

# 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"

**July 2021**

**Volume 21**

## FOUNDER'S NOTES

We in the U.S. commemorates Independence Day, July 4, 1776. The past was a time of oppression under the English government. Many Christians can name a day of independence from oppression from evil spirits. Being born again, baptized in the Holy Spirit, encountering Christ, renewal in the Spirit are all times of spiritual freedom. On that first 4th of July 1776, we experienced freedom and independence, but we need to continue to work for our freedom and independence.

It is the same in our spiritual life. We are either growing in our freedom or being oppressed. In Luke 24, Jesus said, "I will send you what my Father has promised. But you must wait in the city until the power from above comes down upon you." Signs, wonders and miracles are part of our Catholic heritage. All baptized Catholics have the power of God to experience these great gifts. Jesus also said in Mark 16:17, "Believers will be given the power to perform miracles. They will drive out demons in My Name; they will place their hands on the sick and they will be healed." Has the Lord worked through you to perform a miracle, cast out a demon, or heal the sick in the past few weeks? If not, check your spiritual dipstick because you may be a little low on your anointing oil.

I encourage you to be around people who are seeing and experiencing miracles. MOSJI men are being called to help change the world for Jesus Christ. We are not only good Catholics, but we are called to be power filled Catholics. Mark 16:20 tells us, "The disciples went and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and proved that their preaching was true by the miracles that were performed."

We do not seek miracles; we seek Jesus and miracles should follow! Pray that MOSJI can give people more than just talk. We want to fully preach the gospel. In Romans 15:19, St. Paul said, "By means of words and deeds, by the power of miracles and wonders, and by the power of the Spirit of God, I have fully preached the Good News about Christ." Let us go and do the same.

Don Turbitt

## **Gospel Reading for Sunday, July 11, 2021**

### **Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Lectionary: 104

#### **Reading I**

##### **Am 7:12-15**

Amaziah, priest of Bethel, said to Amos,

“Off with you, visionary, flee to the land of Judah!

There earn your bread by prophesying,

but never again prophesy in Bethel; for it is the king’s sanctuary  
and a royal temple.”

Amos answered Amaziah, “I was no prophet, nor have I belonged  
to a company of prophets;

I was a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores.

The LORD took me from following the flock, and said to me,

Go, prophesy to my people Israel.”

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

##### **Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14**

R. (8) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims; the LORD —for he proclaims peace.

Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,

glory dwelling in our land.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss.

Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

The LORD himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase.

Justice shall walk before him, and prepare the way of his steps.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

## Reading II

### Eph 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens,  
as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world,  
to be holy and without blemish before him.

In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ,  
in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace  
that he granted us in the beloved. In him we have redemption by his blood,  
the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of his grace that he  
lavished upon us.

In all wisdom and insight, he has made known to us the mystery of his will in accord  
with his favor that he set forth in him as a plan for the fullness of times,  
to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth.

In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One  
who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will,  
so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ.

In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and  
have believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit, which is the first  
installment of our inheritance toward redemption as God's possession, to the praise  
of his glory.

## Alleluia

### Cf. Eph 1:17-18

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,  
that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Gospel

### Mk 6:7-13

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two  
and gave them authority over unclean spirits.

He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick—  
no food, no sack, no money in their belts.

They were, however, to wear sandals but not a second tunic.

He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave.

Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you,

leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them.”

So they went off and preached repentance.

The Twelve drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who  
were sick and cured them.

## MOSJI Updates

Immaculate Conception chapter in Westerly, RI guided in it's development by Michel Vendituoli is now fully operational. Mark Mancini and Aaron Morrone have taken over as co-moderators of the chapter. Thank you, Mark and Aaron, for your service to the MOSJI.

Below is a picture of the men in the new chapter.



## St John the Evangelist chapter in North Smithfield, RI

In our Men of St Joseph group, we are blessed to have the support of our pastor. Father Caron passes the word to new men in the parish to come to our meeting. He announces it at the masses. He opens each of our meetings with a prayer and blessing and then leaves so we can share amongst ourselves. We are blessed to have the support of our pastor. When we share, we are blessed to have guys from all walks of life. The men have insightful information for each other. When someone is down struggling with something, it is helpful to hear from other guys who have had bigger struggles. It helps you realize that your own problems are small in comparison to what others are going through and that we are there for each other.

