

MEN OF SAINT JOSEPH INTERNATIONAL



72 hours to a resurrected life

Ezekiel 34:23-24

"Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the Lord God, the God of Israel"

February 2021

Volume 16

FOUNDER'S NOTES

It is always good to start a newsletter with some good news, so I thank God the pope has dedicated this year to St. Joseph. The bad news is that the pandemic has almost stopped us from starting new groups. My hope is that our current groups will continue to meet monthly either in person or virtually. And we should be making plans on how to multiply the groups as soon as the pandemic cools down. Yes, this is a difficult time to start new groups but like St. Joseph we need to live the hidden life of holiness. We know from the Scriptures when Joseph learned Mary was pregnant, when they traveled to Bethlehem, when they were unable to find room, and when they were forced to flee to Egypt. In those trying times, Joseph was a faithful guardian who provided Mary and Jesus with safety and security. Throughout this year, I encourage you to discover St. Joseph as a foster father, a man of faith, a provider, and a risk-taker so you can imitate his virtues and his zeal. And when the world opens up again, we will draw all men into a relationship with Joseph and his son, Jesus.

Don Turbitt

International News

A message from our team in Poland to the European chapters.

Perhaps you have already heard that the Holy Father Francis wrote us a letter about St. Joseph "Patris Corde". Simultaneously with its announcement, the Year of Saint Joseph begins. May this be a time of active presence of Saint Joseph's Men in our parishes and in the Universal Church. This is a great opportunity for banners showing different aspects of the fatherhood of St. Joseph. We can also propose a common prayer or adoration based on the Holy Father's message to men. Or maybe it will be an opportunity to reach other parishes in our area?

We can be sure that St. Joseph will not remain idle at this time. He will intercede for us and our groups, and maybe (as I strongly believe in) he will support us in our actions by sending new inspirations and appropriate people to cooperate.

Blessings
Andrzej Lewek

MOSJI Updates

Virtual meetings

- Several chapters have begun using our Zoom account for virtual meetings and have reported back that they went well. We did experience one startup problem, but it did not prevent that meeting from taking place. One point to keep in mind if you are going to show content such as YouTube videos or other on-line material that includes audio as part of your meeting, Zoom will not pass the audio through to the participants as it is expecting the audio to come from your microphone. You will have to switch the outgoing audio from the microphone to what is referred to as “Stereo Mix” on most computers and then switch it back when you want to use your microphone.
- If there are chapters that would like to use the account that have not already reserved a time, there are time slots available on Mondays after March 15th and all Tuesdays and Fridays.

Chapter News

- Holy Apostles chapter in Cranston will be conducting a consecration to St Joseph program on Mondays from 7:00 – 8:00 PM starting February 15th and running through March 15th.
- St Augustine’s chapter in Providence will be working with the parish Knights of Columbus council and discussing with the pastor an opportunity to bring in chaplains from two local colleges to speak to the men of the parish about St Joseph on May 1st, the feast of St Joseph the worker. It will be used as an opportunity to get young men involved with both organizations.
- St Joan of Arc chapter in Cumberland is preparing to make the consecration to St Joseph in March and the men will be blessed at Mass by the pastor of the parish.
- SS Rose & Clement chapter will be participating in a Consecration to St Joseph 6-week program Wednesday evenings from February 17 to March 24 at 7 PM at the Cathedral in Providence. It is open to all.

Events and Dates

February 27, 2021 - Annual Men’s Conference, Rhode Island has been postponed until June/July. Watch future newsletters, emails, and the website of updates.

March 31, 2021 – Chapter Leaders meeting 7:00PM

October 13 – 17, 2021 International Men’s Conference, Rome Italy

Gospel Reading for February 10, 2021

Mk 7: 14-23

Jesus summoned the crowd again and said to them,

“Hear me, all of you, and understand.

Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile.”

When he got home away from the crowd

his disciples questioned him about the parable.

He said to them,

“Are even you likewise without understanding?

Do you not realize that everything

that goes into a person from outside cannot defile,

since it enters not the heart but the stomach

and passes out into the latrine?”

(Thus he declared all foods clean.)

“But what comes out of the man, that is what defiles him.

From within the man, from his heart,

come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder,

adultery, greed, malice, deceit,

licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly.

All these evils come from within and they defile.”

Prayer Requests

The Men of St Joseph International is concerned for all our members, their families, and friends. We strongly believe in the power of prayer and have set up a team of Prayer Warriors that have committed time each day to pray for the needs presented to them in your petitions sent through this web portal. Click on the Prayer Warrior link on the home page, entitled "**Send Your Petition to Our Prayer Warriors**", to detail and submit your request. Please be as clear and succinct as possible and **include, at least, the first name of the person** you are requesting prayers for.

John 15:7 - If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want, and it will be done for you.

Pray for the repose of the soul of Mike Carey a member of the St Joseph chapter in Cumberland and a past Grand Knight of the parish Knights of Columbus council. Mike passed away Sunday February 7th, 2021.

Make Time for St. Joseph

Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 announced a special year dedicated to St. Joseph starting with the announcement and lasting through December 8, 2021, the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The special year marks the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of St. Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church.

