patron and protector of the Church. By nourishing with tender care Jesus, the Bread of Heaven, you helped to provide the Church with this spiritual Food throughout the ages. As you watched over Jesus and Mary, watch over the Church, especially in these troubled times.

### **Day 6: Patron of Families**

Saint Joseph, gentle Head of the Holy Family, Jesus showed you every mark of honour and respect due to you as His foster-father, and Mary gave you all her love and respect as a devoted wife. You were their protector and counsellor. Help our homes where you are honoured to become God's home of love, joy and peace.

### **Day 7: Patron of Workers**

Saint Joseph, you and Jesus spent your days together in the workshop of Nazareth. You laboured with your hands, but you also spoke together about God the Creator Who formed the universe with such wonderful skill and power. Help us to see how our own work can contribute to God's continuing creation of the world.