St Agatha's chapter in Woonsocket

We are showing the Knights of Columbus "Into the Breach" video series and study guide at chapter meetings. There are twelve 10-to-15-minute videos in the series dealing with important characteristics of Christian manhood. One video is shown and discussed at each meeting,

### **MOSJI is expanding into Connecticut.**

Last month we presented the blessings received by a parish in Baltic, CT. by praying to the sleeping St Joseph.

Well, he is blessing them again.

This month I am delighted to report that Ray Lapointe has been contacted by Fr Tito at Sacred Heart parish in Baltic Connecticut with an interest in starting Men of St Joseph chapters in parishes there.

We now have an appointment on July 15<sup>th</sup> to present the Men of St Joseph to a group of men that Fr Tito has invited from three parishes along with the principals of the schools associated with those parishes to consider starting chapters.

Please pray for God's will for the men in Connecticut that will attend the presentation. Ray Lapointe, Steve Nolan and I will be addressing the group.

John Olobri

## Consider praying a litany to St Joseph daily.

Here is one version you can use.

### Litany of St Joseph

Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy on us.	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.
Illustrious son of David,	pray for us.
Light of the 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.
Watchful defender of Christ,	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 valiant,	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.
Solace 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 Holy Church,	pray for us.

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,  
Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,  
Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,

Spare us, O Lord.  
Graciously hear us, O Lord.  
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 the favor of having him as our intercessor in heaven whom on earth, we venerate as our protector. You who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Hi men,

Being a MOSJ, all or most of you no doubt have the heart of an evangelizer. It's the effective execution that can be challenging. As you've probably heard before, we need to prepare ourselves in advance with solid answers to the challenging questions we'll likely run into as we try to evangelize. Some people refer to this area as apologetics. Through the years I've spent a good amount of time and study preparing for these questions. Many of you will probably agree that maybe the most common and maybe most challenging question we run into is that of "**why does God let bad things happen to good people?**" The heartache and confusion that this single question no doubt has contributed to millions of people pulling away from God and their Christian faith. So let's take a quick look at this issue.

From DUETERONOMY 5:9 "**You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God...**" Here God tells us that He is "jealous" meaning He wants a relationship with each one of us. He doesn't want us to worship other "Gods". He is not going to "force" us into a relationship. Said another way; true love and relationship cannot be forced...**FREE WILL** is required. This is the dynamic God put in place with us. This means we live our lives on Earth with the ability to make our own choices.

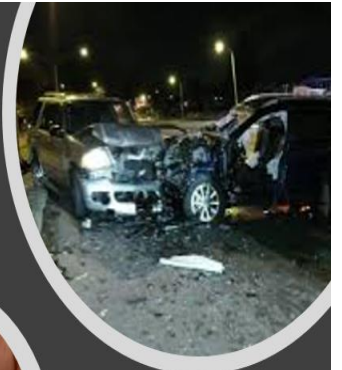
Unfortunately, we use that free will to make some bad choices. So when speaking with someone angry with God, ask them: "what are the main sources of pain and suffering in your life...and what lead to them?" This is an eye opening moment for many as they realize it is not God who lead to their pain/suffering but instead choices made along the way. This can be a game changer for some if they have an open heart and mind. This is by far where most pain/suffering enters into our lives.

THE #1 REASON PEOPLE ARE MAD AT GOD OR LEAVE THEIR FAITH IS ...  
**SUFFERING**

**FREE WILL...MOST SUFFERING (BAD THINGS) HAPPEN IS DUE TO OUR OWN POOR CHOICES**

THINK ABOUT THE SUFFERING IN YOUR LIFE...IF YOU ARE HONEST...MOST OF IT HAS LIKELY COME FROM BAD CHOICES YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE HAD MADE.

SO...DOES IT MAKES SENSE TO BE MAD... OR WORSE... SEPARATE FROM GOD?







THIS IS WHERE WE NEED...  
BOTH FAITH AND EDUCATION

- Tsunami...25,000 people die in Japan...how do we process this?

**\*Very important:** The impact of Original Sin by Adam & Eve. This cosmic level imbalance ended the perfect world God had created for them and lead to imperfect things such as disease, natural disasters, etc. Before that, Adam and Eve had lived in the perfect paradise of the Garden of Eden. Original Sin and it's impact on us is very important!