The Apostolic Penitentiary also issued a decree granting special indulgences for the duration of the special year to celebrate the anniversary and "to perpetuate the entrustment of the whole Church to the powerful patronage of the Custodian of Jesus."

During this period, the faithful will have the opportunity to commit themselves "with prayer and good works, to obtain, with the help of St. Joseph, head of the heavenly Family of Nazareth, comfort and relief from the serious human and social tribulations that besiege the contemporary world today."

Conditions for the plenary indulgence

The plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions) to Christians who, with a spirit detached from any sin, participate in the Year of St. Joseph on these occasions and manners indicated by the Apostolic Penitentiary:

– The plenary indulgence is granted to those who will meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph. "St. Joseph, an authentic man of faith, invites us", the decree reads, "to rediscover our filial relationship with the Father, to renew fidelity to prayer, to listen and correspond with profound discernment to God's will."

– The indulgence can also be obtained by those who, following St. Joseph’s example, will perform a spiritual or corporal work of mercy. St. Joseph “encourages us to rediscover the value of silence, prudence, **and loyalty** in carrying out our duties.”

Here are some suggestions for traditions you take part in, prayers you can add to your daily prayer time and actions you can take to make St Joseph an active part of your life as a Man of St Joseph

Wednesday Dedication to St. Joseph

Holy Mother Church in Her liturgical tradition has attributed different days of the week as particular focal points for reflection. Holy Mother Church has given **Wednesday**, “the day the week turns on” to St. Joseph. This means that the middle of the week is the perfect time to reflect on, be grateful for, and intercede on behalf of holy fatherhood, both spiritual and biological. Why not consider going to weekday Mass on Wednesdays

March: The Month of St. Joseph

In a similar way the Church has assigned a special emphasis to each month of the calendar year. The month of March is known as the Month of St. Joseph and is marked by the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary on March 19th. Consider going to Mass as a group with your chapter brothers on the 19th and treat yourselves with the traditional Zeppole.



May 1st St Joseph, the patron saint of Workers

Consider attending Mass as a chapter and offer to do the readings. Invite men of the parish to learn more about the Men of St Joseph.

Make a Daily Novena Prayer to St. Joseph

O Saint Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

O Saint Joseph do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, so that having experienced here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers.

O Saint Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Hold Him close in my name and kiss His fine head from me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.

Consecration to St Joseph

If you have not already done so make the commitment to making a consecration to St Joseph

Watch this two-part interview with Fr Donald Calloway by Scott Hahn on St Joseph.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Gq_UDe21Ow

Make a commitment to recite the litany to St Joseph daily.

Here is a link to the litany that you can print or keep on your phone or tablet.

[Litany of St. Joseph | EWTN](#)

ROAD TRIP! (kind-a ☺)



Are you suffering from cabin fever...COVID weary...or maybe just a case of the old-fashioned winter blahs? It's time to get out there and do something different! Why not head out for an afternoon at La Salette Shrine located at 947 Park Street in Attleboro, MA. But isn't that for Christmas lights? Yes, but there is a whole lot more there. For me personally it is very special place. It was there back in 2005 that my life was forever changed. I was a chaperone at a Steubenville Catholic youth conference and during Eucharistic Adoration the Holy Spirit made His presence known to me in an undeniable way...my life has never been the same. I suggest you start your visit by going to the **12:10 mass followed by Confession from 1:00-2:00**. Both are offered within the church building Monday-Friday. After that you can stroll out about 300 feet behind and to the left of the church (and pond) to spend some time with the **statue of our model leader, St. Joseph**. It is a large white statue on a grassy area. An idea might be to pray the Litany of St. Joseph. After that, head for the walking trail. Continue about another 300 feet to the left and you will find your way to the **Attleboro Springs Wildlife Sanctuary at La Salette**. The signs pointing you there are not great, but it is there if you look. It is a simple 15–20-minute circular walk on very flat ground and well-marked...pretty in the summer for sure. After that you can head over to **Bliss Dairy** restaurant located ½ mile away.... great ice cream!

Enjoy and God bless,
Steve Nolan

Contact Us

For more information on starting, developing, or running a chapter in your parish contact one of our Service Team members.

Don Turbitt - donturbitt@gmail.com

John Olobri - jolobri2@verizon.net

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We would like to include information, experiences and events that your chapter is involved with in our monthly newsletters.

Please email them to John Olobri at jolobri2@verizon.net

Visit the resource section of our website www.mosji.org for material that you can use in your chapter meetings

Pray to St Joseph

O Blessed Joseph,
faithful guardian of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ,
protector of the Mother of our Lord,
we choose you this day
to be our patron and advocate.
As Men of St. Joseph, we humbly ask you
to receive us as your cause,
leading us to Jesus for instruction in doubt,
comfort in affliction, strength in times of testing.
Obtain for us, and for all, the knowledge
and love of the Heart of Jesus Christ.
May men of good faith turn to you, Joseph.
May you defend and protect us and our families
as we grow more like Jesus by your example,
now, and all the days of our lives.
Amen