

A Consecration to St Joseph

In this Year of St. Joseph, the parish is offering Fr. Donald Calloway's book, [Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father](#). The books can be found in the back of our churches. In the words of Scott Hahn, PhD, "this book is a marvel. It is a gift from our Lord, to get us through our current crisis. Let us look to and learn from, St. Joseph, the spiritual father of us all." Ideally, families and groups could organize themselves to make the consecration together. Fr. Calloway's book includes material for six weeks of group meetings leading up to the consecration. On the final day a simple ceremony could be planned where the group recites the consecration prayer together led by their pastor following the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

This chart lists suggested dates for making the consecration during the Year of St. Joseph.

Why Consecration to St. Joseph?

Over the past 150 years, the Church has come to understand St. Joseph's greatness like never before. By Baptism, we are all

consecrated to our Lord and many of us have consecrated ourselves to Jesus through Mary. But the Holy Spirit has made it clear that now is the time of St. Joseph. When the house is in disorder, you need a father to bring order. With all the craziness going on in the Church right now and in our culture, it's a perfect time to focus more attention on the earthly father of Jesus.

START DATE	FEAST DAY	CONSECRATION DAY
February 15, 2021	Solemnity of St. Joseph	March 19, 2021
March 30, 2021	St. Joseph the Worker	May 1, 2021
April 11, 2021	Our Lady of Fatima	May 13, 2021
July 20, 2021	Our Lady of Knock	August 21, 2021
September 30, 2021	All Saints	November 1, 2021
November 25, 2021	Holy Family	December 27, 2021

How does this book work?

It's modeled after the St. Louis De Montfort 33-day consecration to Jesus through Mary. Each day of the preparation to consecration focuses on a line from the Litany of St. Joseph, a beautiful prayer which has been around since the 15th or 16th century. The book features quotes about St. Joseph from about 26 saints and mystics including: St. Theresa of Avila, St. Andre Bessette, St. Peter Julian Eymard, Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, and St. Stanislaus Papczynski, the Founder of the Marian Fathers. There's also a section of the book called "the Wonders of St. Joseph," which is a great place to start for people who want to learn more about St. Joseph as a person before jumping into the 33-day consecration.

What do we know about St. Joseph?

We don't have any words from him in the New Testament. But we know he was definitely humble and always obedient. Whenever God gives him directions in Scripture, he immediately responds. He doesn't even need to say, "I'll do it." He just does it.

Also, he was a man who must have been extremely pure of heart, because he was married to the most beautiful woman ever and they remained virgins. Saint Joseph also had the role of raising and educating the Messiah. That's next level holiness!

No one was closer to our Lord and Our Lady than St. Joseph. He basically lived in perpetual Adoration. Imagine being able to see the things that he saw, to live with Our Lady and Jesus, to have meals with them on a daily basis for 30 years!

What do we stand to learn from St. Joseph?

Saint Joseph teaches us virtue, especially practicing patience and silence, which is very hard to do. Saint Joseph is always calm, always peaceful. He's a great model for the interior life. He was in a constant state of communion with God, something we should all imitate. His work was his prayer and his prayer was his work.

The Year of St. Joseph Prayer

The Official prayer of the year of St. Joseph is "To You, O blessed Joseph." It was composed by Pope Leo XIII. The Holy Father asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary especially during October, the month of the Holy Rosary.

To You O Blessed St. Joseph

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 inheritance 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 adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, 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.



YEAR
— OF —
ST. JOSEPH