- We are NOT GOD & can't fully understand His will and divine plan.

There is a 2<sup>nd</sup> type of pain/suffering that is typically far less prevelaant in most lives but more confusing to deal with as you try to evamngelize. These are such unexplainable things such as stsunmis, birth defects, and ariplane crashes. People may sometimes be stubbourn and

want to fixate on these even when they haven't been directly affected by them...and this can be a challenge to work through.

I like to use Job to help walk them through this issue. Consider the following from Job 28:  
***"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you possess this understanding! Have you ever in your life commanded the morning, or made the dawn know its place? Have you considered the vast expanses of the earth? Tell me, if you know it all! In what direction does light reside, and darkness, where is its place? Can you lead out the constellations in their seasons, or guide the Bear with its cubs? Have you entered the storehouse of the snow, or seen the armory of the hail, which I reserve for the time of trouble?"*** Reflection on this passage will help teach ourselves that **we can't understand everything**. The simple point is that we simply are not God.

Lastly, I like to point out that God does indeed understand our pain/suffering.



God does understand your suffering...

- He **purposely** allowed His precious Son to be murdered.
- So that you could be saved and go to Heaven....
- He could have sent 10,000 angels to save Jesus...but He wanted you to know you are **NOT** alone...He does understand.

So there it is brothers, a quick study on how to deal with likely the hardest question of all that you'll run into. Absorb it, trust it, and share it.

God bless,

*Steve Nolan*

## Events and Dates

August 7th, 2021 Annual Men's Conference , St Philip's Parish Center, Greenville RI

Reverend Rojer J. Landry will be our main speaker



August 19, 2021 Chapter development team meeting 7:00PM

September 29, 2021 Chapter Leaders meeting 7:00PM

October 13–17, 2021 International Men's Conference, Rome Italy **CANCELED**

November – Annual Men's Retreats, Nov 5 -7 (for diocesan men); Nov 19 – 21 (for St Philip's men)

## 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. Our team of Prayer Warriors have committed time each day to pray for the needs presented to them in your petitions sent through our 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.

### Prayers needed for Uganda.

We received this message from Fr Jude in Uganda.

"All activities here are suspended as we are in a second lockdown and which is a bit hard and challenging, no mass no movements, only keeping at home.

We do not meet now as all gatherings were put on a halt until there are no more infections and death.

Keep our country in your prayers as we are now in a red zone due the rise of the virus among the community and death toll rise.

Thank you, we need God's intervention, many people are dying because there is no oxygen in the hospital for those who are critically ill and many now are sent back to their respective homes and they try to use local herbs to cure themselves".

Fr Jude has an active Men of St Joseph group of 60 men. He came to the US a few years ago and attended one of our men's retreats.

## MOSJI supports the Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are active supporters of Pro-Life and have recently assisted in donating a new ultrasound machine to the Mother of Life Pregnancy Center in Providence RI. The center is managed by the wife of one of our Men of St Joseph members.

Below is an announcement for an open house at the center which all are invited to attend in support.

The Men of St Joseph share many of the same values and goals as the K of C and we wish to support their work.



### RHODE ISLAND STATE COUNCIL PRESENTS MOTHER OF LIFE PREGNANCY CTR OPEN HOUSE



Come to the Open House at the **Mother of Life Pregnancy Center** to learn about the center with guided tours by their staff. See the new ultrasound machine the KOC donated this year, meet the staff and answer questions you may have. This is a family event and may be especially interesting for teenage children!

**Date & Time: Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 11-3 p.m.**

**Location: Mother of Life Pregnancy Center at 400 Atwells Avenue, Providence**

The St. Augustine and Fr. Donnelly Councils are coordinating this State Council Life event. Hamburgers, Chicken and Italian Sausage sandwiches will be available in parking area. There will be a free-will offering. Street parking is available and at Holy Ghost Catholic Church.



Please consider donating diapers, formula or baby clothing for the center when you come. This event can be used by councils for program credit in *Faith in Action* - **LIFE** - Pregnancy Center Support .

## Contact Us

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

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Steve Nolan [stevennolan@cox.net](mailto:stevennolan@cox.net)

Lucien Laporte [lu1953oc@yahoo.com](mailto:lu1953oc@yahoo.com)

Visit our website [www.mosji.org](http://www.mosji.org)

## 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